James M Nichols
Captain 47th Regt Infty N S S Vols
Comdg Co E

COLUMBIAN

ANNUAL

DIARY

FOR

1864.

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CALENDAR FOR 1864.

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FRIDAY, January 1st, 1864.

Arose early in the morning in excellent spirits prepared to enjoy the day. After breakfast received notice that Col Barton expected the officers to call on him. Accordingly we went and after spending a pleasant hour with him he took us to Genl Seamons quarters. Afternoon called on Lieut Farley Col Strickland returned from St Augustine this morning and accompanied the officers in their calls. Met Genl Aitken brother of John Aitken now Gen's Quartermaster Genl of Connecticut Have spent the day merrily. Got pretty nearly intoxicated and am afraid I compromised my character somewhat by my actions when at the table in the 47th Camp. The table there was bountifully spread and the dining Hall elegant. The camp itself was laid out in beautiful taste. The day has been bitter cold and would have been uncomfortable had there been time to have noticed it

SUNDAY, January 10th, 1864.

MONDAY, January 11th, 1864.

A mild day. Attend Court as usual and busy all day long with the case of a negro servant who has a feud carried in Lieut Smith of the 47th N.Y.V. The case is somewhat intricate and tedious although the guilt of the accused seems apparent. The Mail arrived this morning bringing a very interesting letter from E B M and one or two others which require immediate attention. Dates of the 7th arrived in the mail which have much interesting matter although of a general character. Nothing is being done in any department of the army and it is probable that there will be [illegible] until Spring. Evening spent in [illegible] reading and writing until a late hour.

TUESDAY, January 12th, 1864.

A wet uncomfortable day. Compelled to attend court as usual. The case of the negro Sergeant was continued and the witnesses have been all examined at 11 Oclk A M we gave the accused or both the counsel for the accused until 3 P M to prepare the written defence, at three we reassembled and listened to the defence which was very ably prepared considering the time allowed in its preparation. Settled our more case before we adjourned. Evening Cribbage at the Cols Quarters. Afterwards, an hour in Elfings tent over the matter of Robinsons who appears to have attempted to defraud some of his men — Retire late

WEDNESDAY, January 13th, 1864.

A dull unpleasant day It seems too bad that we should be compelled to walk to the Court during such weather Do not return to Camp for dinner At noon Call at Col Bartons head-quarts but do not succeed in finding him in. Meet Adjt Hale, the Purser of the Cosmopolitan and several other officers who seemed disposed to be merry. Settled quite a number of short cases during the day — four in all — ~~who~~ Heave suffered quite considerably from two boils, one on my neck and another on my hand. They are very painful and threaten to confine me within doors Evening As usual writing reading &c. Write several letters for the Arago which will leave on Friday Heave pretty nearly cleared up my correspondance —

THURSDAY, January 14th, 1864.

A bright cheerful morning the clearest and mildest of the season. like the early days of Summer. north. My comforters kept me awake last night and I do not feel well this morning. Shall not sit all day on Court. Every. I have been in my tent all the afternoon. O Rourke came this evening and has fixed me up so that I think after a time I will get relief. He is a careful clever sensible man whom I like to have about. Saw Col Bartm this pronoon but the interview was not at all satisfactory. Heave learn several things today which do not please me. My chance of going home with the Veterans is considerably lessened Lockwood expects to go. Finish several letters including on for E B M for the morning mail

FRIDAY, January 15th, 1864.

Have spent a restless night and am quite unfit for any duty today. O Rourke my old man is now my doctor and comes in two or three times during the day to look after my babies as he calls them. The poultices that he has used seems to do me good and I hope and expect that I may get rid of my comforters in a day or two. Otherwise than from my boils I have suffered illness and I hope by remaining in doors for a day or two to recover my health. It becomes somewhat uncertain whether I shall be able to get home with the furloughed men but I am very hopeful as well as very anxious. Nothing new to chronicle The news of the wreck of the Pulton seems to be confirmed. I hope it may not prove true.

SATURDAY, January 16th, 1864.

The week has passed and now that Saturday night has come. Tattoo is beaten and I am ready to retire. Have felt somewhat better today than for some days previous and am hoping to be fully relieved of my pests tomorrow. I do not feel quite well yet and must continue my medicines but hope that I shall suffer no more from boils. Have been in my tent all the day reading. This evening Capt. Elfwing joined our mess and I have secured Andrew Griffin reenlistments. Col Bartu was in camp this morning and called the officers together to talk about reenlistments. The Major said this evening that it was probable that I should be able to get home with the men and I feel encouraged

SUNDAY, January 17th, 1864.

A clear mild bright beautiful morning. As usual my warm bath after which witness the inspection and drill of the Cavalry Companies. Very interesting as well as novel, for I have never before seen a cavalry drill. Inspection as usual and the forenoon is consumed with little accomplished. Afternoon the same. So that the day passes with scarcely any result to show for the time. Talk with Ingraham about going home and get quite secured on the matter for it seems now quite near. This evening which I intended to devote to work has been also for nothing. The last hours with Capt Elfwing who as usual is very interesting in conversation. Anderson the Swede was in the tent and helps amuse the hour. He seems a very nice young man and I hope he will get a position soon.

MONDAY, January 18th, 1864.

A mild pleasant day afternoon. Up in good season to be able to attend Court which I am able to do today for the first time during a week. An old case before the Court to be disposed of and then the case of Sweeney comes up. He objects to me and the Court gives him until next morning to procure Council. Go to Camp and find plenty to occupy the time during the day and evening in getting nadey the rolls for muster. We are hurrying as fast as possible to get everything nadey to go North in the course of a week at the farthest. Up late. Feel considerably better since my boils dried up. My System is in better order than for some time. Retire late.

TUESDAY, January 19th, 1864.

A beautiful day. Clear as possible. Get my Company nadey for inspection and Lindsey nadey for work before I go to Court. A New Court appointed, or rather the old Court reappointed by Genl Seymour. Too late to sit on the case of Sweeney and am very glad. Back to the Camp after transacting some business and the whole day has been spent in getting nadey my rolls which are now nearly completed. The Regt was inspected today by Capt Lockwood and my Company was one of the best several officers were called out to drill the battalion and all were found wanting. The Fulton came in this evening and we may expect our letters tomorrow morning. Am getting everything nadey to go North and shall turn over my property.

WEDNESDAY, January 20th, 1864.

A very pleasant day one of the mildest of the season. At Court as usual. During the morning session a case was sent up from Genl Symmes office. which came on in the afternoon Received a letter from E B M very interesting. The case before the Court in the afternoon was novel in its character. A sailor tried for attacking his 2nd mate. It involves new questions to me and I have spent the time in Court in reading up points of law. Quite an animated discussion in Court over the case. The President is young and the members some of them are very ignorant of the law so that some of their decisions are of a singular character. Every and all my leisure time in attending to the rolls of my company. Several new reenlistments and still going on

THURSDAY, January 21st, 1864.

The weather continues very clear and pleasant and spring seems already with us. Very busy this morning until time for the Court to assemble. And during all the intervals between the sessions. At night receive information that the Paymaster wishes the rolls of the companies to prepare for the payment of the Veterans consequently there is much work to be done. The Major allows until ten Oclk in the evening for fresh reenlistments and during the evening several put down their names. Sit up till very late working on the rolls and the aggregate of the reenlistments has reached the number of twenty nine as I retire. Cropls Chapman and Rumsey both reenlisted late the evening. Must be up early to finish the work on the rolls. At inspection today the Company was the best in the Regt and received the most

resulting in the most perfect order. I feel very proud of them for qualified praise from Genl Symmes who said the men were nothing

FRIDAY, January 22d, 1864.

Another bright beautiful day
Really warm this afternoon
so that in going to Court I
perspired very freely. Have
been very much occupied
during the day. Several Corrections
had to be made on the rolls
and several more names added
the aggregate at the closing up
of the rolls is thirty one.
which is considerably above the
average of the Companies in the
Regt. The whole number now
reenlisted in the Regt is about
300 who will probably go home
in the course of four or five
days. My chance of going with
them seems very good indeed
I shall get all my property in
good condition before I start.
I hear that we will be paid in a
day or two. Wrote E. B. M. a short
hurried letter.

SATURDAY, January 23d, 1864.

Warm as early June at home
and during the day I often
think what a contrast there
will be between this weather
and that we shall endure North.
The change will be very severely
felt by all of us who have not
seen snow for more than three
years. However I have such
confidence in my ability to bear
the change that I do not hesitate
to urge my claims to go home —
Everything is moving on triumphantly
and there is little doubt expressed
that we shall go during next week.
And there seems little doubt
that I shall be one of the officers
to go. Col Barton was in the camp
this evening and thinks we shall
go on Tuesday. The mustering
officer is expected tomorrow and
the papers are all ready.
Do not feel well tonight on account
of a severe cold. Retire late.

SUNDAY, January 24th, 1864.

My usual warm bath and shave and I am somewhat prepared to spend the Sabbath in a Christian manner. The mustering office will be here this morning. Luke Snider came in per Seabrook and I have added his name to the list of Veterans. Noon. My Company has been mustered with the remaining Companies of Veterans and we have now 290 men in the new Regt. No expect many more. The matter of which officers was definitely settled today and my name heads the list after Lieut Strickland. Capt Durban attempt at a cheer was ludicrous. Evening a sing at Lt Wycoff's tent. Not much music but it was a relief to join in with a party of even tolerable singers. Bed early.

MONDAY, January 25th, 1864.

The weather still continues very mild and pleasant. Morning at Court. Wait until late in the forenoon before proceeding to any business witnesses not ready. Afternoon too late to sit in the Court for which I am very glad for it gives me an opportunity of attending to several matters of my own sometime neglected. Take a small party of men per the Company into the swamp along the entrenchments to cut a palmetto for I wish to take home a few canes. Succeed in securing one. Evening spent in my tent playing card with Capt Elmendorf and in drinking whisky which I take in liberal quantities hoping that it will break up my cold. Return quite late quite boozy. Not satisfied with the manner my time has been spent lately. Hope to do better by and by.

TUESDAY, January 26th, 1864.

Very mild and pleasant as for the past week. The weather is like the June at the North. Attend Court and finish one case. The men have sent me several cases and I have attended to considerable business. The rolls were finished by the mustering officer this afternoon and sent to the Paymaster so that we may expect payment within two or three days — Again have to record a day badly spent. Leisure not employed as it should have been. Am not improving much per day today. Suffer a little from the effects of last night drinking —

The Col prepared the furlough and signed the request for the leaves of absence and I feel quite confident that we shall get away this week

WEDNESDAY, January 27th, 1864.

The weather still continues mild and pleasant although foggy in the morning. Busy in Court as usual over the cases of the 6th Conn robbers who have pestered the Court for a long time anxiously expecting the Arago and our leaves of absence. Busy during all my leisure moments in preparing to leave for it is reasonable to suppose that we shall get away in a few days. Pay rolls progressing rapidly. Expect to be paid on Thursday or Friday. Witness the Brigade drill with Capt Southard and was much interested. Evening busy. Late in retiring on account of having been kept up by Captain Elfwings amusing stories. He is an exceedingly interesting man and has had a large and varied experience throughout the world.

THURSDAY, January 28th, 1864.

The weather still continues very clear and pleasant. The great subject occupying my attention as well as that of others is when and how we are going home and all the Aiken time is spent in making preparation for that great event. Attend Court as usual. Ascertain in the afternoon that we are going on the Atlantic which arrived this morning. The order was received from Headquarters this afternoon and ten offices are allowed to go. The Colonel Lockwood and myself are among the number and will try and enjoy a few hours together on our arrival in New York. Even the rolls are signed by the men and we shall be paid tomorrow probably — received four recruits into the Company

FRIDAY, January 29th, 1864.

Busy as bees all day long. That intolerable Court and the most intolerable feature. The trial of the 6th Conn robbers still occupies our time and attention. Now that it is settled that I am going home I feel rather anxious to get away. Learned this noon that the men must take their arms and equipment. Am sorry but cannot help it. The men would prefer to go without them but after all they will present a much better appearance with them without them. Mail distributed this morning. Letter from E B M. Mother and Sewa Tarrant. Hope to see Walter at home as he is there on furlough. Have made out and signed my returns which I shall send in tomorrow. Our company paid this evening. The others to be paid tomorrow. All my papers are now ready so that I can go freely relieved.

SATURDAY, January 30th, 1864.

A delightful day notwithstanding the predictions of Capt Elfwing's wound. Extremely busy all day in preparation for the start. The Court adjourned early and I have had the most of the day to my own work. The lost Ducks were transferred to this Regt today and I received fifteen very good men. Men paid off this afternoon and the officers this evening. So that I have now sufficient to carry me through the trip. Late tonight after all preparations had been made we received orders not to take our guns and equipments. Some of Genl Seymours small work with perhaps a little assistance for Barton. Take a warm bath and retire late. Every thing is now ready met some interesting men among the Lost Ducks

SUNDAY, January 31st, 1864.

Up early today for I have much to do. See that my things are nicely packed and that the company are all ready. Get the material for veteran stripes and distribute to the company. Left camp at 10 A. M. The Brigade escorted us to the steamer while Col Howell Brigade escorted their veterans. I cannot describe my feelings on board the steamer. Hope and doubt run counter in my mind keeping up a continual recitement for I fear lest the Genl who detains the steamer on account of his mail may choose to order us back. The day passes and night comes on and we all fear that we cannot get away until tomorrow. This evening however after the sun had set a tug came alongside and pitoted us out. So that at Nine P M we have crossed the bar and are on our way for New York rejoicing

MONDAY, February 1st, 1864.

The day breaks fair and warm. We had expected to experience a change in the weather but it seems to be warmer now than when we left. Perhaps this is owing to the effect of the Golf Stream. After breakfast read smoke talk sing and talk again so the day passes. We have been making very good progress during the day and I think we may get into New York early on Wednesday. Spent the evening in playing cards. Mr Edwards of the Coast Survey. Major Walburg and several other officers and civilians on board whom I know. So that the time passes quite pleasantly

TUESDAY, February 2d, 1864.

Roused early for I must act as officer of the day. Feel very thankful that my turn comes so early in the day for my time will expire this noon. Forenoon attend to the very few and unimportant duties. Among other matters I stopped the gambling on board. The privats from the regulars and some from the 47th knowing that our men have money are anxious to relieve them. Drove them all out of our quarters. There is so good a prospect of our getting into New York tomorrow that I have agreed to forfeit to Lockwood a bottle of champaigne if we do not pass Governors Island before noon while he forfeits to me the same if we do.

WEDNESDAY, February 3d, 1864.

Up early On deck to find that we have already entered the harbor and shall probably be at the dock by daylight. Fairly landed before 8 oclk. Men of the Company I took to the Hotel and got them their breakfast. We have been but fifty four hours from the bar at Hilton Head to the bar at New York. March down Broadway cross the ferry and up Fulton St Brooklyn before the people knew who we were. Filled in the furloughs at Lt Stricklands office when we met a clergyman who invited the officers out to partake of an oyster dinner at his expense which we accepted. Saw the men all paid before night. Spent the evening with Lockwood and Swartwout until late.

THURSDAY, February 4th, 1864.

In the morning go down to South Brooklyn and see Wakefields wife to whom I deliver the twenty dollars entrusted to me. See Charles in the morning and afterwards go down to Staten Island and see E.B.M. By appointment made at Hilton Head several of the officers. Col Strickland Capt Lockwood Capt Swartwout and myself meet at Delmonico's for a rousing supper. Adjourn at 8 oclk to the Academy of Music and hear Faust by Gounot. After which the remainder of the party start off for a good spree. I have had little sleep for some nights and feel like returning to my Hotel. Retire late as usual. Have been a little irregular since my return. Must change.

FRIDAY, February 5th, 1864.

Attend to a few unimportant matters in the forenoon and in the afternoon go to Staten Island by appointment. Spend the afternoon with E B M Ride with her about the island. Saw the first snow for three years. The Country is bare however and looks a month later in season. Enjoy the ride very much but the Conversation which occurred just before reaching the house Causes me a great deal of uneasiness. Spend the evening with the family and enjoy the time very much for Mr and Mrs March are very agreeable. I am somewhat surprised. Long walk from South Ferry Brooklyn to the Mansion House very sad walk too.

SATURDAY, February 6th, 1864.

A sad sorrowful day. The Conversation of yesterday afternoon Causes me more anxiety than I ever experienced. Cannot shake off the feeling of unhappiness. E B M is in New York and I do not know exactly when she will return to Staten Island. Deliver the letter containing seventy dollars from George Reed of my company to Mr Cottrell No 1 Birmingham St. New York. Get my clothes this ~~evening~~ afternoon and spend the time this evening with Frank Fannie & Minnie at the Academy. Philharmonic Concert pretty good. Melt. Prentice. Swart wout and Dr Humphreys with whom I spent an hour or two after the Concert. Saw Strickland & his two sisters. They occupied prominent positions in one of the Boxes

Took my usual warm bath this morning. Went to Grace Church hoping to meet my friends but they were not there. Met Hilliard and Hutchinson but the meeting did not afford me any great pleasure. At Fulton Ferry met Mr Wyman and Capt. Eaton whom I was very glad to see. He has just completed the arrangements for taking his wife on board the Steamer Atlantic and is very happy. Leaves to morrow morning. Afternoon with Mr Duryea's family to hear Dr Elles who was very interesting evening at Fannie's with Mr Jones singing psalmen tunes.

Saw Charles early in the morning and looked over my account which seems quite satisfactory. Afterwards go to Canal St and meet the friends who are going back to Hilton Head. Tantum goes with the privates of the recruiting party and Swartwout will follow soon for he has his orders. Cannot shake off the feelings of sadness which oppresses me. Call on Anderson and spend an hour or two with him very pleasantly. Afterwards call at 339 5th Avenue but E B M has returned to Staten Island. Shall certainly go there tomorrow morning for I cannot endure the uncertainty which so oppresses me now. Must know certainly what is to become of me.

TUESDAY, February 9th, 1864.

Spent the morning in looking up my account with Charles. With the assistance of Mr Wood I Calculate the amount to my credit about $90. just in season to take the noon boat for Staten Island Spent the afternoon with E B W and arrive at a perfect understanding Return to Brooklyn in the evening perfectly happy. Spend the evening at Mr Burgess and enjoy a long talk with Fannie. I feel much better to speak of sundry matters for I need and receive affectionate Counsel. I have not had such occasion for thankfulness during my life as now and I feel very happy. On my way back from Staten Island Concluded neither to smoke or drink unless when necessary.

WEDNESDAY, February 10th, 1864.

This morning rose early and take the 7 Oclk boat for Staten Island as I am going home tonight. After returning from Staten island Spend the remainder of the day until 4 Oclk in preparing to leave.

Steamer Bay State the one I first crossed the Sound in some ten or twelve years ago. No one on board that I ever saw before So that I had a very quiet evening reading a little and thinking a great deal. Am very happy with my thoughts now and, have a new spring of action. The hour that I spent this morning on Staten Island I think the happiest of my life. I shall return to New York in the course of a week

THURSDAY, February 11th, 1864.

Woke up this morning too late for the first train. Felt very much vexed until I learned that I could not have reached Boston in season to take the first train. A good comfortable breakfast at my leisure and a long uninteresting conversation with a stranger on the train. In Boston in season to spend an hour in Bartletts store before going to Haverhill. An exciting conversation with the Stranger Gentleman in which I think he learned a lesson. A very pleasant greeting by home friends. Spend the evening at Mr Kelley's and learned some facts from Sarah of a startling character. I do not get much disturbed by them.

FRIDAY, February 12th, 1864.

Spend the morning in, looking over my things which I find in better order than I anticipated. All my books and papers have been well taken care of. In the afternoon do some writing and have a talk with friends. Evening at Mr Carletons. Have seen but very few of my friends since I came home. Find every one busy. All seem to be making money and are apparently regardless of the results of the war and indeed care little about it. for all seem to be making money out of it. The town is full of Strangers.

SATURDAY, February 13th, 1864.

In the morning after the usual duties take Georg out to the Plug pond to fish for pickerel. It seems quite like old times to be engaged in such sports. No skating for which I am very sorry. Take Mary and Dickey to Amesbury Uncle Steven well Ruth pretty sick. Took cider and apples at Uncles Johns as I have done a hundred times before. Back in season to spend the evening at the Merrills who are well Fell very quiet and do not care to see people very well satisfied to think of those I have left in New York.

SUNDAY, February 14th, 1864.

A mild open day like all the time that I have spent north. I had hoped to see some snow but there is no prospect. Attend Church in the morning as in olden times and shake hands with everybody who seem glad to see me. The Church seems very pleasant and the Congregation is large and prosping. Mr Seeley Called in after dinner and was very cordial. Church in the afternoon and tea with Mr Seeley. Mr & Mrs Seeley are as agreeable as always. Evening Call on Julia Adams who is as pretty as very. On my return to the house find that Mrs Adams has called on me

MONDAY, February 15th, 1864.

The weather is becoming somewhat cooler. After spending the forenoon in writing up my diary and in writing to E B M. started after dinner for Andover to see Dr B. Wise. Found the family at home and enjoyed the hour and more very much indeed. Dr B is well is a licensed preacher and at the same time is doing business in New York which brings him a profit of such amount as seems him a good living. He is going to Europe with Hosker and another friend this Spring. Has another little child. Hosker is in Havana. Went to Lawrence. Saw Major Evans brother who is a counterpart of the Major in most respects apparently. Evening Calling on friends

TUESDAY, February 16th, 1864.

The weather is mild and pleasant although it seems in appearance that we may have a storm soon. Spend the day arranging my books and papers. Can't get into the drawer which contains my private papers. The key is lost. Wrote up some matters on hand for some time and have investigated the Gas Stock which is now selling for $34. but is held by the capitalists of the town for a rise. So that I shall not sell at present. Wrote E B M. Have not heard from her and I am afraid she will not write as she knows I shall return to New York at once. Shall leave here on Thursday morning. but must return before we leave for the South.

WEDNESDAY, February 17th, 1864.

Go to Boston in the 9 1/2 train. Must hear the organ before I return. Call on Mrs William Howe at the Prescott house. She looks thin, bleached out, but is the same as ever. Very sorry that I could not hear her sing for she has a very fine voice. Call on Mrs Bradford who is the same easy agreeable lady that she always was. Ard Adams was in his office and has not changed. Attend the Organ Concert in the afternoon. The orchestra as well as the organ were almost if not quite perfect. The organ though not played as I wish to hear it was inexpressively sweet. The contrast between its heavy and lighter tones is astonishing. The whole performance afforded me very great enjoyment. More than any other of the kind since my return. Met Miss Proctor and Mr Cogswell Col of 2nd Mass. Evening at Jim Rs & Mrs Adams

THURSDAY, February 18th, 1864.

Start this morning at 7 1/2 for Boston. To reach Portsmouth Grove this evening. I am Providence about Noon and have to remain several hours before starting for the Grove. Very dull although did I have any acquaintance with Miss Smith it would have been a good opportunity to call on her. Get to Portsmouth Grove in the evening about 7 1/2 Oelk Walter was expecting me. Made arrangements to take him out to a farm house with me for the night. He looks very well is very anxious to get out of the service but I fear there is little hope of his being successful in his effort. He seems in all respects well and I think he has improved since he joined the service. Do not like the management of the hospital but he gets along well. Called on Mrs Ward

FRIDAY, February 19th, 1864.

Up early this morning. The people who keep the Farm House are very agreeable and do everything to make their guest comfortable. A Good breakfast. and away for the dock early. The boat did not stop. and. Are compelled to ride to Fall River in an open Carriage. The weather is extremely Cold as it has been for the past three or four days. Get nearly frozen. Back to Providence in season for supper to purchase a meerchaum pipe which with other articles I sent to walter by the Kingsleys express. Take the Cars for Groton and boat for New York. Have passed an uncomfortable day for I am very susceptable to the Cold weather. and have required a Cold.

SATURDAY, February 20th, 1864.

Back to New York again and am very glad for it is tedious travelling about when there is so great an inducement to remain quiet in one place. Over to Brooklyn and leave my things at the Mansion House and take a direct Course for Staten Island. Call on Mr Wyman on my way and learn that the Ryb is in Florida. By Consulting the papers find that Our forces have penetrated to Lake City and are moving forward. More it not for Eliza I would try and get back directly. To Staten Island after dinner and enjoy the afternoon as much as I could possibly. Evening with Fannie. Shall spend tomorrow at Staten Island by invitation of Mrs Marsh.

SUNDAY, February 21st, 1864.

The most delightful day I ever spent in the Course of my whole life. At Staten Island. in season to attend Church in the morning with Mr Marsh's family. Enjoy the service very much indeed and all the day I was happy. Saw Mrs Marsh in the afternoon. I cannot write the occurrences of the day. my thoughts and feelings. All is indelibly fixed in my mind and I would not commit them to paper lest they might at some future time meet the eye of some other person. It was with some surprise and mortification that I learned that no boat went to New York in the morning but I was made very easy in the matter. and the pleasure of my intercourse with Elijah Contended through the morning

MONDAY, February 22d, 1864.

Up quite early in the morning. Was awakened very early with an unpleasant sensation in my throat. The whole family were up early and I go to New York with Mr Marsh in the Jersey boat. He is very kind. and assured me of his assistance when I wish for advancement. And I am sure it would secure an appointment but I should not ask it unless I felt myself misused in some respect. Washington's birth day. Spend an hour or two in the morning hunting after Col Strickland without success. Brooklyn is all excitement for the Sanitary fair is open. Grand review of Militia. Invitation to go on Genl Dix's staff for the day. but conclude not to. The shipping in the harbor is beautiful with flags and streamers waving at pennons.

TUESDAY, February 23d, 1864.

Found Col Strickland this morning. Got a letter of identity for him also [illegible] of the orders received and proceed to 63 Bedford St to Mr Pratt who makes me happy with $127.48 in my fist. Consider myself lucky. The Col had a good time at the Mint and I think seems to have enjoyed his leave of absence nearly as much as myself. Gave Charley $8 eight right dollars which puts my account $9 01. to my credit. Spend the afternoon at Staten Island. A long ride and chat and agreeable talk. Make arrangements for the future. Evening at the Fair where I was well jammed. Glad to get home. My Cold which has made me a little sick is now better.

visited this point is the most attractive location only I do not like anything which looks like a Cantonment of New England.

WEDNESDAY, February 24th, 1864.

Morning in such occupations as I could find of sufficient interest to pass the time pleasantly. A little talk with Mr Pratt and a friend of his on politics. The afternoon on Staten Island. The air was mild and the sky clear for the most part and E & I wandered about the fortifications on the hills and along the shore in childlike freedom and enjoyment. I was surprised at the extent of the batteries and I was delighted with the ramble. For we talked as we walked and the talk was as fine as the walk. The happiest afternoon excepting the Sabbath that I have spent at home. We are more natural and consequently enjoy more as we become more familiar. It is indeed a full equivalent for all the toils and dangers of the past Eighteen months to be able thus to enjoy the Companionship of one so pure and true. Evening Called on Miss Whitney at nine Eventful

THURSDAY, February 25th, 1864.

Up pretty early and am rejoiced to ~~[illegible]~~ that the sky is clear. Meet a number of the boys whom I assist in the Collection of their State bounty. An unpleasant talk with Mr Jones on Politics. I do not like him and never did. At the Ferry in season. A delightful ride around Central Park. with E. The beauties of the place are not so apparent as in summer but I can readily see how pleasant and how beautiful a place it must be when the foliage is green and the flowers in bloom. An hour and more of requisite enjoyment and Communion at the Dusseldorf Gallery And a pleasant ride to her friends at 5th St. Afterward the opera of Somnambula. With Kellogg and Brignoli and the intelligent German who sat next me. The whole performance must perfect and Enjoyable so that at night back in my room I feel that I have passed an unusually happy day.

FRIDAY, February 26th, 1864.

By appointment with Fannie Start for Yonkers. An hour late and after proceeding to the depot in Chambers It Conclude it too stormy to go and return to Brooklyn. As I write now about noon it is snowing quite hard with a prospect of a Continuance of the storm. Nothing particular to occupy my attention Consequently I spend much of the forenoon in looking over my tactics. In the afternoon go to Staten Island. The wind blew hard and it was Cold and the warm fire in the open grate felt grateful. I intended to return in the late boat but the pleasure of the Company that I enjoyed was too great and I could not get away. I shall remember that evening very long for I suffered somewhat from doubts that Camee in my mind. I shall long remember the nature of the interview

that evening

In the early boat for New York
The morning papers full of
rumors of a battle in Florida.
Our Regt was engaged and
I am anxious about our officers
and men. Went to Brooklyn
to see the Col hoping to hear
more particularly the results
of the battle. Afterwards on the
Fulton when from the Purser I
learned that only one officer Lt
Keenan was killed. Several wounded
but none seriously. I feel that although
very properly here. I would like
to have shared with the Regt in the
Contests. I have lost one very good
man and in looking over the list of
those killed in the Regt I feel very
sad. It seems to me if I could only
have been there I could have done
something. At any rate I would feel
much better if I had shared the
danger with my men. We shall
be there soon and I hope before another

engagement takes place

Up early and down to the island
on the first boat. As usual the
reception from Mr Marsh is very hearty
and cordial. How much I enjoy
these sabbath days with L and the
family. Every thing is harmonious
and I enjoy the sermon the music
and indeed everything. I like Mr Conrad
although I was not altogether prepared
to. He is a very handsome man and I
thank possesses considerable ability
although he is by no means a genius.
A very pleasant walk after service
in the afternoon — on the hill above
the house. The view was very good
indeed although it was hazy and
we could not see as far as usual.
The island is full of beauties and
from its hilltops most lovely views
of the part or and the island may
be obtained. It is a lovely sport
more so to me because there I meet
the one I love so much. I cannot tell
in words how much I enjoyed the evening although
there was much very much of painful feeling

MONDAY, February 29th, 1864.

Up at the early breakfast but do not go to the City with Mr Marsh. Very much exhausted Lilly and I went down to the alley where I intended only to have remained for an hour but the whole forenoon slipped away and I could not go. I & was a very happy talk and when I left much of the painful impression of the evening before were gone. The evening I spent with Fannie singing talking and playing whist. It was one of the most sociable evenings that I have ever spent during my stay at the North. I have had less of that quiet Calm enjoyment than I ought since I came home. Mr Durgers family is one of the pleasantest that I have ever visited saw Miss Van Alst.

TUESDAY, March 1st, 1864.

Visit the island early in the morning for the day I knew would be very fully occupied spent two hours very happily and returned to the City in season to go to Brooklyn See Fannie and see the Paymaster in New York for whom I learn that it will be impossible to get our pay unless we make out Muster Rolls and an mustend on them. To late down town to take the Stonington Boat so I wait for the train, taking the occasion in the mean time to Call on Mr Marsh (Samuel) at the Astor House whom I found Cordial. He is a gentleman whom I would like to imitate in manner at least. A very pleasant ride with DeBeVoise and Mr Scudder. The same that I kicked over on the foot ball ground behind Mst College in Williamstown

WEDNESDAY, March 2d, 1864.

To late in Boston for the first train to Haverhill. Very much disappointed but use the time in calling on the Sargents and in purchasing a ring. to do which I was compelled to borrow five dollars from Mr Halliday much against my will. for I do not like him. I in Haverhill at 1/2 past one and spend the next three hours very pleasantly indeed. and very profitably. for I make business swarzenoes with Father and George both of which matters were in some degree occasions for my anxiety to fit my leave of absence. away again in the Oelk train and connect with the 1/2 past eight train for New York Return early in the sleeping cars. My trip a very satisfactory one

THURSDAY, March 3d, 1864.

Early in New York having passed a very comfortable night. Breakfast at Clarke and Browns and over to Brooklyn. Spend the day trying to obtain food Ambrotype and in collecting the little matters necessary to complete my outfit. Down to the island in the afternoon but not to stay long. Did not enjoy the visit as much as usual. Evening at Mr Hows and at Fannie's quite late. Have not felt well today nor indeed have I for some time past. Perhaps I should be more truthful with myself if I said I had not been well since I arrived in New York. The change of climate and habits has been too great and I have really not enjoyed myself as much as I expected on that account. Not well — Not happy in a tourism

FRIDAY, March 4th, 1864.

Busy nearly all the early part of the day in getting my daguerreotype and in attending to other little matters. Called on the Colonel whom I found quite ill and promised to go to the Fuels to report for him. Have got all my little matters satisfactorily arranged and am ready this afternoon to go to the island. Spent the evening in the most exquisite enjoyment. I can never forget the happiness of that occasion. Nor can I forget the results of the interview. How much I could express if I allowed free range to my feelings here but I cannot.

SATURDAY, March 5th, 1864.

Our leave of absence is now over and this morning I report to Col Strickland for duty. Met Lockwood and we go together to New York. Cannot leave until tomorrow we find and I am very happy on that account for this evening I can spend as I desire. Got through with all my business. Have my trunk and carpet bag at Dr Stricklands office and then I am away. Evening at Mr Brooks. Much surprised at the greeting. Enjoy the evening very much indeed but I do not say good bye for I feel assured that I may see my friend again. The Col will not expect me to remain at Fort Schuyler. I hope to be in S I on Monday evening.

SUNDAY, March 6th, 1864.

The time has come and this morning we are early at Montague Hall & expecting to leave for Fort Schuyler. Mrs Nyman is there and so are Charles and Frank. A March to the Castle Garden was half with the Brooklyn 18th escort. Do not go with the Regt to Fort Schuyler and now as I write am enjoying the effect of good dinner and the bottle of cider furnished by Mr Lockwood. Only 10 of my Company reported and I remain behind to look after the Stragglers. This afternoon attended Dr Ellis Church and afterwards took tea at Mr Burgess and enjoyed an hour afterwards in singing. Then went to Call on Lilly at Miss Gates Not there but at Mr Brooks. Saw Mr Charles Brooks Miss Nannie and Miss Mary Brooks and walked home with Lilly

MONDAY, March 7th, 1864.

Reported at Montague Hall and went with recruits to New York Busy all the forenoon with them and afternoon at Staten Island went early and enjoyed an hour or two without interruption. Call on Mrs Ripley. Nannie arrived in the evening early and spent the night. I like her much and we have already become very good friends. She seems very much attached to Lilly and I know the feeling is reciprocated. Having this may be my last night I fill it as full of enjoyment as possible. And really every day makes me more thankful for the goodness of Divine Providence in giving me such cause for happiness. I hope I may be improved by this unmerited goodness and that it may make me better in all respects

TUESDAY, March 8th, 1864.

Report as usual to Co Strickland whom I found engaged as usual playing billiards. Met Lt Ingraham who has just returned from the Country. Like some of the others he has suffered from illness, and in other respects he has pursued a similar course. Quite busy in getting the men off on the Steamer. Succeed in getting about forty away. Attend to several matters and finally get away for Staten Island in the 6 Oelk boat. Of that night there is no record and I can only say that I was very very happy. the only thing which served to mar the enjoyment was the fact which would keep coming into my mind—that in all human probability it would be my last night at home

WEDNESDAY, March 9th, 1864.

This morning I went to the City in the twelve Oelk boat having spent the morning in trying to tear myself away. I was very very hard but I do not feel that it is the last time that I shall see her for I have little doubt that I can get away from the Fort before we sail South. After saying the last good bye and saying a few words of parting to my other friends I am away in the Steamer for Fort Schuyler in the evening boat taking with me a large squad of men. What a day I have spent! What if it should be my last with Lilly I cannot bear the thought for a moment. The quarters at Fort Schuyler are most miserable and dirty and I am almost sick at my stomach. I must get away from here if possible.

THURSDAY, March 10th 1864.

This morning I saw the Genl and again this afternoon and tried all my persuasive arts to induce him to allow me to go to the city but he is a cruelly sour crabbed old fellow and would not listen. Got very angry and then swallowed it. Afternoon witnessed the dress Parade in the Port. Nothing very striking about it. Did not compare with ours at Dr Pulaski. Evening the trouble among the men at supper occasioned almost a general disturbance. The General was disposed to be a little savage but cooled down to a decent quiet state when he found that he could not frighten. The Officers slept with the men. Evening I tried to write out the conversions were wanting. Sent a few scribblings to Lilly this afternoon of which I am ashamed I had to write and had no materials

FRIDAY, March 11th, 1864.

Heave received written orders this morning to have the detachment ready to march. Heave drawn seven days rations and had five days cooked. Men all ready and move at about noon. The Steamer which conveyed us to the city was not sent for us so that I am hoping that we may remain in the city until tomorrow. I only hope I may be able to go to Staten island but I fear I shat not. Evening. We are on board the Arago out in the stream waiting for the fog to clear to leave the harbor. The Steamer had left the dock when we arrived and consequently I have said my last word of adieus I am terribly disappointed. Really I feel as if I could not easily get over it for I have not for a long time felt so badly on any subject I [illegible] really cruel to have left me there with no opportunity of again seeing my friends

SATURDAY, March 12th, 1864.

Awakened early by the Sergeant of the Guard with the information that it is time to draw the sash as officer of the day. The steamer was in motion and I hastened on deck that I might get a view of the house, hoping that Lilly would be on the piazza. It was seven o'clock before we arrived opposite. The morning was very clear and with the aid of a glass furnished by a gentleman one of the passengers I watched the house until the Fort on the hill shut it from view. It has been a most bitter - cruel disappointment not to have seen my friends again but it is my fate and I must submit. I could see no one at the house although they were all up I know. They did not report the steamer was passing or I should have seen some one. The duties as officer of the day were light but I had little thought for them or anything else but the subject of the song which I kept humming all day long. How can I leave them. The

Company on board is a pleasant one and all unite in making [illegible]

SUNDAY, March 13th, 1864.

A restless night. One thought wove itself among my dreams and my first waking thought was for one who will always be in my mind in all my waking hours. In my morning prayer I tried to prepare myself for the Sabbath day and in that prayer was a petition for the loved ones. I have just listened to an excellent sermon from Dr Parker of Boston. The good to all the audience is apparent. I think a good sermon on Shipboard seems to produce a stronger effect than in almost any other place, and I am sure of the benefit that I have derived from the sermon this morning as usual on such occasions I had the music in my charge. This afternoon Mr Trumbull and the Catholic Priest delivered a short sermons on deck for the benefit of the men. This evening I have been writing and listening to Mr Trumbull. He is an interesting man a brother of Charley Trumbull whom I knew at Yale. His account of experiences in Prison in Rebeldom and his experiences while travelling a Sunday School missionary was very [illegible] and I went off to [illegible]

Crying with laughter

MONDAY, March 14th, 1864.

Spent an hour this morning in writing. This is my greatest amusement and chief pleasure although I could write more satisfactorily if I were alone free from the interruptions so annoying on shipboard. We move very slowly. Hatteras was in sight early in the morning and at the present rate we shall not probably reach the Head until morning of Wednesday. Have spent the day as usual. Eating talking smoking playing cards and writing. Life on shipboard is always rather monotonous less so on this trip than usual for the company is agreeable and inclined to enjoy themselves rationally and quietly. This evening have been singing and shall spend an hour or so in writing Lilly

TUESDAY, March 15th, 1864.

A mild pleasant morning up late. Determined to read McClellan's report but now it is evening and I have not done it. But as if I had spent the day quietly well however although have very little to show how the day has passed. An amusing time this afternoon with Capt Newman of the 47th who insisted on taking the Col's photograph. Passed Charleston about sunset and learned that the rebels had made an unsuccessful attempt to blow up another gunboat. The batteries Gregg and Wagner seemed to be firing on Sumpter and I suppose the bombardment of the city continues but nothing particular has reached. Have finished a letter of 22 pages to Lilly and another letter to Mother and now at [illegible]

[illegible]

WEDNESDAY, March 16th, 1864.

A cool shark morning.
Up early for we land about
Eight Oclk. Spent the day
in running about visiting
friends. Dined with Lieut Edwards
who showed to me the model
of Wagner and several fine
maps of Morris Island and
vicinity. Lee is going North
to exhibit the model and
maps at the Sanitary Fair
fair and will all my friends
wrote a letter in his Quarters
to Lilly a shell of letter paper
full making in all 26 pages
of letter to her sure I left
I hope she will write as much
measure in reading as I did
in writing. Saw Sgt Thompson
and Anderson at the Hospital
both cheerful both have received
right manfully. Left bate at night
on the Dictator (Capt Blakeman) for
Jacksonville.

THURSDAY, March 17th, 1864.

A delightful morning. The
Company of officers on board
was good only I chafe under the
command of the negro colonel Littlefield
who is with us. All through the
day Mr Trumbull who is also
a passenger on the boat was
particularly entertaining and I
almost regard him as a friend
for there is something about
him that I enjoy. He is a
fine man and has a remarkable
fund of anecdote and story
which he deals out in a most
agreeable style and measure.
I became exhausted with laughter
at his repeated sallies & wit and
arrived. Stop at Fernandina
hour out, did not see Mr Sears
continued on to Jacksonville
when we arrived about night
disembarked and marched through
[illegible]

FRIDAY, March 18th, 1864.

Was slightly frozen last night
Awake early for we reach
Palatka at daylight. Land
immediately. The town looks
desolate and still. Just
opposite the dock where
we landed are the colored
Headjos. In the yard in front
of the house are many
orange trees having on them
at the same time fruit and
flowers and the air is loaded
with the fragrance from them.
We proceeded directly to Camp
and met with a cordial fruiting.
Go into my old mess. Busy
all day in doing nothing
and making calls. The men
are encamped in the out-
skirts of the town in little
huts built by themselves. Lord
Barton agreeable. Rev Mr Taylor
also agreeable.

SATURDAY, March 19th, 1864.

Rather cold last night —
suffered not a little. Not
able to get at my company
business so that I have had
very little to do. Have seen
Rev Mr Taylor and secured him
as our Chaplain so long as he
remains in this part of the
Country and have strong hopes
to secure him permanently.
Rode round the defences which
extend across the neck of land
upon which the town is situated
Saw the Gallows which Chambers
hung the negroes. Have been
enjoying the plan very much
The Camp is beautifully located
in a grove of oaks and magnolias
on the borders of a beautiful
little Cove. One of the most beautiful
shells of water I ever saw. The
woods fringe it on all sides and
on the trees have their fresh green,
shiny foliage the view is very charming

SUNDAY, March 20th, 1864.

MONDAY, March 21st, 1864.

TUESDAY, March 22d, 1864.

Woke up quite early. Have waked up during the night several times and the storm was so severe that I feared the tent would blow over. Got sears up to right up the tent. Find quite a stream under the tent, and everything is wet. Rained until noon. Took my desk over to the house and have been quite busy with Final Statements and inventories. Put up my tent anew this afternoon and stole sufficient boards to make a bank and washstand. Have been busy this evening writing. Finished a letter to Lilly this morning. Evening after attending to business sat around the warm fire (it is cold tonight) and listened to stories from Paddock Carleton and others.

WEDNESDAY, March 23d, 1864.

After breakfast was informed by Paddock that I could have one of the tents and being much rejoiced thereat and fearing lest he might retract I had the said tent conveyed away at once and immediately set to work obtaining material to floor the same in which undertaking I succeeded admirably. Had all the lumber necessary collected before noon and during this afternoon I have been overseeing the working it up and this evening my bed cut narrow my floor all laid. My things all around me with the reception of those in the last box I feel quite contented. My escape from the game of bluff warns me to be careful and I cannot conceal my disgust at seeing certain parties engaged in it for money. Shall write L before retiring.

THURSDAY, March 24th, 1864.

Officer of the day with very little to do but attend to the cleaning of Camp with my prisoner in setting my tent in order and writing on Company business. Just as I was about [illegible] to town on private business received notice that the [illegible] wished to see me. As I suspected a raid was intended and I was to take command. In about an hour I was at the dock and on my way at six o'clk for the steamer Ottowa. It was proposed to go up to the head of Dunns Creek in the Ottowa but she got aground and was not able to get off until morning and the expedition was put off for a day.

FRIDAY, March 25th, 1864.

Up the country on our grounds, the first place we came to was Mr Nowbolts. Stopped only a few moments and leaving a guard went on to Mr Brights. Where I saw the Early in the morning we had breakfast on board the Gunboat and soon after went on shore when I shent the prisoner in my quarters. Vans of Co F returns with me to the Ottowa. We leave our dreadnoughts at about 1/2 past two P.M. and proceed up to Dunns Creek where we take to our boats. The entrance to the Creek is rather narrow but about 1/2 mile from the river we entered the big Dunns Creek a beautiful stream of water. Some 150 yds. in width with a heavy growth of timber clear to the water's edge. And the foliage of the trees and shrubs and running vines dipped clear to the water. I [illegible] saw a more beautiful stream of water in my life. We rowed through to the lake a distance of 8 miles and entered Dunns Lake a body of water 20 miles long + 5 miles broad. The moonlight scene on the lake is indelibly fixed on my memory. We rowed up the lake about 8 or 9 miles to Brothers Landing and from that point proceeded

Good Lord, Yours Lady I can [illegible]

the amusing incidents of our march through that country but I will not soon forget. Mr Tuten and the horses. Jerry Stuart the rebel soldier and his attempt to escape. My Cavalry and my prisoners all together made a motley group and an amusing spectacle. Nor shall I forget how well the men behaved and how uncomplainingly the marched so far and so long. The hour at Newbolts on our return the row back across the lake. The frequent races. The orange groves. The orange fight and our safe return with our prisoners all right. The men had rowed and walked 66 miles in 24 hours, and their hands and feet were sore and they were tired but in good humor and satisfied with

The trip I will not soon forget the raid

A bright pleasant morning. Up early having enjoyed a sweet refreshing sleep. And feeling very well. Take my warm bath and get shaved and go through with inspection and attend church. Have not felt so well for many a long day and I seem to enjoy every moment. My cold has left me and I am able to sing again. Afternoon in my tent trying to write and read. Evening again at church. The sermon very interesting. Subject the psalm Commencing The Lord is my shepard I shall not want. Just suited to my frame of mind. Evening after service Col S. Major Coan Mr Taylor and Capt Ufwing dropped into my tent and had a quiet sociable time. Elfwing kept me up until a late hour with his amusing stories. I retire late feeling that I have spent a happy day.

MONDAY, March 28th, 1864.

Officer of the day and pretty busy having the camp put in order and I am in the best of humor for I have a letter from L. very good and very refreshing the first since I left New York. They will now come regularly and I shall feel more contented. Having an arbor built in front of my tent notwithstanding the rumor that we are all going to North Carolina I hope we do. Seymour is out of the Department at which all rejoice. He has very few friends. Evening up late writing. Have sent two letters to Lilly and one to mother. Am a little neglectful of my correspondants all but L and must change up late again writing and must become more steady.

TUESDAY, March 29th, 1864.

It has rained a little and I am constrained to keep within doors this morning for I have some matters to attend to. Genl Gilmore and Genl Hatch are both here. Walk down town in the morning and make a few purchases. Afternoon look over my returns read the newspapers and just before tea get called out to go skirmishing after rebels. As usual it is a wild goose chase and I get rather tired and quite vexed beside getting a late supper. I will now write a few lines to L before retiring although I must go to bed early for I do not feel so well for sitting up late as I have for a few days past. I must have regular sleep or I suffer. Feel quite tired

WEDNESDAY, March 30th, 1864.

It was cold last night and I awoke early this morning feeling quite uncomfortable. Rise late. After breakfast a meeting of the officers was held and without debate and without a dissenting voice it was voted to extend an invitation to Mr Taylor to become our Chaplain. Col Strickland and myself being chosen a committee to perform the duty. Made out my papers for returns, wrote several letters including the one to Mr Taylor and this evening have written a long letter to Frank. On the whole have in one way and another been quite busy during the day although I have spent more time than I ought in idleness. The Regt out this afternoon in ~~[illegible]~~ ambush for Dickinson. No results.

THURSDAY, March 31st, 1864.

A mild pleasant day with nothing particular to mark its progress until afternoon. Quite busy with company papers during the forenoon. In the afternoon the Regt went out ambuscading but I sent the Lieut in charge of the company not thinking it possible that anything would occur. Started to ride out to see the country and heard firing. Lieut Taylor who was with me concluded to go with me to join the Regt and we hastened forward until we found it deployed as Skirmishers. Had considerable amusement during the remainder of the afternoon helped draw the rebel fire which was quite smart. Returned in the evening before tea. Sent off my Quartermaster returns for February & March

FRIDAY, April 1st, 1864.

Several attempts at the breakfast table to remind us that it is April fools day. Officer of the Picket today. Visit the whole line in the morning and again in the afternoon. At night instead of waiting for the relief of the Cavalry to go out at one oclk I started off by myself and went out to the Post when the ~~Sgt~~ Sergeant is posted and finding all right and placing him in a new position at the cross roads I returned without going down the line. Gave particular instructions to the Sgt who went out at 1 P M to patrol and inform me if anything occurred, and return at about 1 oclk. Have had quite a busy day and have attended to my duty quite strictly and feel quite confident that nothing can happen out of the way

SATURDAY, April 2d, 1864.

Early this morning Capt Richmond came to my tent and informed me that a Picket Post had been captured I arose immediately and went to report to Col Barton. Sent word through Major — After breakfast was invited by the Cols orderly to call upon him and found him exceeding wroth and disposed to pitch into me in severe style. I soon succeeded in showing him that I had not lacked in vigilance and he cooled down and declared that I was in no way responsible. Visited the picket with the new officer and learned that in all human probability I was very near being captured. In the evening in conversation with the Sgt who relieved the Picket I was convinced as he was also that I had passed the rebels within a few feet on my way to the Post and my horse knew they were near him for he made a sort of a scream which he kept up for some distance. They did not stop me because I rode fast. The news came this evening that the Steamer Maple Leaf had been blown up by a torpedo when within fifteen miles of Jacksonville — total wreck — 5 persons lost

My returns were on her and I am anxious to learn if the mail was saved

SUNDAY, April 3d, 1864.

Rose early after a good nights rest. Enjoyed my usual warm bath and was fully prepared for breakfast. Omitting my usual shave for I am going to let my whiskers grow. The Monthly inspection was over in season to allow attendance of the officers in the right wing on divine service. I enjoyed the services very much. Mr Taylor preaches for the last time today as he proposes to return home this week. We shall miss him and his influence very much in the Brigade and I am sorry as others are that it is at all doubtful about his returning to us. The day has been the most delightful of the season and I have enjoyed it very much. A little disappointed that our mail has not arrived. Lindsay went to Jacksonville this noon to look up Company and personal property. This evening I have written a long letter to L and now that I am about to retire I feel that I have spent a very happy day. Omitting only [illegible]

MONDAY, April 4th, 1864.

Weather threatening. According to appointment start with Col Strickland and Mr Taylor to visit the Gunboat and the people on the opposite shore but no boat from the Gunboat appearing and the weather being unpropitious we conclude to defer our visit until tomorrow. Return to my quarters to attend to Company business and write letters for the mail is expected in today or tomorrow. The steamer left this morning and Mr Taylor intended to have left this morning but the boat went too early. Evening at play and at work the result small. The afternoon and evening has been very delightful but on the whole I must say the day has passed without crediting much good to my account. My good resolutions are dwindling away to some extent and I am becoming idle lazy and bad. Must reform

Mail

TUESDAY, April 5th, 1864.

A delightful day. After breakfast Col Strickland Mr Taylor and I started on our trip to the Gunboat. The boat was in waiting and we spent the most of the forenoon talking with the Lieut. Gambell. The other offices were away. A dull stupid time Back in season to play three games of billiards with Strickland Afternoon the usual services. In the evening Lindsey returned with all the articles I sent for including my box. The feather pillows will be appreciated tonight A letter from L. for the mail has arrived. My share of letters was very small but my only letter was sufficiently good to make up for the want of number. Evening write Lily and Mr Marsh for L reminded me of my promise to do so. Retire happy recov by mail not important

Office Day.

WEDNESDAY, April 6th, 1864.

Office of the Day. The forenoon occupied in attending to the cleaning up of camp and in attendance on the offices meeting. No lesson for we have had none given out. Afternoon rather monotonous. Finish my letter to Mr Marsh and got my Company ready for the inspection tomorrow. Up quite late for I expect to be called upon to drill the battalion. I am the afternoon introduced to Mr Hoerz who is here to look after the New York Regts. Probably however he is here to look after some matter of politics Have been somewhat anxious about the drill tomorrow but after looking over my tactics carefully conclude there is little reason for anxiety and really expect to be able to go through with any movement that he will call for—

THURSDAY, April 7th, 1864.

Up early for the fiery trial takes place today. The inspection in the forenoon was quite satisfactory and my Company certainly presented as good an appearance as any and I am sure better than the most. All through before 12 o'clk. At two we marched to the Parade ground near Mr Cronsons and spent two hours in drill. Nearly all the office were called out to drill the battalion. I was called the first one and succeeded perfectly much to my satisfaction. Later in the day we had dress Parade on the same ground and Mr Hosey addressed the Regt. A Bunkam spent Evening at rest. Mr Taylor goes in the morning.

FRIDAY April 8th, 1864.

A very busy day for we are changing our Camp. The tents arrived several days ago and today were distributed and the whole time consumed in making boxes for the bottom to raise them from the ground. I have spent nearly all the time in laying out the camp and attending to the wants of my company. Now at night I am pretty tired. Only a portion of the tents are up and I am afraid that some of them will require to be changed. Mr Taylor went this morning and I sent by him several photographs to L. I am very sorry that it was necessary for him to leave us and hope he may return. He leave a very good impression behind in the minds of all who knew him. Dr Willard & Mr Gambell took

[illegible] with us and I gave the Dr a [illegible]

SATURDAY, April 9th, 1864.

An uncertain day but a very busy one for the men are engaged in putting up their tents having to build boxes to place them on and to steal the materials for the most part to make the boxes. Succeed in the forenoon in getting a house which is very speedily torn down and the materials brought to camp so that at night the tents were nearly all fixed and a good days work done. I have spent the most of the day in the Company and have taken down my own tent and placed it again. Spirits the company stout. I have a fine place for it and already am about as well settled in the new place as I was in the old. On Monday I shall reconstruct on a more approved plan. Officer of the day to-

Day and up until after 12 midnight at which time I made a

SUNDAY, April 10th, 1864.

A most delightful day. Morning inspection as usual and afterwards set the men at work finishing their bunks. This forenoon I commenced a letter to Lilly. Spent an hour singing and after dinner two hours talking with Major Coan mostly on the subject of religion. Afternoon in as comfortable a manner as possible and this evening I took a walk with Col Strickland down to Lockwoods and spent a pleasant hour chatting. A boat arrived and I have just had time to write a letter or rather finish one to Lilly which Stearns takes to the boat tonight. Now I am about to retire for a good night's rest for I am on duty again as Field Officer of the Day tomorrow and must be up early and late. It has been a delightful day and I feel that it has been pretty well spent although not quite as it should have been

MONDAY, April 11th, 1864.

All very busy in putting up our tents on boxes and in other ways fixing up the Camp. I am Field Officer of the day but spend the most of the time in Camp superintending the erection of my own tent which is now in secellent order and as soon as the Company is all nicely arranged in their new quarters we shall be ready to receive orders to move as has been the usual Custom when we got our Camp in good condition. This going the rounds at midnight is a great nuisance but it must be done. I must go and see the pickets and then will return for I am tired and sleepy. No mail and none expected until tomorrow

TUESDAY, April 12th, 1864.

A warm pleasant day. Commence it in a row with Col Barton. Have not felt well during the day and have been out of humor and in the evening have occasion to be ashamed of an exhibition of feeling which does me no credit although it was ~~[illegible]~~ provoked. I must and shall endeavour to keep my tongue and temper and live as I ought. Wrote Lilly this evening and feel better. I always get in better humor when I write or think of her and she is really my good angel restraining me when I am tempted. When my health is poor as it has been today I am not in good humor and I must then make a greater effort to preserve my temper.

WEDNESDAY, April 13th, 1864.

plan to sleep until the Pines concluded to lie on the floor of the Quartermasters office and an amusing night we had of it for there was a noise of some time during

It is yet morning and I have just had time to eat my breakfast and read my letters and the news comes that we leave tonight and shall join the Corps under Burnside at Potters Junction evacuating this place tonight. Dr. Bray aroused me by poking several letters through the tent into my face when I was lying down. There very interesting letters from Lily and one from Lizzie Duncan and two from Ordnance Dept indicating that my returns from B & R Butler and for the 4th quarter of 63 had been received and found correct. Early in the forenoon orders came for us to prepare to move and the general impression is that we are going North. The offices tent were struck and baggage packed and we waited for specific orders to move but at taps the men turned into their tents. All the Company property and our baggage was sent to the boat during the afternoon and

The whole my night. Got no sleep

THURSDAY, April 14th, 1864.

Up quite early in the morning having enjoyed but little sleep. Feel stupid and drowsy but a good wash and brushing and shampooing by Tom made me feel fresh again. A cup of coffee and a slice of bread furnished by my Orderly made a good breakfast. Waited round during the whole forenoon expecting orders but none came. Dinner again furnished by the Orderly. Col. I and about a dozen officers collected around the remains of Ackers tent and dined off of cold pickings in which salt horse formed the principal ingredient. The combat between the companies with bags of sand as missiles was very amusing. Afterwards I enjoyed a good game of ball with Sears. And a cup of coffee for supper. Then a move to the boat and good bye to Palatka. In trouble from Dickison or any one else. Im an well satisfied that we are going North. On board the Delaware now to be transferred to some other boat.

FRIDAY, April 15th, 1864.

Arrived at Jacksonville early in the forenoon and after waiting about an hour disembarked for the purpose of going on the Bon Ford which will take us North. Various stories are current about our destination but nothing definite is known. It seems probable however that the 10th Army Corps will go North either to Newburn or Portons Munroe. The general impression inclines to the latter. Spent the day in town ~~the~~ running about from place to place with no object in view and about seven PM embarked on the Bon De Ford all the baggage stowed away and all ready to start waiting only for the tide. There is still a lack of definiteness in the orders about our movements so that we cannot form any definite idea as to where we are going —

Flowers from Jacksonville

SATURDAY, April 16th, 1864.

The morning broke bright and beautiful but we were restless and uneasy when we found that we must be delayed several hours before we could start. The order came earlier than we expected and about 9 AM we left the dock and steamed down the river. Our pilot must have been crazy or a fool or something other than a man acquainted with his business for we ran aground several times before we arrived at the bar and then we were too late to cross the bar for the tide was falling. Afternoon as best we could and evening quite jollily with muggins singing dancing and recitations. Mr Styles and brother were on board for several hours. Their vessel arrived this afternoon. Have written a part of a letter to Lilly, which I shall finish before we arrive at the Head

SUNDAY, April 17th, 1864.

A very lovely day. Commenced like my Sabbaths in camp but unlike some of them [illegible] without much regard to the character of the day. The Col Major, Elfring, Miller and myself went on shore and took a walk on the beach. A few persons live on the point most of them families of the bar pilots. One young lady. Showed us the garden and gave us permission to call the flowers. The roses were in full bloom and we all collected nosegays. The peaches were quite fine and plums seemed large enough to ripen. Such sights would seem strange at home now where perhaps they are freezing in Sarmandia. An hour on Styles Schooner and then dinner. Singing in afternoon and [illegible] enjoyment in writing to Lilly. Retired early. Could not [illegible] the bar and must remain until [illegible]

MONDAY, April 18th, 1864.

Snowed in [illegible] across the [illegible] early this morning. The passage to [illegible] without particular [illegible] Spent the forenoon and most of the afternoon in playing cribbage. Read over my diary of 1862 and found [illegible] interesting I kept it with more care than I have any since although I neglected it somewhat. Wrote a letter to Mother in the evening and listened to a discussion in regard to the merits of [illegible] Signmen or rather demerits. Mr [illegible] came on board and will probably go north with us. It is somewhat doubtful if we go on the [illegible] as it will take several days to get ready to start and they may wish to send us more [illegible]. All the white troops in the department are going north and very many have already gone. Others will be hurried off as far as they can be got ready. It is [illegible] that [illegible] will command [illegible]

TUESDAY, April 19th, 1864.

This morning while we were in doubt and uncertainty as to what would be done with us (for we were frightened with the idea of going on board a propeller lying at the dock. Col Fullar came on board and ordered the boat to Beaufort for Coal. We arrived in the forenoon and immediately disembarked and marched to the rear of the town when we halted and stacked arms. Major Dorman arrived from the Head just before dinner and commenced paying the Rgt. Our Company was first paid. During the evening some of the men became intoxicated and created some trouble stopped on board, the O. Ford during the night. Have not been well today but hope when we are fairly started and somewhat of the excitement passed to be well again. We shall embark tomorrow.

WEDNESDAY, April 20th, 1864.

This morning after breakfast had time to procure a few things before we embarked the Rgt. Sent my mail my Ordnance Returns and a letter to Lilly. So as to be sure that she will hear at the earliest moment my other letters I shall keep until we arrive at Fortress Monroe. Leave for Hilton Head in the forenoon. Had some anxiety about my men at Beaufort. We have now at ½ past 5 just started from the dock. Glad—very happy to leave this department. Sent my trunk to Bank with all but three changes of clothing. Sent $80 to Father by express. We have many officers and several ladies on board. Mr Taylor is rooming with me and I retain my old room. We are fairly on our way and the cold air of the North has already reached us. I am afraid we shall suffer somewhat during the first month. I must now retire after reading my letters again. I always read letters from Lilly several times and they are always interesting. Every day seems

So that I may be with her. My life's hopes and joys are bound up in her.

To add to my affection for her, I hope I may about this service soon

THURSDAY, April 21st, 1864.

Another lovely day. The sky clear the water smooth the company agreeable and everything desirable. We have thus far been extremely fortunate. Spend the time about equally divided between the quarter deck Social Hall and Cabin. Perhaps the preponderance is for the latter for I have written a considerable. I want to get my correspondance in good order before we get into the field. Very playing cards until a late hour and retire rather tired. We spend our days monotonously on board ship. And little occurs to excite any special interest —

FRIDAY, April 22d, 1864.

One of the loveliest days I ever knew. The mirage on the water is very fine. The water continued smooth all day and it has been as mild as June. Tomorrow morning will be at Fortress Monroe for when I retire we can see the light and the Captain says we shall run in during the night. Have written Father sending the note of Charles for $750. and receipt of Adams Express Company for $80. also request for him to expend thirty or forty dollars in presents for Mrs C. A. A and Fannie and Mary. Wrote George on business Mattie and wrote to Lilly. Retire late. Shall know tomorrow what is to become of us

SATURDAY, April 23d, 1864.

This morning when I awoke ~~[illegible]~~ were at anchor opposite Fortress Monroe. I learned on my arrival on deck that the mail went ashore early in the morning and I was very much disappointed. However I soon learned that I could send my letter ashore. and they would be in seasonfor the mail. Stayed near the Fort about two hours when we started for Yorktown when we arrived early in the afternoon. Obliged to wait some time for the Colonel to select a Camp ground. Disembarked just before sunset. and march up to the Brigade Grounds and stacked our arms for the night for there is no time and we have none of the material for Camp. Fatigue party a work during the night unloading the B.D.E. Ford laid down on the ground with a blanket over me. and no covering [illegible] but the sky.

SUNDAY, April 24th, 1864.

Awoke early or rather got up early for I scarcely slept during the night. Felt miserable but a wash and brushing cleaned away a little of the bad feeling. Came near getting in bad humor for the rest of the day because no Officer was present with the battalion beside myself until late so that I was compelled to wait until some one returned. Was not able on that account to go down to the B.D.E. Ford which left the dock and steamed down the stream before I left Camp. During the day we sat and smoked but it was not until noon that our camping ground was selected and we commenced putting up our tents. Made a rude bedstead and fell myself quite comfortable. Have not been quite well since I left Palatka. This evening I have been singing to Lilly but could not write for I have not been well enough. Tired and will retire

MONDAY, April 25th, 1864.

Do not feel well at all and during the whole day we have been driven from one side to the other with contradictory orders. It seems as if every one was in a hurry but was not quite sure what to do. Genl Ing commands the Corps for the present. Troops are arriving every day in great numbers and it really looks as if some thing was intended. Somehow or other I have not felt the confidence in this movement since I came here or rather have not felt that it formed an important part of the grand movement. Heard this morning of the desertion of Rowell with a man by the name of Rogers Co H. They were fired upon by the picket but made their escape. Tried to write Lilly tonight but did not feel well enough

TUESDAY, April 26th, 1864.

A pleasant morning and I have enjoyed a good rest and feel refreshed. Have been busy for morning until late evening in attending to orders and calls of various kinds. Every thing seems to conflict. This evening we received an order to have our tents taken down and shelter tents put up before Sundown, and it was a trouble after Sundown when we commenced the work but at Tattoo the tents were all up and really looked quite cosy. With three men in a tent they will be very comfortable. The third piece used as a back. The camp looked very beautiful for as far as the eyesood reach the little white dot were visible. The who division have them. Had my pass signed to go to Yorktown. Listened to the most exquisite field music I ever heard. The 103 band played at the next camp and I was fairly thrilled and overcome with the music. Genl Ing was a listener. Wrote to Lilly and it was under refreshing to sit down and talk with her. I have written to her in several days [illegible]

to sit down and talk with her [illegible]

WEDNESDAY, April 27th, 1864.

ridiculous thing it appears to be. I can't or rather won't stand such a mode of life a great while. This morning according to my plan Yesterday I started for Yorktown and succeeded in reaching the early boat. Ingraham was with me, and we succeeded in finding the Express Agent and I sent home money for several of my men. Afterwards I attended to the matter of looking up Lieut Edwards Valise which I succeeded in finding and sent to him. Then I went to the telegraph office with little hope of ~~[illegible]~~ being able to send to Charles, there was no trouble however and I sent the following to the care of Gov Smith Pres. R.I. Sorry can't be with you. Congratulations and best wishes. Brotherly love to Mrs N. Reply if possible. I did not expect an answer although the operator told me that he would send to me if any came. Looked about the town. Saw the house which was Lord Cornwallis' headqrs at the time he surrendered to Washington who was said to have drank a bowl of punch in the same house after the close of the war. Spent some time in deciphering the inscriptions on the tombstones on the Hill. Visited Cornwallis' care when he used to take shelter from Shot and Shell [illegible] in the [illegible] Lilly

Although I learned that no mail went farther than Potters Monroe at present I hope my letter written on Shipboard reached Lilly. [illegible]

THURSDAY, April 28th, 1864.

which makes us [illegible]. The troops [illegible] to have moved to Williamsburg, Dist. believe it.

Woke several times during the night for the wind tumbled our little shanty down. This morning it was quite cold and I had to rise early to be comfortable. Early breakfast, and during the day occupied in getting my things in order, and attending to the duties of office of the day. A rumor prevailed this morning that we were going to march but it proved false. We finally turned over our Ordnance to Col Strickland but even now it is doubtful if he takes it and gives us receipts. Today a small mail arrived but no letter from Lilly. I was grievously disappointed. Made Dunn Early Sgt. and Fagues a Sergt. and Burton a Corporal. It is pretty cold. Shall write Lilly tonight. Col thinks we shall have a marching drill tomorrow.

Papers. Stated [illegible] that [illegible] Author

FRIDAY, April 29th, 1864.

The night was Cold and it is uncomfortable in the morning. Having but one blanket I sleep Cold and am contracting a Cold which may trouble me for some time. As usual busy today with conflicting orders and getting our Ordnance Stores out of our hands. Have not been very well during the day although I am better than for some days past. Changes now affect me unfavorably whereas when we first came into the service the contrary was a fact. No letter from Lilly tonight which was a great disappointment. All our Company property has been sent to Norfolk and we have very little to look after. Busy getting the Muster and pay rolls ready

SATURDAY, April 30th, 1864.

The weather this morning was threatening. However the wind having changed the air was milder than it has been for some days past. Regular monthly inspection this morning and muster for payment. Afternoon a review first by Brig Genl Amers and afterwards by Genl Butler who proved to be the same odd rough looking customer as when he was the blackguard lawyer in Mass. He is smart. The dust this afternoon was perfectly intolerable. I know I could never have been so dirty before in all my life. and a dirtier crowd of men it would have been quite impossible to find in the four quarters of the globe. Evening I wrote Lilly pebb of a letter and was much disappointed in not meeting one for her. She is sick I am afraid or her father is quite ill. I shall be anxious until I hear.

SUNDAY, May 1st, 1864.

It rains this morning and looks like a settled storm. Under some apprehension lest our house should leak but it is dry and quite Comfortable Considering the size and material.

Filled office of the Day but do not report until noon. Visit the Camps in the afternoon and every time for the Sentinals men very polite. A beautiful evening which I enjoy more than any since our arrival here. The sunset was a reminder of pleasanter times and scenes. It is May day and I hoped to have received letters from Lilly and others but none came, very much disappointed but set over my sad feeling in writing to Lilly. Evening with Lieutenant talking over old College days and scenes. Really it has been a very pleasant day and I have enjoyed it much but should have felt it a perfect day had I received my letter this morning. Retire late after making my [illegible]

MONDAY, May 2d, 1864.

The weather today has been very mild and we hope that Spring is really coming. Not quite so busy as for some days past. In the afternoon had Battalion Skirmish drill. Pretty good. Evening it Commenced raining and it was the severest storm I have known for a long time. The most of the Shelter tents of the officers were capsized but mine was so firmly buried in the ground that it could not easily get away. Lieut Hunter and myself kept well to the leeward and escaped being wet and we sat and talked and sang the hours away until late in the night. He is very fond of music as well as myself and has good taste. Received a letter from Lilly which relieved me of much apprehension. Charles was married as intended on the 27th My letter written on Shipboard had been received but others had not.

TUESDAY, May 3d, 1864.

This morning we were busy in matters pertaining to the Regiment and at noon received the information that we must move out on Picket. I was very glad of it for I wished to see the Country. Troops are moving and we believe the 62nd Ohio in order that they may embark with their division. Quite a long march to the outposts. I have charge of quite a long line of pickets. The Ohio Regt we found rather loose Col E and A are stationed together in the edge of a thick woods and throw out their pickets down the road towards the Severn River. It took until dark to get all the posts established and the instructions delivered. After Supper went the length of the lines. The Officers of E and A laid down together and we kept each other awake until a late hour with Stories and Songs.

WEDNESDAY, May 4th, 1864.

An excellent breakfast and an early one started out on a Stroll around the Country along the lines. Took Barrett along and we visited Mr Thornton's house. He was formerly a Lieut in the Rebel Service full of Southern feeling but Careful and proper in his expressions. Afterwards saw the Colonel and Major who rode out along the lines. It is a beautiful Country and the men like the duty so well that they hope to remain some time. Call at another house, saw the young ladies and was invited to dine. Afterwards visited the ~~Widow of a~~ Widow of a rebel Colonel killed at Sharpsburg. Mrs Taylor a very pretty but to all appearances a very bitter lady. Visited Mr Brukes place. A beautiful plantation. under good state of Cultivation Plenty of milk. On my return to camp found orders to leave. Mr Embark tought the messenger said. True enough a long ladies march in and on board the Steamer at twelve Oclk. Very tired with long pack

side the river for much of the way the

THURSDAY, May 5th, 1864.

land runs perpendicularly from the water
we captured a rebel signal party killing
Had a very refreshing sleep and
awoke late. Good breakfast and
now I have just been looking over the
Map and have learned that our destin-
ation is City Point and that it is prob-
able we are to march thence to Petersburg
During the day I wrote Lilly a letter
and delivered it to the Purser
who will post it. I was very tired and
in the afternoon took a long nap which
refreshed me very much. Evening we arrived
at our destination which proved to be two
miles above City Point on the Petersburg
side. I learned from Lieut Parton that there
is a general movement of all the grand
divisions of the army or rather that was
the intention. The 18th Corps landed first there
was a rebel flag of truce at City Point
In our repeated sea counted at one time within
sight more than forty steamers besides numerous
other crafts all loaded with troops. We launched
at midnight and encamped in an open field.
we are about 90 miles from Fortress Monroe
The river is a beautiful one and the land

On rather side pipply cultivated on many plantations. On rather

the distant fellow [illegible] has been in three parts [illegible]

FRIDAY, May 6th, 1864.

We laid down on the ground the Rgt
being closed in mass in double column
Had a comfortable rest for a few hours
and rose early. Light breakfast for I have
but little. It is now about 10 o'clk AM
and we are waiting to get everything on shore
and shall move forward soon. The 18th
Corps is still in advance [illegible]
smith. [illegible] before [illegible] we started [illegible]
[illegible] being assured before we start that
we shall not go far. Man further told that
it is not the intention to take either [illegible]
Darling or Petersburg but we are [illegible]
to cooperate with Grant in case he is successful.
During the day we marched only
five miles but it was very dusty and [illegible]
and trying. My bundle weighed heavy
before night but I was resolved to carry it
I know that my double blanket would be [illegible]
at night. We finally encamped in a ploughed
field. [illegible] brought word that [illegible]
had crossed the Rapidan and had been [illegible]
two days [illegible] the orderly [illegible]
with [illegible]

SATURDAY, May 7th, 1864.

Reveille sounded long before daylight and I was constrained to rise much against my inclination for I heard the orderly let say that we moved in a half hour. Had a very good breakfast the first good meal since we left the steamer. Started from camp before sunrise and now I am writing seated on my pack on the side of the road about a half mile from camp waiting for the rebels to come down on the railroad which is only two miles distant. We are still in the rear of the column. Started again after about an hour rest and marched in a roundabout road a long distance out of our way. Finally we halted and left our knapsacks and packs. Afterwards halted again and left our rubber blankets and then moved forward for the fight. Filed through the woods into our position and rested a half hour during which time I collected several flowers for L. Went into the fight as skirmishers in front line. Became detached from the Rgt and went off on my own hook into the turnpike where we did good execution. The 115th followed us down the hill and the rebels came down from their position and attacked us at not farther the 50 yrds distance. There were 2 Regts and they drove us out of the road

shoulder and others were shot down at my side. I was grazed in the ear but not injured. Our position on the hill was such that we could see the whole rebel force and their movements were performed most accurately. The whole view was the finest I ever expect to see while in the service. It was

for the fire was terrible. There were killed and wounded all around me. and as I went away I heard the terrible shrieks and groans of the wounded and dying. My orderly left was shot in the

my men [illegible] bring [illegible] ordered to return and collected my men and went back. Like a beautiful panorama. They met the first [illegible] our night promptly and succeeded

SUNDAY, May 8th, 1864.

Retired late last night but awoke refreshed with a sound sleep. We rest today and I take the opportunity after breakfast of going down to the brook to bathe. Good breakfast. And spend the day or that part of it when not engaged with orders in getting my tent and things in order. On the whole I spent the day in a decent manner. In the afternoon my valise arrived and I was enabled to change my clothes which was very grateful. A portion of the evening I spent in talking with the officers about yesterday's fight and we all agree that it was managed most miserably. Hodges mocks us with the statement that it was a success when we only tore up a little track and cut the telegraph wire with the loss of several hundred. All my men have returned but two, J. S. Smith and Stubbs. The loss of the Rgt is about 40. The 115th N. Y. least more. 47th 2 officers and quite a number of men. Sat up until quite late writing L. and Mother. Head tonight that he had been whipped and himself and Longstreet wounded. We go out again tomorrow. There is to be a general advance and we hope a success and I hope we may have a part in it.

MONDAY, May 9th, 1864.

I have little to record of personal experience which will be considered of interest hereafter. There has been a general advance but we have not participated being in one of the two Brigades left behind. We were marched out of camp at an early hour in light marching order. It was intimated to us the night before that we were to use the Telescope rifle - i.e. spade and picks, but we hoped it would not prove true and that we should move with the attacking column. Disappointed. Worked hard on the entrenchments and at night went back to our camp and took everything away and returned to the entrenchments taking up our position in the rear. The report from the front is that Butler has been quite successful and will be able to enter Petersburg in the morning. The firing has been kept up all around us during the day and still continues. Howells Brigade reported driven back and we lay on our arms during the night. Disturbed twice and disgusted with the cowardly officer Col Raisted who is an old woody. On the whole an uncomfortable day. Sent my letters to Lilly and [illegible] has returned to the company for duty.

Lt Graham [illegible] within a quarter of a mile from the James River reported that four gunboats had been shown up. Afterwards Contradicted. News from Grant

TUESDAY, May 10th, 1864.

dead. Genl Foster who went to meet it stated that the rebels were piled in heaps and many of them burned making the most sickening sight he ever witnessed. They were driven by Hays Division and met Howells Brigade. Our batteries 15 in number poured grape and shell into [illegible] difficult [illegible] the many [illegible] marches and countermarches [illegible] retreats to find time to write [illegible] I hope to be able to keep this diary through the service. This morning we were [illegible] before light and took our place behind entrenchments. Firing was kept up during [illegible] of the night. We were roused up [illegible] I got very little sleep. This morning I [illegible] very tired. During the [illegible] of the forenoon the firing increased and about ten O'clock we were ordered to fall in to go out and [illegible] Col Howell who was reported falling back before the enemy. The men were at work on the entrenchments. We marched and countermarched until we got pretty tired. While in the woods we were in some danger of being burned for the fire was raging with a high wind. A little after noon we arrived at the position designated for us and waited in ambush for the rebels. None appeared and we returned to camp for the night. I tried to write [illegible] but was too tired to finish. While in ambush we saw a despatch from Secty Stanton to Genl Butler stating that the rebels were in full retreat and Meade falling [illegible]

Returning to camp we heard that the rebels had asked for a flag of truce to bury their dead. Genl Foster who went to meet it stated that the rebels were piled in heaps and many of them burned making the most sickening sight he ever witnessed. They were driven by Hays Division and met Howells Brigade. Our batteries 15 in number poured grape and shell into their whole [illegible] they were in [illegible] in [illegible]

WEDNESDAY, May 11th, 1864.

It has been a day of rest and we have enjoyed it much. Indeed it was needed for we have marched and worked continually since our arrival. The men have had an opportunity to get something to eat. I had my tent put in as good condition as possible. I forgot to say that we moved from behind the entrenchments back to our old Camp ground. During the day I have rested such time as I could get to myself. At dinner I was surprised and delighted by the receipt of letters from Lilly and Mother 2 from Lilly very good indeed. Although I sent our letter to her this morning I could not forbear writing again this evening. Should have written Mother and Mr Taylor but was interrupted by Lieut Sears. Was taken sick today after tea but hope I may not suffer in this way for I am alone in command of the Company. finished a letter to Lilly but hope to write further tomorrow and to write Mother and Mr Taylor also.

THURSDAY, May 12th, 1864.

Aroused very early in the morning by the orderly who stated that the Regt were ordered to be in line at daylight in light marching order with two day rations. The letter which I wrote to Lilly and which I thought too dirty to send I felt obliged to leave with the Postmaster. Moved off beyond War bottom Church down towards the river where we were supports to the Skirmishers who extended nearly to the rivers bank. We acted as Flankers during the march. Soon after starting it commenced raining and continued during the day with slight intervals. Had nothing to protect me and like the men suffered much, Was wet through - Soaked - Marched and Countermarched but did no fighting. Some losses occurred in the Regt in our right - but not heavy. The paper of the 10th N.Y. Tribune gave an account of the battle of the Potomac army. Not so favorable as I hoped. Encamped in the edge of woods. Made fires and tried to keep ourselves dry. The hardest day since we arrived. Saw Teal's Smith and Butler - [illegible] not felt [illegible]

FRIDAY, May 13th, 1864.

It was a very uncomfortable night. I tried to sleep on two flat rails near the fire but it was hard work, disturbed during the night several times. Indeed I had only snatches of sleep for I was wet and it continued to rain during the night. I had no blankets and no outside coats. Roused up pretty early in the morning. Pretty good breakfast [illegible] Tom back for my rubber coat and other traps. Spent the forenoon in trying to rest but got no sleep. Talked with the rebel prisoner who was brought in yesterday. Wandered about from place to place doing little or nothing. Just after noon the Ryt moved forward and up to the Richmond Turnpike along which we marched a mile or two and then formed in line of battle on its left. Saw Richmond from a tree and also Fort Darling. Got a good view of the country. Am now sitting at the foot of a tree and the firing is going on in our front and in our left. We dont know where we shall rest tonight or when we shall get anything to eat. It has been raining. Rested at night in the woods or a [illegible] of battle [illegible] this afternoon [illegible]

SATURDAY, May 14th, 1864.

It rained during the night and had no protection but my rubber coat. Still I managed to sleep pretty well and this morning feel quite refreshed. We moved forward this morning after breakfast beyond the rifle pits abandoned by the rebels last night. Genl Gilmore turned the rebel right and obliged them to abandon their works. We have had heavy firing along the lines but not many wounded. We are still acting as reserve. Just now we heard that we were to storm the advance of the rebel works, which will be a hot job. Genl's Terry and Ames are steadily advancing on our left. In the afternoon the Ryt moves forward to take the place of the 76th who have been in the advance for the last 24 hours sometimes under heavy fire. I was selected to take charge of the Skirmishers and moved with 60 men into the woods in advance of our lines. Relieved the 76 but did not move forward as Skirmishers for the 11th Mer covered our front. Lay in the edge of the woods at night. Sent a few lines

to Lilly

SUNDAY, May 15th, 1864.

Early this morning my Command was deployed forwards as Skirmishers into the open grounds in front of the second line of works. Swayed a little during the night and felt quite well considering During the forenoon I moved about among the Skirmishers on each flank. Was considerably exposed but able and willing to discharge my duty. The Sharpshooters were very busy. They were in the trees on the edge of the entrenchments and in rifle pits in front. The men covered behind logs and stumps and fired well but I think with little execution for the rebels were covered. Felt that I was being fired at quite often but through the Goodness of Providence my life was spared. Only one of my men were wounded. We returned to the Rest about noon and I enjoyed the luxury of a wash and spent the latter part of the day quite sabbath like and in a happy frame of mind. A letter from Lilly contributed very much to produce this result. Had my little sing all alone with Lilly. The major slept with me

MONDAY, May 16th, 1864.

Stopping several times on the way. We were defeated by the rebels turning our right flank. I could write many pages of incidents of the days work but they are stamped in my memory and

Very early this morning the firing Commenced very heavy on the right of our line and afterwards on the left. We heard the demoniac yells of the rebels at intervals as if they attacked and were repulsed several times. The rebels however repeated the assaults until we felt they had at last been successful. I also assaulted the works on our left but we learned afterwards that they were repeated three times and did not succeed finally. About 8 oclk they attacked our line. Just left on our right gave way and left our flank exposed. Then the rebels poured into and around our barricade and we suffered terribly. My Company stood until I ordered them away and at that time they fell around me thick and fast. Yockers killed. Corpls Smalls & Brussel killed 4 wounded. I cannot forget Sgt Lawson wounded [illegible] not Corpl Burton & poor Reed. Darcy and above all the brave Vreeland. I mourn for them. We fell back by order of Leal Barton and then went back afterwards fell back to the entrenchments. Then moved across the Swamp and back to Camp

will not be effaced. I shall not cease to mourn the loss of my brave good men. They [illegible] I hope I may [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

TUESDAY, May 17th, 1864.

Last night I wrote Lilly before I retired and then had a good sleep. This morning before breakfast I went to the woods and took a thorough wash. An excellent breakfast and spent the forenoon in visiting talking and writing to Mother. Went to the Genl Hospital to see my men but they had all gone to the Point. I saw very many poor fellows wounded in various parts of the body and the sight was sickening. That pile of legs was too much for me. I tried to say good words but soon left. Afternoon saw Elfwing who is quite ill. The subject of conversation the battle of yesterday. D. W. S. Dudley was sun struck was an insinuous interpolation and near the trenches listened to the 8th N.Y. band. and went to my quarters with a full mess of the enjoyment of the sweet music. Evening in quarters wrote a little and read the papers of the 16th which the Chaplain brought up. News favorable. but I wrote on [illegible] the papers of the 18th & 19th to tell us in regard to the story of the whipping [illegible] in orders to

to the boys of [illegible] to us on Monday

WEDNESDAY, May 18th, 1864.

Awakened during the night by heavy firing and thinking it possible that the rebels had attacked our works I changed my clothes packed up all my things to be ready for a move. After waiting some time the firing died away and I retired again. Late in the morning when I arose and I had just time to prepare for inspection which took place at 9 A.M. The Rgt was scarcely inspected before we were ordered to fall in and move to the front. We lay back of the entrenchments until 6 P.M. when our Rgt was ordered to join Genl Ames's Command. Marched outside the works to act as reserve skirmishes but everything was mixed up and finally we were deployed on the advance line ours being the only Rgt out. Commanded with Genl Troys left. Commanded Cos H.E. & A and afterwards Co B reported to me. Col Strickland in his usual place. Coan sick but working. Up all the evening and only laid down for a few moments. The rebels are close to us and have done much execution on the Cos I believed. I suppose we shall have it sharp in the morning. The Rebs have a battery opposed to us. Nearly blinded by the [illegible] of [illegible].

shot in the back while retreating without any

THURSDAY, May 19th, 1864.

Command. Arrived Safe. Some trouble about the manner that the Regt Came in but no fault of mine.
This morning as I write the shot shell and bullets are whizzing over me. The rebels have opened heavily as I expected early I was surprised at seeing the fire of several batteries. My men made rifle pits and are pretty well protected. One man badly wounded thus far. I think it probable the rebels will attack us in masses during the day. A more tedious day than common. The left was attacked by assault but the rebels were driven back with Considerable Slaughter. Waited and watched anxiously for the relief until at last just at dusk it came. Those who came to my end of the line relieved Lieut Bassett before I knew they had come and he went in with his Company and those next him followed suit. Consequently I soon found myself without any Command. Went in alone. The line assaulted just as I was moving in. The bullets whistled lively and I made my way out of the range

about as fast as I could for I felt how ridiculous it would be to get a

FRIDAY, May 20th, 1864.

About midnight we were aroused and drawn up in line but afterwards dismissed. It was terribly trying to the men and if not necessary cruelly outrageous. My rest being broken in upon thus was not of so much benefit as it would have been and this morning I got up rather late not much refreshed. Busied myself in getting the Company in order and providing them with ammunition &c. At last sat down to write Lilly which is my chief pleasure now. Scarcely had I commenced writing before the order came to move. I finished the letter abruptly and moved out with the company. We marched to the rear of our entrenchments and halted. And remained until night and then rested on our arms. I laid down in the field. Considerable fighting on the line The 97th Penn assaulted the skirmish line which we occupied yesterday but were repulsed with great slaughter. Genl [illegible] reported successful on the right. He captured rebel Genl Walker wounded, and some other prisoners. Expected to be called upon to assault the Skirmish line. Rejoiced when we learned it was given up. [illegible] Four letters from Lilly 3 old and one new. Oh how [illegible] they were. [illegible]

[illegible] all their charges and finds are suffering that find remains unmoved and unbroken

SATURDAY, May 21st, 1864.

It was cold last night and I did not rest well. During the day we lay around on the hill in the sun very uncomfortable and very tired and very hungry. The regiment is getting very much exhausted and we need rest. Men are being worked too hard. Went to see the intrenchment which are fast being strengthened so that we may need fear no fear of an attack. Went into camp in the afternoon late. Cleaned up and dressed up as well as I could had a good supper and then took a walk around the camps. Saw Lieut. Talcot & Edward and had a pleasant talk especially with the latter. Listened to the 3rd N.Y. band which discoursed excellent music. I have enjoyed the evening exceedingly. A letter very good indeed from Lilly it seems the best I ever had. I shall certainly get out of the service as soon as I can conscientiously. Made an attempt to write Lilly but was interrupted by an order to fall in. The firing is very heavy along the line

SUNDAY, May 22d, 1864.

Just about midnight we were aroused and marched to the rear of the intrenchment. The firing was heavy, Artillery and infantry and we thought our line of intrenchments had been attacked but after waiting a half hour we were marched back to camp the firing having ceased. We learned today that the rebels attacked our line of rifle pits but were repulsed with heavy loss. At three o'clk this morning we were roused up again and between 4 & 5 we were marched to the front. We were tired and I felt quite unwell. Felt better after breakfast but in spite of my efforts I have not been able to spend the day sabbath like. The letter of Lilly received last night has contributed to put me in good nature. We spent the day lying about near the Rgt. Very tedious it has been and we were all tired at night. No firing during the day but very warm and uncomfortable. We all hoped to get in tonight but no relief came. All retired early for we have to get up very early in the morning. Sent a letter to Lilly only half written but there was no opportunity to finish it.

MONDAY, May 23d, 1864.

We were roused up very early and the men obliged to stand in place not until daylight. Passed an uncomfortable night and did not feel well this morning. Baked and stewed in the sun again all day. It is very tedious and we are really being abused. for the Rgt has not been allowed a night's rest for a long time. I am pretty well tired out. Read the newspapers wrote a letter to Lilly talked did everything I could to pass the time but it dragged wearily along. This morning I received a letter from Mother. Have received no letters from other parties members of the family since we left. South Carolina although I have written Went to camp early in the afternoon or rather evening. Changed my clothes and washed up and tried to feel comfortable with the hope of a good night's rest but

ready to move all packed at 3 A.M. next day.

alas orders came that we must be

TUESDAY, May 24th, 1864.

As we were informed at three A.M. we were called into line the camp all struck and packed up. It is cruel to treat men so and I know it is unnecessary. I did not feel well at all this morning and the want of slub is beginning to tell. Moved into the woods near the entrenchment and put our tents up as best we could in the very limited space allowed us. We form in close column by division and put up tents between stacks. Everything is done with an utter disregard of the condition and wants of the men for it would have been quite as easy to have cut away more space. Office of the day. At 3½ P.M. Rgt informed they would go on picket at 4. Perfectly outrageous. Started before 4. Every thing is done in the most trying way possible and if the men can be deprived of a good meal it seems their aim to accomplish this. Went out towards Was Bottom Church. Relieved the 10th Conn. Was very vigilant as indeed I felt compelled to be. The men tired and sleepy. Hard to keep them awake

WEDNESDAY, May 25th, 1864.

Still on Picket. Thus far nothing of interest has occurred. The Rebels are very busy at work at something we cant tell what. No firing by agreement said to have been made through flag of truce. The rebs take advantage of it to work and approach near enough to see our lines. During the afternoon I went down to the right of our line and left of the 76th P.V. The rebels were in sight in great numbers. Most of them seemed to belong to working parties for they had shades picks and axes. They were behind their works not more than 200 or 300 yds and their rifletts were in some places within 50 yds. They came up to our lines to recharge hopers and wandered about generally in perfect confidence. The reason for the request to stop firing was apparent for under cover of it they worked like bees. Throw up entrenchments opposite our lines and a redoubt in such a position that they can completely flank our lines. The truth is that we must vacate because no one has taken care to see how we were situated and, whether left them to erect such works that they can command our lines.

Bid him good bye. Sent Lily's letter to Fannie by him. He will see Frank. Letter from Lilly. They are my chief pleasure. Letter from Mr Wyman.

In camp early winning Lockwood out of the service lucky fellow

THURSDAY, May 26th, 1864.

All day in camp but Col Barton is very stringent in regard to laying out the camp so that we are much disturbed and compelled to move our tents correct the company streets &c. In the evening orders come to be prepared to move. The orders are of such a character that we can make nothing of them nor from any conjecture as to where we are to go. Before taps we make up our minds that we shall not move tonight and I laid down hoping to get rest for I need it much. Have not been quite well for several days and am hardly fit to march but must try to go. A letter from Lilly and one from Sergeant Dunn. He informs me of the death of Ireland which makes me sad for he was a noble fellow. The letter of Lilly has been some time on the way as it is date the 12th. These letters are very cheering and it is my chief pleasure to hear from and write to them.

Send a letter to Lilly

mail is but not distributed

FRIDAY, May 27th, 1864.

This morning I woke up quite sick. Some all over and certainly I shall not be able to move if the Regt is ordered away. Drank some tea for breakfast and immediately after was sick at my stomach and lost all I had eaten. Fell weak and miserable. Everything here seems to contribute to this. The water is bad and we have no real rest being ordered up in the morning at three o'clk and kept up late at night, It is now 3 o'clk P.M. and fresh orders have arrived to move and the impression seems to be that we are to cross the James River to join Grant's Army. I stoled with the Company for I do not wish to leave them as long as I can walk. Feel a little better than I did in the morning. We marched at about sundown and it was dark when we reached a halting place which is about two miles in rear of Genl Gilmore Hdqrs. where several Brigades are encamped. We dont know what is to become of us. Tents put up tonight. Hard for the men. News from Grant Good and

for towards Kicking up the spirits of the men. Lie down with Ingraham under the tree. Such intelligence as we have received from him from time to time has gone

SATURDAY, May 28th, 1864.

Enjoyed a good sleep last night and although I rose early feel much better and considerably refreshed. A letter from Lilly who writes very frequently and very kindly and whose letters I prize beyond measure. I am acting officer of the day and have succeeded in getting the Camp laid out in good order. There is a great deal of growling among offices as well as men and I try and keep in as good humor as possible and assist in regulating matters as far as my authority extends. We have just received orders to get ready for inspection and a move which will probably take place this evening. We have no idea when we are going. Shall write Lilly today and send off my return for April. Left Camp a little before dark. A very tedious march to the Appomattox and found we had lost the road. Another tedious march and across the Appomattox on a pontoon bridge on to City Point. Arrived just before daylight. Altogether the most tedious march I have ever undertaken. Foot sore and weary.

SUNDAY, May 29th, 1864.

After an hour's rest at the outskirts of the town we started again for the boat. Shoved on board a very small propeller and a Canal boat. Filled to the utmost they did not cease attempting to crowd on more until we left the wharf. Succeeded in getting a wash and change of under clothes this afternoon. Trouble with Fix in which I think I was right. Shall pursue the matter unless he makes suitable apologies for he was very impudent and I think very wrong. A beautiful Sabbath day and although I have not slept I have been resting all the afternoon. We are now on our way to Fortress Monroe there to await orders. Genl Martindale remains at City Point. Genl impression is that we are going to the White House. Wrote to Lilly this evening and intended to write Mother but was too sleepy. Retired early.

MONDAY, May 30th, 1864.

Woke at breakfast time having enjoyed a refreshing sleep. Have spent the day reading writing talking and loafing the usual manner of spending time on Shipboard. We expected to have stopped at Fortress Monroe when I intended to go on shore and make some purchases but we were ordered as soon as we arrived to proceed up the York River without stopping. Thus our letters must lie until we reach our destination. No papers and no news. A quiet ride up the river. A very pleasant day. The banks of the river presenting changing scenery all ~~the~~ ~~same~~ full of interest and beauty. A very interesting conversation with Dr Leet our Surgeon who is a very intelligent man with a good knowledge of human nature as well as of his profession. A quiet comfortable day and an admirable opportunity for all to get rested. We all needed it

Fortunately we were reserve on picket

TUESDAY, May 31st, 1864.

We landed at the White House Point about the middle of the forenoon. The Chaplain was at the landing & told us that Grant's Army was within 8 miles of Richmond and 7 of us but I afterwards heard that Grant was 20 miles away, which is probably nearer the truth. Busy as a bee looking after rations from myself and men. About 7 P.M. we started on the march to join Grant. It was a terrible march and having a bad pair of boots I suffered much for my ankles were worn raw. After marching until near morning we arrived at our destination only to find that we were to go on picket. It was cruel more particularly because we knew it was not our turn. The country that we passed through was most interesting and the soil apparently good. Deep glens clear heavy woods open fields in full state of cultivation followed each other and although exhausted I enjoyed the scenery and [illegible] to sweet [illegible]

aye with Grayson. The 1st Army Corps is moving to Grant's 12000 or 15000 [illegible] Lowers and Sprouts with the roadside which loaded the

WEDNESDAY, June 1st, 1864.

I was enabled to do my duty and my life was spared. Tried to rest at night but could not. We lost our U.S. Colors.

Called up at a very early hour and commenced our movement forward to Grant's Army. A very hot day and the dust was terrible. We had but few stops and I was nearly exhausted. Letter from Father acknowledging the receipt of the note and money. We arrived at the point when we expected to rest when we found we were expected to engage in battle. I could not believe it until I found myself marching to the front in line of battle. Orders were received direct from Genl Smith but the Lt Col was slow and late as usual and I was compelled in the absence of any superior officer to give the Word of Command. Succeeded finally in moving the Regt forward on the line of the 47th and charged across the field through the woods. The fight on the rifle pits which we took. The order to retreat given by some unknown parties. The three attempts to rally, during all which I [illegible] command of the Regt

all there I will never forget. It was a terrible time but Thank God

written in reply

THURSDAY, June 2d, 1864.

I am writing up my diary while in the woods. Opposite the rebels works. The balls are whistling around us quite lively. Several of our men have been wounded this morning. Genl Hancock is near with the 2nd Corps. The 6th is also by and a great battle is supposed to be impending in which we must participate although we are not in a fit condition. Ordered up to the front with such men as I could collect. Took parts of each Company in all about 100 men. Lay for some time in the edge of the woods through which we charged yesterday. Afterwards moved to the left and took a position where we were exposed to a flank fire. Lieut Barnett wounded near me and afterwards Lieut Taylor. Several men. Relieved by the 139th Pa. To camp. Up tents and in them for an hour when we were ordered to the breastworks again. They will wear us to death. Casualties thus far 5 officers killed 4 wounded 1 sick 80 men killed wounded and missing. Our Regt looks like a Company. I in charge of the Regt again. Raining when I lied down. A very uncomfortable night. Poor men are wound

and worked almost to death. A letter from Lilly very fratchy and ill-tempered

White flowers found in swamp near our line June 4th

FRIDAY, June 3d, 1864.

Woke up chilled and shaking after an hour rest. Spent a hard night. This morning got a partial breakfast and have been reading paper and listening to the firing which has been very heavy. We moved a little to our left. Have the impression from the nature of the firing that we have not been successful. Know nothing however. Lt Col not yet appeared. Sent my letter to Lilly by the Qr Sergt. We moved several times along the same line of Entrenchments but not far. We had a good rest in a sheltered position. One of my men (Cook) came in from the picket line severely wounded. I learned that Brower and Steinworth were in the hospital wounded. Just at dark the rebels charged twice on our left but were driven back with great slaughter each time. We felt quite easy in our position although the bullets came over us occasionally. We were all very much pleased to see Leol Barton back who although quite unfit for duty would not stay away from his command. Leol Strickland's case was ventilated and I think something will be done with him at once. Wrote a short letter and sent it to Father. A consultation of all the [illegible] Gen Hancock &c

Wrote a letter complaining a great deal of his treatment but he finds no sympathy on account of his conduct

Col Strickland has resigned and Col Barton has his paper to forward

SATURDAY, June 4th, 1864.

It is now noon. After lying until about an hour in the old position we advanced directly in front of our line a hundred yards or so. In command of the Regt. Major Coan on business at the rear. He has now returned. The report now is that we shall advance by approaches or rest for a little while. All in good spirits. Enjoyed a good night's rest and feel pretty well although my appetite is not good. Mr gained a slight success on the left yesterday. Wrote a letter to Lilly which I gave to the Brigade mail carrier. Have felt unusually well all day. In the afternoon borrowed the orderly's horse and rode back to the wagon train when I had an excellent supper with Lieut Magee. It was a great relief to get out of range and sit down quietly for a few moments. Returned in season to find the Regt which moved soon after to the left and afterwards to the right again taking an exposed position in the rear of our advanced line of works but within good range of the rebels. We are told that we shall move to the left tomorrow. It seems as if some important move was contemplated

SUNDAY, June 5th, 1864.

It rained nearly all night and is still sprinkling. Early the rebels commenced firing on us and in a short time four men were wounded, one Yorks from my Company. Saw Col Curtis and obtained permission to move the left wing behind the right which has taken out of the heavy fire although the bullets whistle over and near us every now and then. Have built heavy rifle pits and if the men keep down there will be little danger. Capt Swartwout with us this morning. Waiting in the rifle pits received several letters including one from Lilly which I had somehow expected. Enjoyed them all and sat down to write Lilly but it grew dark before I could finish the letter. Have thought of her much during the day. Have been arranged and exhausted with the fire to which we have been exposed all day long. The men have built intrench and successive lines of pits but have been much exposed notwithstanding. Seven men wounded in all. Moved in the evening to the very front where we are within a few hundred yds of the rebel lines. An assault of the rebels on our left repulsed with great loss to them

MONDAY, June 6th, 1864.

Had considerable sleep during the night but have not felt well but rather tired and languid during the day. No regular attack but desutory firing during the whole days. No men lost but compelled to keep close to the works for the rebels are very close in their practice and succeeded twice in throwing dirt in my face while leaning over the parapet. This afternoon there was a cessation for a short time and we had an opportunity of seeing the rebel works which are not as strong as ours and are discounted. The impression is that we move to the left perhaps across the Chickahominy. Saw Lieut Wilson the old Sergeant at Dawfuskie. Letter from Frank who has received the trunk letters &c and promises to write more frequently hereafter. Went back into the woods in the evening and took our station behind entrenchments and lay down to sleep. Before we left entrenchments got the singing together and indulged the Rebs in [illegible] to which they [illegible] time to the [illegible] for our heads

The 148th Band on our left [illegible] very fine music in the front rifle pits

TUESDAY, June 7th, 1864.

sent letter to Lilly. And one to Frank containing a number of letters to be placed in my trunk

A bright happy day. Enjoyed a good [illegible] and consequently have felt well all day. We lay perfectly quiet only the rebels have thrown shot and shell around and over us quite lively. None of our men hurt but some in the near have been lost. The right have been keeping up a lively fire and this evening it is reported that Burnside has lost his front line and a number of prisoners and material. All our [illegible] except Burnside's Corps are on our left and the right has been strongly fortified to prevent its being turned. It is also supposed that several of the Corps are across the Chickahominy but it is by no means certain. Reports in regard to Pope are circulated which if true will have an important bearing on the Campaign. The bands have been playing along our lines during the evening. Having indulged in a thorough bath I felt in a mood for enjoying and making music and I have been sweetly dreaming of home and friends.

WEDNESDAY, June 8th, 1864.

This morning woke early expecting to move in accordance with notification received last night. There was sound of heavy firing on the left last night but I did not hear it. Nothing new. Weather all day warm. The day spent talking, reading & writing. No Casualties and on the whole a comfortable day. On the arrival of the mail received a letter from Lilly which I felt was my share of the mail. Papers of the 5th & 6th but nothing in them except falsehoods. No account of our charge of June 1st except a formal statement. Wrote a letter to L. and another to Mr Ingraham enclosing two letters addressed to his Lord. We broke up our Camp at Nightfall and took up our position in the pits behind the line occupied by us two nights ago. Accounts in the [illegible] papers of a [illegible] by Hunter [illegible] Gals! He [illegible]

Stanton: Rebel Gen. Jones killed.

THURSDAY, June 9th, 1864.

A quiet night in which we all [illegible] good night's rest. During the day I have been in command of the Regt as Major Coan is Division Officer of the Day. Have been reading much of the time and sleeping at odd intervals. There has been little firing. Rumors have been current representing that we have captured 1000 prisoners near Potters bridge. And now just at nightfall we hear cheering on all sides and are told that Genl Gilmore has taken Fort Darling but we do not believe it for we know his force is small and he has recently suffered a reverse. The last report is that Hancock has beaten the rebels captured a number (1000) prisoners including General Ewell but it is a mere idle rumor. We are to remain here tonight and accordingly make ourselves as comfortable as possible and retire early. Mr Hunt, Genl Barnside is [illegible] the woods cut away to connect with 9th Corps

FRIDAY June 10th, 1864.

It has been a very pleasant day and we have been lying quietly behind the entrenchments. The opening to Burnsides Corps has been completed and a battery on the other side has been playing on the rebels and they have returned the fire which ~~which~~ has made it quite warm. One shell burst over us and scattered the pieces around us. The rebel shots have come very near us. No news at all. Wrote Mr Marsh. Have felt quite well and have read nearly all day. More rumors but none that we credit. The order discharging Lt Col Strickland came this evening. Wrote Mr Marsh and mentioned that the Majority was vacant. Wrote Lilly. Listened to the Sing by Owen Co & a sweet singer and went back to our old ground in the rear in the evening and rested under the same old [illegible]

SATURDAY, June 11th, 1864.

Have been in command of the Regt all day until evening. Major Cann being absent at the rear. Inspection in the morning. Finished letter to Mr Marsh. too Lilly wrote George and Mr Wyman and sent them all away. the one to Mr Marsh early in the morning by Baker the mail carrier. Writing nearly all day. It seems quite settled that a new base has been determined upon. On the James River somewhere and the army has commenced its retrograde movement. Nothing has been said to me in regard to the promotions in the Regt and I shall act independantly. Mortar shells on the rebel battery have been bursting near us. Got shaved and feel better for it although I feel weak and tired. Have in the whole been quite busy all day. We shall probably go into the advanced rifle pits tonight but very likely shall move out to the rear during the night. We did move out to the advanced pits. the night before leaving camp however I received a letter from Lilly. Quite a large mind

SUNDAY, June 12th, 1864.

MONDAY, June 13th, 1864.

TUESDAY, June 14th, 1864.

This morning awoke about 7 o'clk having enjoyed a pretty good nap but still feel very sore and tired. Orders came about ten o'clk to embark. We were for a long time getting on board and getting off. Considerably trouble about our meals but finally succeeded in arranging with the Captain to provide us while on board. Had a very good sail down the Pamunkey. No berths but the doctor got a nice fan. One of the hands and shared with me [illegible] early. I am very much used up and am out of order. Have command of seven companies. The major on another boat with two companies. The whole army is moving and we are going to Bermuda Hundred. I hope this move may be successful. We shall probably get some rest on board.

WEDNESDAY, June 15th, 1864.

Broke camp proceeded to a point behind the intrenchments and at 1 o'clk lay down to [illegible] very cordial meeting for Genl Tracy. The staff officer mark that I was [illegible] for 18th Corps rather amazing 76th Pinn with us.

Have enjoyed a good rest and feel better. If we can only be one night more on board another night we can get so rested that we shall be in a condition for work otherwise I am sure I shall not feel like doing anything. Have during the day enjoyed the Scenery on the James Riv. Troops on landing and moving all along within twenty miles of City Point. A pontoon bridge at Fort Powhattan. Arrived at Bermuda Hundred about 4 P.M. Have written a letter to Lilly and [illegible] to Fathers Saw Jamestown and the old church or rather its [illegible]. The oldest church in America so it is said. We are now about landing at Bermuda Hundred but I see nothing of the rest of the Brigade or Division. Have been thinking that just three months per today my time is up arrived at the dock ordered to disembark by Genl Ames and proceeded to Genl Butler's Hqrs. Had to [illegible] my way. Sharpened [illegible] and [illegible] other men in

Camp prepared to enjoy the night. 18th Corps lying at Petersburg. Not taken

THURSDAY, June 16th, 1864.

Early in the morning received an order to move to the front and following in the line of several Regts we followed outside the entrenchments. We marched to the first line of rebel works and halted for a while. Then moved forward again. The rebels evacuated our front last night and we followed them. Several miles out they were discovered in considerable force and the fighting commenced and continued during the whole day we acted as reserve for the skirmishers for a while then marched to the front and to the railroad. I found myself just when the rebels poured such a fire on me on that Saturday when we tried to get the railroad. No one to oppose us and we destroyed the track for a long distance. The whole line destroyed was about 6 miles. Returned and encamped back of the entrenchments. Men without food. Never was so near being used up in my life borrowed a horse from Major Young of the 14 2nd Ohio 100 days Regt. Got rations for the men from Hayes. Sound

a ration of whiskey. Drew 254 rations for 254 men for 3 days. Retired at 10 [illegible]

FRIDAY June 17th, 1864.

works before it and command the city. We have been successful in our charges. Kingsmen have done well we are told. Our army is [illegible]

Got much sleep last night. Ordered to the entrenchments at 4 A.M. Not well. The remainder of the Brigade including the balance of our Regt arrived early in the forenoon. We shall probably remain for a day or two. All the works about Petersburg taken yesterday. 300 prisoners beside about 50 that we took. 15 pieces of Artillery. The fighting [illegible] the day and evening was very heavy all secondary about Petersburg. Nothing reliable known. Received a letter from Kitty in which for the first time she [illegible] without qualification a desire for me come home. I hope I may get through this service safe and count each day as a [illegible] anxious for the end to come. In the evening although received by the doctor went out with the Regt expecting to make a charge we halted behind our line of pickets for some time and finally returned to camp without charging much to our relief. The rebels possess their old picket line and are quite strong in our front. Cannot hear particulars [illegible] Petersburg only [illegible] have taken the

SATURDAY, June 18th, 1864.

Slept late for we did not get back from the front until almost morning. I have not been well and am secured from duty although should the Regt be engaged should take charge of my Company as I did last night. Have been lying down nearly all day. Some firing in our front and heavy Cannonading in the direction of Petersburg. The reports from that point are conflicting. I think we have been successful and the general impression is that we possess the town. I think we are in a strong position and it seems probable that we shall seriously incommode Mr Lee. All reports concur that we have been successful thus far and hold strong positions. This evening we went into camp near by our old one and we hope to rest. The rebels in our front are very strong. 18th + 6th Corps are here with considerable Cavalry. 2nd 5th + 9th Corps near Petersburg. The negroes show no quarter to those opposed to them. We think now we shall return to the 10th Corps and remain here

for the present. Genl Brooks in Command of the 10th Corps.

SUNDAY, June 19th, 1864.

Had a good rest last night and a good wash this morning and feel much better than for some time past. Have had a long conversation with Col Barton who is anxious on account of the majority which he thinks I am working for. Was pleased to learn that he had mentioned me favorably in his report of the action of June 1st. Expressed my views to him at some length and indicated my intention to act independantly. Had a very pleasant day taking all things into consideration and this evening feel in a peaceful and happy state of mind. Have written Lilly which I always enjoy. No mail. Services in the afternoon and music by the band. Have been visiting as much as I could during the day and dreaming when I should be free and home again. No news from Petersburg but the impression is that the town is taken. The negroes have fought hard. Lees army has suffered heavy losses and Grant seems to have the upper hand. Changed our camp a little

MONDAY, June 20th, 1864.

A warm day. We were disturbed last night and enjoyed a good rest. and during the day I have felt more like myself than for sometime. Have received two good letters from Lilly One from me from Frank and one from Mother. Received the sad intelligence of Cook's death from Lilly. Wrote Lilly. Mother and Mrs Wyman. Had an interview with Elfwing in which I told him my views and that I did not desire the position of Major with the understanding that I must remain in the service. So I wrote to Mr Wyman and Mr Marsh. Mail late. Have some fears that we will move The rumor is that Our troops are Changing to the opposite side the James and it has been settled we are in the 10th Corps. Which will keep us here

TUESDAY, June 21st, 1864.

A warm day. The Rebs all in line early but they Couldnt rouse me I would not stir Considering that there was no call occasion. Had my tent raised up and put in order for a good long stay but at noon received the information that we were going to move to the Appomattox We are in the 10th Corps and under Genl Turner. We moved just before nightfall. Received and issued the rest of my Clothing. Took new position near the river Enjoyed an hour just before Sunset or rather before dark in viewing the Scenery. We took a fine position on a high hill Commanding a view of the river and the valley as far as Petersburg which is partially visible. There is another village (Port Walthall) nestling among the hills. The rebel forts are near. and our lines are in the opposite bank of the River. The view is the finest I have Enjoyed in the Service.

WEDNESDAY, June 22d, 1864.

Hot and uncomfortable I did not rest well and have felt so much out of order that I have not been able to do at anything this morn. Mr broke up the mess and started again. Paid Cumming up to today $17.00 Saw Abe Lincoln Pratt with Butler Butler made a picture attempting to make the men cheer by his features and afterwards shaking his fist at them because they paid no attention to him. Wrote a letter to Lilly which I got ready in season to deposit in the mail but being on Picket Home not felt well during the day and was doubtful about going on duty but concluded as I could walk to try it. Felt miserable on my way out and had not disposed of my mess before I was taken sick and compelled to lie down. I tried to sleep but was too ill.

THURSDAY, June 23d, 1864.

Got no sleep last night and felt miserably sick in the morning and came into Camp. Lay in my tent all day ate nothing and felt unable to stir. I have been getting very weak and although have taken medicine do not improve. The Regt went away in the direction of Petersburg this day but I could not stir consequently must remain behind with the sick men which is not very agreeable. Received letters from Lilly and Capt Lockwood. I did manage to look over Lilly's in the morning and felt repaid for the exertion but I was really too ill to do more and Lockwoods lay by my side unopened until evening. It seems as if Lilly always thought to write at just the right time for her letters reach me when they are most appreciated just when they seem most needed and do the most good. She is certainly my good angel

much pleasure in reading over Lilly's last letter and in writing her.

FRIDAY, June 24th, 1864.

This morning I found the camp deserted by all save the sick and the cooks. Those on picket were not relieved last night and will remain as they are until relieved when they will rejoin the Rgt. I hope I may be able to go with them although it is doubtful. Collected all the sick and reported to Capt Smith of the 116th who has charge of the Convalescent Camp. Feel a little better this afternoon than I have for the past two days but am still quite weak and cannot eat. Shall remain here until I am fit for duty. We have a comfortable camp and with a little rest which I have needed for some time I hope to be able to go through the campaign. Firing in direction of Petersburg heavy this morning but now quiet. These lines are left with very few to man them. Wore from Petersburg the rebels charged and were defeated loss heavy in killed and wounded 241 prisoners. 2 Captains and 5 men came within our lines where I was stationed. Little news. Wrote Lilly. Have not been as well this evening as I [illegible]. Shall not [illegible]

We are to join the Rgt before Monday. Quiet at Petersburg when I retire. Wrote

SATURDAY, June 25th, 1864.

This morning I feel considerably better and shall be able to do some little [illegible] during the day. Ate a little this morning and during the forenoon wrote on my returns. At noon ate a few beans, and this afternoon have felt considerably better. Our Rgt has been in the advanced rifle pits and have lost one or two men but have not been in any charge. The picket line here not relieved. Probably will not be at present as there is no one to relieve them. This line almost abandoned. The order to advance was received along the lines at Petersburg but there was no charge. Coan has but about 60 men and is quite weak. He will by and by think it worth his while to stay with his command. A little more sense to regulate his ambition would do him good. We hear that the whole Brigade has been captured but we do not credit it and shall wait for several confirmations before believing anything so unpleasant. Wrote Lilly and Frank. Have felt better today and have little doubt that on Monday I shall be able to go on picket again. Any ordered by Capt Smith [illegible] to go to the [illegible]

The Rgt with Maine Cover [illegible] here on this line

SUNDAY, June 26th, 1864.

It has been a very warm day. And I have kept within my tent until evening when I called on Leol Campbell who is near. Have enjoyed a good appetite and been much better than for some time past. Learned that the Brigade is all safe and have met but few losses. They are still in the advanced lines. Learned also that in the Richmond papers of the 24th there was an order of Genl Lee to the effect that he had captured 1675 men 48 offers 3 lines artilly and 8 colors which seems to be correct. All Hancocks men. Have enjoyed the day very much. From Sanitary Commission received a number of articles which have contributed to my comfort. Shall go on picket tomorrow. Have spent a happy peaceful day only disappointed in not receiving letters. The mail has not come. Have written Lilly and now am about to retire as it is late. No definite news from the front. We gain no ground and I can see no light. No northern papers. Not prisoners for our

MONDAY, June 27th, 1864.

This morning I felt quite myself again although I am not strong and cannot depend upon myself. This illness indicates to me that the campaign has been more than I ought to bear. I work too hard and too long for the strength I possess. Went out on the picket line fortified with quite a quantity of good things furnished by Dr Slosser who has on hand a good stock of articles from the Sanitary Commission. Relieved Capt Swartwout and after a good dinner went to visit the line. Excellent supper on Toast Pig and then a tour through the lines finding all the men performing their duty well. Rested near where my company were stationed. They were relieved with the other companies on their right by Ninety men from Kautz Division. And we expect them will be sufficient to relieve our whole line once in three days. We hope to remain here for the present.

TUESDAY, June 28th, 1864.

This morning I do not feel well and have been at the house where Capt Swartwout has been stopping. A good breakfast but it has done me but little good for I feel very weak and my stomach is much disordered. Now about 10 o'clk a relief has come for us and we are to go to Petersburg. I am not fit but shall try to get there. Two very good letters. One for Lilly and another for Fannie. The first now does not hesitate to say she is glad I am to learn the service and counts the days. We had considered a delay in getting away but started at 4 P.M. A pretty comfortable march arriving at the 3rd Line of Intrenchments where our Rgt is stationed about dark. No thing new. Stopped at the Sutlers a little way for camp where Capt Smith (the dirty fellow) got tight. Learned that Elfwing had gone to New York and that Douglass of my Company the Major Orderly cleared out with his horse with Giddis who took the orders from two days ago

mappered deserted.

the 19th Corps from New Orleans 15 000 strong were

WEDNESDAY, June 29th, 1864.

landing at Bermuda Hundred

Last night I slept behind a rifle pit. Uncomfortable night. My lameness in the thighs increases and they were very sore last night. Letter from Yorks this morning. Poor fellow he was badly hurt. Letter from Ordnance office desiring return for 3rd Gr 63. Shall write them today. We do not move today. Finishing my Mary Dr return. Went to the rear to get papers from my Carpet bag and took occasion to get a nice supper. I do not like the Mess. It is the least pleasant that I have been in since the time I messed alone in Hilton Head when we first landed. The association with Fee and others and the atmosphere that surrounds him is by no means elevating. In the evening we moved up behind the first line of rifle pits. We are told that the shots come pretty thick sometimes but if men are careful I think we need not fear much loss. We relieved the 112th N.Y. who have occupied the pits 3 or four days. Have a nice place to lie in and hope we may not be disturbed. Have been

[illegible]

badly cut up. A bad affair

THURSDAY, June 30th, 1864.

The last of June. Time flies apace and although I am anxious for the period of my term to come and count the days still I do not worry. A mail came this morning but there was nothing for me. I must not be disappointed for I have been quite fortunate in receiving good mails lately quite often. Have been mustered. One roll made and another nearly completed. Still working on them. One of our good men lost today through his own rashness. Sgt Graham went out on the picket line and [illegible] himself was shot. His body not recovered. Learned today that the Cast Company was mustered Sept 13th which saves three days. In the afternoon we received orders to prepare for a charge. We were moved out of the intrenchments and the rebels seeing us opened fire on us and for a while the men were very much exposed and quite a number were struck. Capt Fee was dangerously hurt. Struck in the back of the shoulder. McNally hit in the hand. Moved to the right out of fire. Waited an half hour expecting to move on the charge.

Visits the 2nd line. Wrote Lilly. The Rebels on our left are [illegible] and [illegible] Finally the welcome order came to return to our old position. Then went

FRIDAY, July 1st, 1864.

We have lain in the second line of pits all day. Nothing has occurred of interest. Have not been as well as I could wish. Very busy with my master Rolls and pay rolls. Col Bates was relieved of command of the Brigade although not under arrest. Major Eddy of the 47th temporarily in command of the Brigade. Hexon found time to write Lilly and Mother. We hope to be able to get our pay rolls so that we may be paid soon. Just we are much in need of money. The Sanitary are doing a good work here for they are supplying the whole day with vegitables. Our Brigade receives a supply tonight. No firing except by the pickets and a little artilly practice. Christopher Smith was killed shot through the neck and buried near by on the hillside. Lillie Richmond of Co D also killed

SATURDAY, July 2d, 1864.

Scarcely anything has occurred during the day worthy of note. The Company muster and pay rolls have occupied us during all our leisure time and I have confined myself almost exclusively to my little subterranean retreat writing. Am getting along on the rolls very well having the strong inducement to work - namely the hope to get our pay which they tell us is ready as soon as the rolls I hope so for we are all suffering for the want of money. As we have been led to expect the Rgt was ordered to the front line and will probably move on two days. We went just about dark and the company occupies very good ground. I sleep under the tree just back of the Rgtl Hd Qrs. Col Lean is here and was mustered today. Elfing back but could not be mustered

Major. Below the minimum

SUNDAY, July 3d, 1864

Having provided myself with a pass to the rear I started early in the morning and went to the rear Rgtl Hdqrs. Met Lieut Anderson the Swede. I like him and was very glad to meet him. He is still suffering from his wound and will not be able to do duty for some time and he has decided to return to Sweden to accept a commission in his country service. I had a very pleasant talk with him. Received a very good letter from Lilly who was at Saratoga worked on my rolls and enjoyed a good bath which is in this country and under these circumstances the greatest luxury we can enjoy. Returned to Camp a little trouble with Cummings which gave Col Lean an opportunity to show me what I regarded as an insult in not allowing Cummings to be punished. Should have punished him on the spot but had no arms with me. Was appointed Brigade officer of the day. Went out with the picket and was under heavy fire. Also with fatigue party

MONDAY, July 4th, 1864.

Independance day has come and nearly gone too. Have to chronicle one important event. I completed and sent away my May Returns (Quartermasters) Have spent a pleasant day. Although up all night I have felt remarkably well during the day and enjoyed it. The explosion of the mine at 9th Corps did not take place much to our disappointment. Was out with the picket and fatigue party until morning although the firing was very heavy all night. We succeeded in breaking up the working party of the rebels as we found this morning for only about 15 poles had been struck in the ground and they very irregularly while the material for the work was lying in front of their entrenchments. Evening was relieved as officer of the day. Excellent dinner. Roast goose with fixings complete. Letter from Bragg on business. Wrote a letter to Lilly in the afternoon only a short one because I had not time. No casualties. Regiment went to the near line. Completed new rolls and sent them in

Got a letter from George

TUESDAY, July 5th, 1864.

Rested sweetly and this morning rose late feeling very much refreshed. It is cool and comfortable and I have been pretty busy thus much of the day and have the satisfaction of having completed my certificate for June Returns (Quartermasters) and hope to complete my Returns. I shall then only have my Ordnance Returns to make out when my papers will be in very good order. All day long been at Regt Hdqrs Coan commands the Brigade and Captain Swartwout the Regt and I tent with him or rather quarter with him. There have been no casualties and we have had a quiet day. Have been busy with my Returns which I have finished and deposited. I think now my Quartermasters property is in such a condition that any one could easily receipt or take up the property as I leave it. Moved still farther to the rear to have an opportunity to wash &c.

Have been at Rgtl Hdqrs all day long and have done little but read and write and talk. The shells have been bursting in a lively manner all about us but we have suffered no losses. The 76th Penn near us have lost four men during the day. It has been warm but Hdqrs have been quite comfortable. Have this evening enjoyed the music of the 103th N 4 band. They played at Division Hdqrs. I think they know me I am such a constant listener whenever they are near. This evening we came up to the front line and occupy our old places. With Capt Swartwout at the old Hd qrs. This evening I feel quite well although during the day have not been quite as well as I like to be. Hope now to be able to get thing the seven all right. Letter to Lilly but none from her. Disappointed

Enjoyed a good sleep. Nothing during the night to disturb me. The firing has been kept up as usual I am told but nothing could wake me. Today it has been pretty comfortable although the rebels have continued their shelling. The pieces drop around us every few minutes but no one has been injured. Hear that Murther the drummer was wounded at the near last evening. Swartwout being away I have commanded the Rgt during the day. No letter from Lilly today which is somewhat surprising. Have written out my certificate for my Ordnance returns for the last quarter and only wait for returns to complete them. Every thing satisfactory. Detailed Field officer of the Day after I had retired and inspected the lines. Occupied with adjusting them so that there may be harmony of action. I find many officers are ... of their responsibilities many ignorant of their duties. The destruction of the Alabama by the Kearsarge produces great rejoicing

FRIDAY, July 8th, 1864.

Was relieved from duty as Officer of the Day just before noon. Went with the new Officer of the Day to show him the lines. Relieved by Capt Shaw of the 115th. The firing during the night and day was not very heavy. Our lines have been strengthened and it seems evident that we make no more forward movements at present. Have been much interested in the accounts of the contest between the Kearsarge and Alabama the result of a challenge from Capt Semmes to Capt Winslow. We all hope the English will be compelled to deliver up Semmes and his Comrades who were taken off the wreck by the Yacht England. This evening an hour before sunset the rebels made some demonstrations on our right which caused a general excitement. The men got into their places and prepared to repel an assault which we all expected. Soon quieted down. Nothing serious. Went to the war in the Wing. Lieut Dr Avery returned but does not add much to our society.

SATURDAY, July 9th, 1864.

The Sun is hot and confines us to our cover. Two interesting letters from Lilly and Frank. A little anxious because I was in the Convalescent Camp. All concur in the feeling that it is time for me to leave the service. Have some doubts now whether we shall be allowed to go out of the service before the last of September. Major Elfwing became Mr Elfwing yesterday and went north without stopping to call on his friends in the Rgt. Swartwout to be Major with which I am perfectly content now that the term of service is so nearly over. Especially as it is thought that those mustered during this year will be held. Took a long and tiresome walk down to the 18th Corps Hospital. Obtained a flannel shirt for the Christian Commission but did not feel paid for my walk although the shirt was much needed. Col Barton very sick will probably go home or resign. Nothing new or interesting. Very tired and sleepy

SUNDAY, July 10th, 1864.

Roused at a very uninteresting hour in a great hurry and moved with the Regt & the front. Two or three deserters came in last night and reported that the rebels proposed to attack our works. Back towards line in an hour. No fighting. Went back for my Sunday bath and then commenced the day regularly. Have Written Lilly Mother and Frank. Been very quiet during the day for it has been very hot. Not quite as my usual health but on the whole the day has passed pleasantly like Sunday and this evening I feel better. This evening it is cooler and really very delightful. Not much firing during the day. The rebels have Commenced this evening. and one shot passed into our quarters. Went to the front and took up quarters as before.

MONDAY, July 11th, 1864.

Have been quite busy all day except during the hour at noon when it was too hot to do anything. Have written up the accounts of all the men away from the Company and written up the Final Statements of all killed. Very busy. This morning received letters from Lilly and Mother. Both very interesting. The firing has been quite heavy during the whole day and the shots have come closer than ever before. One casualty during the day. To-morrow shall try and finish my Final Statements and Descriptive Lists. There is a great deal of work to finish up my papers. No news here and nothing accomplished. We are anxious to hear from the Army in Maryland

TUESDAY, July 12th, 1864.

letter to Lilly

Wakened very early and an the line for an hour. The day has been very warm but I have managed to attend to business. Have written up my inventories of deceased soldiers effects and have this evening have written part of a letter to Lilly. The news from Maryland is not favorable. It is said that the rebels are very much stronger than was at first thought and have defeated us at Monocacy and that our forces have fallen back towards Baltimore. Rumor that the 2nd Corps has left our line We feel that we are completely in the dark and can learn very little of what is going on about us. The raid into Maryland is assuming large proportions and serious results may follow from it However the people at the North should be able to take [illegible] of themselves

from Mingley N.H. He commands the regression this vicinity. Commended Saw Colonel Duncan he proved to be a Consent of Lewis

WEDNESDAY, July 13th, 1864.

The weather today is somewhat tempered by a cool breeze which has been blowing since morning. The rebels have been shelling us this morning and one of their shells which cut through our bomb proof lies just outside. Fortunately for us it did not explode The news from the rebels in Maryland is bad. They are in strong force and occupy the Rail road between Baltimore and Washington. Consequently we received no mail this morning. The accounts of the operation of the Sanitary Commission by the Chaplain of the Sanitary Commission very interesting In his judgment only 5 per cent of the funds really reach the rank and file of the army which may be true. Sent a letter to Lilly and finished the Final statement and Inventories Were a little startled by a shell that struck against our bomb proof and rolled round near the side of our retreat but fortunately it did not explode. Nothing new along the lines and no news for home went into the 2nd line in the evening

all the shovels and other tools turned into Hdqrs which looks like a move—

THURSDAY, July 14th, 1864.

Were inspected today—

Another warm day with little to interest. This is our last day in the near line. Have not been very well during the day. Received and issued the $75 drafts to such men as are here. This evening have been detailed as Brigade Officer of the Day or rather was detailed this morning but did nothing except visit the line and experiment with the patent bullets. Evening took out the picket as usual and shall remain on the line during the night. The news from the North is unfavorable and the rebels are keeping disgraceous. having done much mischief and captured three trains cutting the communication with Washington have apparently settled down opposite the city. It is so strong however that little is to be feared from them. I feel enraged and really hope we may be ordered to the scene of oper

ought to be done. Douglass & Giddis returned today. Not directed atrons to particulate in destroying the whole force which certainly

FRIDAY, July 15th, 1864.

Although I felt quite ill last night I remained on the picket line. There was some work done by the rebels within their lines but we annoyed them very much by a constant fire. Was very glad to be relieved. Have spent the most of the day in writing. Deposited a letter to Lilly in the mail bag this evening and hope tomorrow to hear from her as a mail is expected. Finished my final Statements and inventories and Descriptive Lists which leaves me free to attend to my Ordnance Returns, which I wish to forward as soon as possible. Have seen papers of the 14th. Franklin escaped and Taylor is safe. The rebels have retreated away from Washington and the railroads were not much injured. The 2nd Corps have leveled the works in the near Rumor that the mine is to be exploded very soon and the 3rd Corps to charge—Have written Lilly.

SATURDAY, July 16th, 1864.

The sun is fading in the west and the clouds, ~~the air~~ look calm and peaceful. But the shot and shell are flying around us in any but a peaceful manner. This annoying fire always commences at this time in the evening and thus destroys the pleasure of what is the happiest hour of the day. This morning I was not awakened at the early hour that the Regt is required under arms. About six however I got up the hearing that there was a truce along the lines and found that the rebels had come over to our pickets and recharged papers. Quite a number of them returned to their lines within sight and in a short time the firing commenced again. We saw papers of the 15th Richmond. No news, Sherman seems to be doing well. Went to Mesdes Hdqrs about Douglass. Kelley returned. Saw over old Capt now Lt Col Navis. Nothing new. Letter

must write Lilly tomorrow. We go into the near line. Sent 11 Checks to Major C F Smith Paymaster at Norfolk

SUNDAY, July 17th, 1864.

Was rejoiced by the receipt of two letters one from Lilly and another from Mother. I could not read them until I had washed and was really awake so that I could enjoy them fully. And they were all I wished. Both were full of interest only the one from Lilly seemed to indicate that she was much troubled on her Father's account. I sat down while I could write without interruption hoping to complete the letter before Sevastopol and Dr Lacy returned. But only half finished it. Spent the day in reading the papers and talking. Saw Coan who promised to assist in getting me out of the service at the expiration of my term. But I afterwards saw the mustering officer and found that all officers would be held by their most recent muster. A most lovely evening which I enjoyed very much Taylor mustered a Captain and Paddock a 1st Lieut in my company. I have been thinking almost all day of Lilly and the result is that I am most determined to get out the service. Saw Lt Potter son of Bishop Potter of N.Y. learned that the 9th Corp mine is nearly completed. A perfectly lovely evening

MONDAY, July 18th, 1864.

It has been a comfortable day compared with many that we have had during the past month. Have completed my letter to Lilly and written one to mother but I will retain it to enclose a letter to Charles. Have done but little during the day as usual. Have felt troubled for Lilly. The news by the evenings papers is cheering for Sherman has sent Johnston to Atlanta. Capt Miller called upon me with Mr Anderson Correspondant of the Herald took them to our front line. Miller is with Heavcock and told some interesting facts moved to the front line in the evening for 48 hours Col Sammis is on the ground and will probably relieve Ivan. Received per Capt Swartwout $115.65 as senior member of the Council of Administration. This constitutes the proceeds of the fund collected at Pilatka. Capt Taylor who has returned is to live with me.

TUESDAY, July 19th, 1864.

This morning was wakened at the unseasonable hour of 2½ oclk but afterwards enjoyed a couple of hours sleep. The rules in regard to the men are very strict and all must be awake and under arms at 3 oclk A.M. It has rained quite hard during the day and Taylor and myself took up quarters under the bomb proof which is the only dry spot about the line. Had a letter from Lilly in which my fears were fully realized. Her father is quite ill I fear dangerously so. She is anxious for me to get home and I am equally anxious to go. Swartwout's Commission came and he is now mustered Major. My turn comes next. Shall leave this to write to Lilly. Sent my letter to Lilly. Afternoon nothing done but to remain in our quarters and keep dry. Every thing is flooded — I cannot feel easy while there is so much uncertainty about Mr March But I hope to hear again very soon

Sherman very sincerely. He has crossed the Chatahoochee and all the

WEDNESDAY, July 20th, 1864.

Must soon be in his possession

The weather is still unpleasant. Up in the morning as usual. Thought it possible that I might receive a letter from Lilly this morning and I shall continue anxious until I hear from her. Should her Father die I fear the effect upon her. Busy during the day in preparing my Descriptive Lists and succeed in sending away all when there has been notice of the Hospital when the men are. The Council of Administration met and transacted all the business brought before it. The balance of $21.72 after paying bill of Major Coan was left in my hands. Went early to the war to secure a place for Capt Taylor and myself. Took 47th Hdqrs. The office of that Regt in a disgusting condition. All drinking. Such is the common practice of the army. I want to get out of it, and shall certainly go as soon as possible. News from

Received from Col Coan $47.20 making $68.92

THURSDAY, July 21st, 1864.

in all of Regt funds that I have in my hands.

It has been a warm day or rather it was a warm day, for I did not write up my diary yesterday. I had not the heart to write. This evening while sitting in front of our quarters just after tea. Capt Taylor read from the papers the account of the death of Mr Marsh. It struck me like a thunderbolt. What sorrow and suffering for Lilly. I tried to write and did finish a letter during the evening to her but I had no heart to write. It seems to me like the loss of my own Father. The mail did not arrive this morning and I have not heard from her. All that I could do after writing a short letter to console her and sympathise as best I could was to commit her to that good God who does not forsake the sorrowing and afflicted. I have not known such sorrow as I now feel during the whole course of my life. I fear it will crush Lilly completely. How I wish I were at home. But I cannot

FRIDAY, July 22d, 1864.

of Mr Marsh in the Palmetto American which sporks in high terms of him.
The first thought this morning was of Lilly and I hoped and expected a letter for her but was disappointed I fear she is sick. Oh My God that I might get away and go to her but I cannot. I will put my things in order that if any opportunity should occur I may avail myself of it. I have consoled myself with the thought that tomorrow I shall certainly hear from Lilly. I earnest hope so and I hope and pray she may not be ill. This afternoon I finished my Ordnance affadavit and it was duly sworn to and witnessed and the result is more favorable that at first glance I had expected. My property returns as soon as my Ordnance blanks arrive will be in a very good condition. This evening saw the Surgeon on my way to the front lines. He advised me to go to the rear but I think I will not at present. Have not felt well today. Wrote Lilly Mother and Fannie

SATURDAY, July 23d, 1864.

that McPherson was killed. My birthday. Retire feeling quite ill. Skehan detained. This morning I notified Lieut Barnum that I could not go in as Officer of the day. I am too ill for this duty. Have written Grant and sent Lilly's letters to be placed in my trunk. No letter for Lilly or any of my friends. I shall be very anxious until I hear from her. Do not feel as well today as I yesterday and shall remain quiet in my quarters. I was very much disappointed in not getting letters for Lilly this morning and my anxiety on her account is rather increased than diminished. This afternoon and evening have not felt as well as for some days. If I continue to grow worse shall make application for leave of absence. Wrote Lilly as cheerfully as I could. This evening a telegram from Michigan was announcing that Sherman had taken Atlanta. Afterwards a rebel cavalry to our lines with a paper was warned away but persisted in coming and was taken prisoner. His Surgeon stated that Sherman had been whipped with loss of a large number of guns and

SUNDAY, July 24th, 1864.

Have during this afternoon felt a little better than for some days past. This morning was quite ill saw the Doctor who promised to give me a certificate as a basis for leave of absence which I shall accept if I do not grow better very soon. This morning received letters from Lilly (3) and one for Mother those from Lilly although they revived my grief made me feel very happy on account of some expressions. How I wish I were with her now. Have spent the day in getting my clothing account book in order. and succeeded in finishing it. This evening we go to the war lines. I have not felt so well since tea. Shall write Lilly this evening if possible. Did write Lilly talked with Taylor. Read and reread those letters from Lilly. How I wish I were away out of this and with her

MONDAY, July 25th, 1864.

It is now late evening and I am hastening to write up this before retiring. Have been in my hole nearly all day & have felt pretty well until evening when I felt ill again. Anxious all the time to get away. The news brought by the Petersburg papers the other day of McPherson's death seems to be confirmed. We were whipped and then repulsed the rebels recovering the most of the guns. Losses on both sides severe. No papers to night. Have had the clothing book signed. Have not written Lilly today but should have felt better if I had. Have been thinking of the end of the service all day long. Must get home soon. Nothing new among our lines. Several men passed wounded. Thus they drop off one by one each day. It is the more sickening because I want to be away. Wrote Mr Port about Excel Binney. Shall send the letter tomorrow

TUESDAY, July 26th, 1864.

Just one month more and I shall have been in this Regt three years. That time arrived and I shall feel that my term of service is nearly past. The days seem to pass just as rapidly as if I were not counting the very hours. Thought this morning that I would receive a letter from Lilly. I fear ~~It~~ she will not receive mine as early as usual because I directed to Stapleton. We came to the front line in the evening and I was notified to go on duty as Brigade Officer tomorrow and although I do not feel well shall try it. The news from Atlanta good altho not altogether reliable. McPherson killed. A very great loss. One of our best soldiers. Wrote L. but did not finish the letter.

WEDNESDAY, July 27th, 1864.

Am Brigade Officer of the day and have already visited the picket lines and practiced a little on the rebels. Nothing particular has occurred during the day. Have spent the most of my time in quarters. Have felt better than for a week past. Sent letter to L. The rebels keep up their firing and now this evening they have commenced yelling as usual but really there is nothing done and apparently nothing being done. The 2nd Corps went to Bermuda Hundred so we are told and whipped the rebels capturing 4 guns and 3 or prisoners not considered altogether reliable. Evening went out with my picket and was on the line until late. A new mortar Battery started near Hdqrs of Regt. A mine also started near same place

THURSDAY, July 28th, 1864.

Head some sleep but not so much as I needed and consequently did not feel as well in the morning. Heave lain in Quarters nearly all day without accomplishing much. Heave felt to ill to do any writing should have written Lilly but did not feel well enough and this evening again I feel quite miserable. Hope I shall not have to recommence a course of Medicine. This morning did not receive letters either from Lilly or others and this evening got no New York papers. Consequently the two great events of the day are failures. Went to our old Quarters in the rear as usual and spent the evening at Nolsons of the 169th. He has his leave of absence for 10 days and leaves tomorrow morning. Gen Birney told him that we were to join the remainder of the Corps in a few days.

FRIDAY, July 29th, 1864.

Did not rest well last night for my stomach troubled me. Was rejoiced this morning by two letters from Lilly. She is well and that fact relieves me from anxiety. Finished and sent a letter to her and this evening have written another. Man now busy preparing to move. Are told that we go to the rear of Burnside to act as support. The mine is ready and will be exploded tonight or tomorrow. I am recused by the Doctor and shall not try to participate in the action unless much better. Do not feel well at all this evening. We leave our camp at sunset or dark. and it is said the 2nd Corps takes our place here which is doubtful. Nothing definite known. The Regt moved as expected and I remained in my old Quarters and shall if possible join the Regt in the morning. I do not anticipate they will be engaged although it is possible. Am not well

This result is attributable to the negroes and I believe whenever they have been really engaged with anything

SATURDAY, July 30th, 1864.

Early this morning the firing commenced and continued very heavy artillery and infantry during the most of the forenoon. I attempted to join the Rgt in the morning but did not feel well enough and went to the rear. Tried again to join the Rgt but Carey Stearns my guide was drunk and did not know the way so I returned to Lint Arrings Major Swartwout was killed and report says Lint O'Brien but the accounts from the field are conflicting. The Fort was blown up and we moved past it to the 2nd line which we took but I am inclined to think we lost all but the Fort. Am going now to find the Rgt I ur. did not start heavy that the Rgt was coming to me. They halted near by and I went to them and although unfit relieved Capt Taylor who was sick with sun stroke. Afterwards Imbar relieved me with his usual impudence. Had not before been able to stir a step but now seemed like radical numbers the result has been the same.

Of the attack on the rebel works was a failure with great loss. Quite well. The Rgts took its old position on the front line. The result

SUNDAY, July 31st, 1864.

Last night received notice that we were to move and from the Division Hdqrs came the statement that we were going to City Point to embark for Washington. I was not able to travel and with Capt Taylor and Lint Shultz walked to the landing near 18th Corp Hospital and rode in cars to City Point. I could not get over the singularity of my position riding on a railroad almost entirely constructed for the use of the army and the piles of stores along the road gave me the best idea of the extent of the army that I have ever enjoyed. The number of branch roads at City Point reminded me of the entrance to a large city. Learned by visiting Genl Chief Quartermaster and Genl Grants Adjt Genl that we should be at Bermuda. Obtained a steamer and took all from the Division to Point of Rocks. Tried to join the Rgt but was unable to do so. Laid down in the field for the night very much exhausted. Do not get much better. Am pretty nearly discouraged

MONDAY, August 1st, 1864.

This morning after breakfast started for the Rgt and joined them early in the morning. Capt Dunbar in Command but soon learned that he was detailed as Ordnance Offr and the Command of the Rgt devolved upon me. Received letter from Lilly Mother, Mary and Frank all very good. Lieut Logan informed me that he should recommend me as Major and wrote to the Governor and I may reasonably expect the Commission in a few days. Have Sally been miserably sick but have attended to the duties of Comdy Offr of the Rgt. Have been much gratified by the expressions made to me by the Offrs. We Commenced the arrangement of the Camp and I hope we may remain here for some time. News from Sherman is good. Wrote Lilly and Mr Wyman.

TUESDAY, August 2d, 1864.

Herd a very uncomfortable night and suffered Considerably during the day have been quite unwell. Received a letter from Lilly this morning and it was very gratifying. I should like to write her this evening but I cannot. Today I have been pretty busy and have succeeded in getting the Camp established in order and quite clean and have Hdqrs in tolerable order what is most gratifying to me I have a bed whereon I may rest and I hope I may be allowed a good night rest which I need. Feel more Comfortable this evening than for some days before and hope I may be better and get over my ailments. No papers last night or tonight.

WEDNESDAY, August 3d, 1864.

Not very well this morning but after attending to a great amount of business start for Corps Hdqrs and Point of Rock. Visit the Christian and Sanitary Commissions Decidedly in favor of the former who I am satisfied do more good with less means. I both were well treated the Christian promised to send over a quantity of articles tomorrow. Have eaten a great deal of fruit and at noon after dinner experienced the results. For an hour or two after dinner I suffered intolerable pains. I get a little discouraged about my difficulties The Lt Col has recommended me for promotion but I cannot be mustered in the number being too small. busy getting camp in order. We have a good location with a prospect of remaining Hear from Frank Lilly & others

THURSDAY, August 4th, 1864.

This morning visited the picket lines early before reporting as Division Officer of the Day. Afterwards at Hdqrs and visit the remainder of the line on the left at Bakers Creek. A beautiful ride through the woods. Not knowing the road I was in doubt whether or no I was riding into the rebel lines. Came out all right. After visiting the lines spent the remainder of the day in quarters. Busy all the time work has so accumulated. Take the picket out in the evening. The rebels even very curious standing on the parapet to see me as I rode up to the line. No firing pickets very near. Strange state of affairs to us just from Petersburg. The full number was not furnished by Col Bell and I was compelled to go out twice. Heavy wanted to write during the day but I got no time except for business of the Regt. Stores arrived from Christian Commission which are much needed for the men Nad nothing to eat. Health better.

FRIDAY, August 5th, 1864.

Pocahontas saved the life of Capt Smith which he sent himself as the tree is all gone. Went out to visit the line very early this morning and was proceeding to Baker's Creek when my horse got in a hole and tumbled falling on my leg. Fortunate escape without breaking my legs. Pretty sore but able to get about. Letter from Lilly and a reply. Spent the day very heavily employed on Regtl business. An immense amount has accumulated but this evening I felt that we had got it all up to date as far as we can. Wrote Lilly & Frank and sent home letters. Regtl inspection. pretty good. must improve. Busy all day placing shelters over the tents. Have felt pretty well and hope now my difficulty is passed. The first game of card the evening that I have enjoyed for a long time. Heavy firing in the direction of Petersburg. There was also firing the day before. No news from there. Fear we may be sent back there. An excessively warm day. Rourke sent me

a piece of the root of the celebrated oak tree under which

SATURDAY, August 6th, 1864.

Very warm again. Letter from Frank and lots of Official Correspondence. Mr Wyman desires me to have the Majority. Busy all day with Regtl matters. There is an immense amount of work in hand. Notice came of the appointment of Lieut Darcy to be Captain Sergts Dunn & Fletcher to be Lieuts. Went to Bermuda Hundred in the evening and had a very pleasant ride. Collected $161.60 from Ramsey Cutler for Regtl fund. It was a very agreeable little trip and the Adjt as well as myself enjoyed it very much. It always seems singular to get away from the battle of Camp and after such a campaign the fruit the green fields and singing birds seemed especially grateful. Returned late in the evening and could not but feel that we should be very likely to move such events have occurred in just such away so many times. No movement. Retire early tired.

SUNDAY, August 7th, 1864

Have succeeded in obtaining a respite from work for those men who are in Camp and it is in some measure a day of rest. We have been pretty busy at Hdqrs as usual and there seems no end to the work. Wrote McIlyan and Lely and tried to write several other letters but gave up the attempt. Have not felt well during the day. This evening the Band played and the Chaplain of the 76th had services during the afternoon near Camp. The weather has been recessively warm and everyone has kept as quiet as possible. Saw the Mustering Officer and must wait for information on the subject of musters out of the Officers of the Rest until he makes his Consolidated report. A little out of sorts because unwell must refrain from recitement on the subject of musters

MONDAY, August 8th, 1864.

Another recessively warm day and lots of business to do which keeps me busy from morning until night. Still at work endeavouring to get our Camp in order but without much progress. We have but few teams. The news of the passing Forts Macon & Gaines by Farragut with 19 iron clads and the Capture of Admiral Buchanan and two iron clads and the dispersion of the remainder causes great rejoicing the news is from rebel sources and consequently is worthy of credit. This evening until late playing whist which I have enjoyed very much Letter from Frank in regard to a Substitute which he is anxious to get. I cannot help him here.

TUESDAY, August 9th, 1864.

This morning there was the usual amount of business. Early in the forenoon there was a terrible explosion towards the Appomatox which we learned was caused by the blowing up of two barges of ordnance stores. Wrote to L. & Fannie Letter from Col Barton to Col Evans to the effect that he should urge my claimes also a letter from Mr Wyman to the same effect. Made a list of officers for muster. Genl Birney states that all officers who desire will be allowed to go out. In the evening indulged in a game of whist which is a very agreable way of spending the evening. Am extravagantly fond of the game. No letters from Lilly but one from Frank desiring me to procure for him a substitute. There continues to be a great deal of business to attend to in the office.

WEDNESDAY, August 10th, 1864.

An extremely warm day and we are well satisfied to remain within doors. This morning news reaches us that Mobile is Captured and in in the evening the papers confirm the old rumors in regard to the Capture of the rebel iron clads and the Admiral Buchanan. I think from all accounts that we have possession of Mobile or at least of the forts Gaines and Morgan. Enjoyed a pleasant ride to the Point of Rocks and Called on the Engineer Officers. Major Graff Capt Farrand and Lieut Butts in Camp. Capt Eaton gone home for 15 days. Lucky fellow. Evening another game of whist. I play the evenings away often for the purpose of passing away time until the mail arrives. No letters for me of any kind. A delightful afternoon and evening

THURSDAY, August 11th, 1864.

As usual there has been a great deal to do. Rode round in the morning made some purchases and then went out into the woods to look after the fatigue. Enjoyed the ride and found the 2d dept had selected some beautiful localities for their camp. In the evening we had parade the first that I ever attended as Amnedy Officer. At night we had a game of whist and during the game came an order sent here by Henry Boudinot to the effect that all officers will be retained in the service and later came a letter from Lilly which showed how necessary it is for me to leave the service as soon as possible and I shall certainly go very soon for it so clearly my duty to myself and others that I must go. It was a very interesting letter and I shall reply to it tomorrow if possible. Retire late Good news from Mobile Sherman and Sheridan

FRIDAY, August 12th, 1864.

It has been intensely hot and I have been glad to remain in doors The weather is insufferable Busy as usual during the day and disappointed in not getting an opportunity to write letter. I should have answered the one received last night. Parade as usual. Nothing new or startling during the day. In the evening staid up pretty late playing whist hoping to receive important letters by mail. Saw Capt Lord but got little comfort from him. In reply to Woods letter to Sectry of war it was stated that we muster out on the 16th and I have little doubt this will be considered settled. Mr vote Wood a nuisance. Have made up my mind to the course I shall pursue shall tender my resignation on the 26th of this month at which time my three years will be up and I shall then not be liable to draft

SATURDAY, August 13th, 1864.

Rather late in rising this morning Immediately after breakfast received notice to repair to Brigade Hdqrs where I received the very unwelcome announcement that we must be ready to move at a moments notice and we are very busy getting ready. Supposed going to Deep Bottom. Busy in preparation during the day and in the evening final orders came to move just before we started the mail came and I received two letters one from Lilly and another proved to be from Mr Pitt an introduction to Genl Ferry Cond Corps. Marched all night and we are found that we were not to embark on transports. It was tedious. We went across the pontoon at daylight. Had a little sleep but was not refreshed. It was tedious but the men kept up pretty well slept a little in my saddle

SUNDAY, August 14th, 1864.

and no one seems to know the night. Cannot imagine what the object of this movement can be. What a Sunday. It seems as if movements must be made on Sunday and I cannot believe that movements commenced on Sunday will be successful. We were reserve and during the forenoon did not engage at all and were not under fire. Had the pleasure of seeing Genl Grant who does not appear the Genl he is. He was accompanied by Genl Bernard Chief Engineer. A medium sized man is Grant not erect in his carriage and with nothing particular about him to mark the soldier. We moved in the afternoon and were under fire for a while. Capt Dr Avery was killed and several men wounded but the losses by sunstroke were fearful. At least a hundred and fifty must have been carried out to the rear. Some very bad cases. Afterwards moved to the right and during the night the left was abandoned. Counted 50 prisoners captured by Genl Ferry. The 100 [illegible] Charged on a battery which they found

desertion and captured 6 guns. We were without shelter in the rain during

MONDAY, August 15th, 1864.

Last night we got but little sleep for it rained quite hard, and I was called up several times. In the morning we put out a few pickets and waited the issue of events until early in the forenoon when orders came to move to the right. It has been intensely hot and we have suffered very much indeed. We have marched several miles in the heat and very many of the men have fallen out. Only four officers and seventy men with the Rgt when we halted. The remainder of the Brigade were in the same plight. It is now 5 P M and we are still resting where we have been about three hours. I really hope we shall not be engaged for I am not well, and we have but few officers and men. We lie down with everything on horses saddled ready for a move and hoping we may remain undisturbed. No hard fighting but the troops have been moving in on our right

Continually

Skirmish through the woods and the balls. Pestled all night

TUESDAY, August 16th, 1864.

Poor Taylor wounded on Picket and Sears mortally wounded myself the only one left of those in the fight. It has left an impression on my mind which will never be effaced.

Last night we were allowed to remain and although I was interrupted several times had a little sleep. but this morning do not feel much refreshed During the forenoon moved to our left in rear of the battery Remained a little when and then moved to our right through the woods. On the way the firing became heavy in our front and we soon got the order to double quick Through the woods over dead bodies our own and rebel past lines of prisoners into the open ground Knapsacks thrown off full of enthusiasm away we went and back of the rebels works on the right by file into line as finely as the Rgt ever did it Cheering on each other and the 115th N Y who jumped over the works after the rebels down into the pits. Men Cheerful Cool and obedient. Under fire Tantum Killed Seaward wounded in the groin I was in. Me falling per shots in the rear. 76th PA running away. Still sticking to the works until the rebel Colors were on our flank, Rgts on our right and left away before we started. The

The fight occurred near Cornelia Mills. Bring the Charles City Road

WEDNESDAY, August 17th, 1864.

The night duty. No sleep. The Collection of Stragglers around the Colors and the return of McKeller to the Rgt March to the rear in the night Rebt until morning and move to the fortifications at Deep Bottom. Many Good letter from Lilly. Detailed on picket with the whole Rgt. Hard work in the long line. The duties very severe on a man already worn out but I kept up. I have had occasion and have returned thanks to that Merciful Providence that has spared my life while others have been taken away. It was a long weary day of duty and at night I lay down on the hill wet and weary Rainy and I have very little shelter but I hope I may be able to bear the fatigue and exposure. We have indeed had a hard time and are here to nonjunge and recruit, hoping to remain

THURSDAY, August 18th, 1864.

This morning I woke early much refreshed by a pretty good nights rest. A good wash good breakfast and a long ride around the Picket line with new offices of the Day Attended to the Rgtl business and found and laid out the Camp ground. Got up quarters and got the Rgt in Camp the few tents up that are left. We have very good ground and an effort will be made to keep us here or where we can remain at rest. We need it very much. Head a great deal of business to attend to Wrote Lilly and feel easier on that account. Examined the Stragglers sick and Convalescents. Lieuts Lacopedan Hutchinson Shultz Himrod and Williams back again with us but none but Williams doing duty. He is my Adjutant. There has been heavy fighting near us on our right front. No particulars. Bed ten oclk for I need sleep. That is it is now 10 and I am going

FRIDAY August 19th, 1864.

Unpleasant. Lots of work
Wrote Lilly. Rept all on picket
more than we ought to spare
but the orders from the Brigade Hafus
were imperative. The bit of deception
and double dealing on the
part of Lol Loan exhibited in
the little slip of paper shows
what are the men of the army
Evening I wrote and during
the day have been busy in getting
up the business of the office. The
accounts of our forces are to the effect
that we were assaulted at the
point where we left and the rebels
beaten. At Petersburg the firing has
been heavy for two nights. Report is
that we have taken it but the truth
seems to be that we have broken their
line and occupy the Weldon R Road
and are likely to keep it. The 5th
Corps has done the work.

SATURDAY August 20th, 1864.

Her thought the losses of the rebels greater
than our own. The plan where our fight
took place was Guzzens mills
I sent letter to Mr Wyman with list of Casualties
Raining every the day. Sorting talking
walking working the day passes
Letter from Lol Barton in the evening
while we were on our way
to the other side the pontoon.
Orders came late in the afternoon
for us to move and we found
we were required as a picket
to guard the retreat of the army
of the Potomac. That night we remained
out in the rain until two oclk and
then proceeded to camp. The line of
pickets was thrown across Strawberry
plains. It was a delicate duty as our
own forces were coming in on the roads
on which the rebels were expected to come.
We had thought to remain at Deep Bottom
but shall probably move away in the morning.
All the forces crossed the river in the
night. Rumors of successes of the 5th Corps
at Petersburg. Not confirmed. Capt
Noble Genl Birneys Staff thought we had
been successful during the week the
object being merely to retain or recall

troops designed to reinforce early in the Shenandoah Valley

her this afternoon, and wrote Frank.

SUNDAY, August 21st. 1864.

As expected and as usual we move today. Started early in the morning and proceeded by slow marches to our old Camp at Bermuda Landing. It was refreshing to get back to the old spot after such experiences as we have had during the past week. During that time we have lost killed three offices. Capt Dr Avery Liets Fantum & Sears. Wounded Capt Taylor and Lieut Seward. Sunstruck and in hospital Lt Acker. The others are not according to their own account fit for duty. Letter from Seward and word from Capt Taylor both doing well. Our Camp was rather dilapidated but we can soon put it in order. Heavy firing at Petersburg City reported Captured. Dont believe it. Went up in the old spot and a good bath and change and I feel like a new man. A Shave and Shampoo finished the work. Orders to move to the work at 4 A.M. Disturbed during the night with orders to be ready to move during the

night order countermanded. A letter from Lilly and another from Mother Cordelia to make me next well. Lilly was particularly affectionate. Sent letter to

MONDAY, August 22d. 1864.

This morning opens with a great deal of work Lieut Heilliard is here arrived yesterday. Lieut Shultz is arrest by Col Coan who will prefer Charges. Called up the Sgts and gave them a lecture. Have also had an interview with one officer with reference to his Conduct and shall see others. This morning we were aroused and went to the entrenchment at 4 oclk. This afternoon enjoyed a very satisfactory interview with Genl Birney major Genl Condy Corps. He was a friend and School mate of Charlie at Andover and has been acquainted with him since. In the evening game of whist. This is a relief and keeps me occupied until the arrival of the mail about 10 oclk. No letters of importance. I am convinced that Genl Birney will help me out when I make the endeavour although I am convinced that he does not believe in granting resignation. The case of the 5 officers of the 3d N Y which he had to see is one of Genl Hiltzmann

TUESDAY, August 23d, 1864.

Still in Camp with lots to do. We all earnestly hope to remain here for some time but I fear the operations near Petersburg are such that all our forces will be demanded there. Got the Muster out rolls had my tent shaded wrote quite a number of letters including one to Lilly which I was not able to complete. We are to have an inspection tomorrow by the Corps inspector and the whole Command is busy preparing. I hope we may make a good appearance. although it cannot be expected that we can look as we would if allowed to remain quite for a little while. The evening I spent over a few games of whist waiting for the arrival of the mail which came in early. None but official letters. Petersburg said to be ours but I dont believe it

WEDNESDAY, August 24th, 1864.

It is afternoon and we have already had inspection. Lt Col Jackson Inspector growled and grumbled a great deal but I couldnt stand it and saw no reason why he should find fault. The inspection was a good one under the circumstances. Am very much despatch because I have the intelligence that we are going to move to Petersburg to relieve the 18th Corps. We ought to be allowed to remain until we are mustered out. Muster out rolls are being worked up. Finished letter to Frank enclosing $10 asking him to send parts hat shirts and stamps. to be sent to Edward Shinden Co F. Letter finished to Lilly and another to Mother. Positive orders have come to be ready to move at a moments notice. We go to take Genl Hoys place to night. Went to the right just at sunset and deployed behind the works. Very thin line. Stopped with Lieut Sabine of Capt James Battery. near the works. Expect to move during the night McKeller + Williams went to hospital today many too

Officers beside myself and acting Adjt Hutchinson

THURSDAY, August 25th, 1864.

Wakened during the night several times and got but very little sleep. This morning early was informed that one of the 47th had deserted and probably the rebels would attack. Early in the morning the rebels attacked the pickets and the firing was quite sharp. Our line had been strengthened on account of information received per deserters so that the rebels did not accomplish much. We have lost one man killed and 9 wounded and missing. We hear that the 47th has lost 2 offices and about 40 men taken prisoners. About 100 rebels have come within our lines one man brought 20 rebels. Artillery firing this evening pretty sharp. The last day of my old minister and Lilly urges me in a letter received today to get out the service as soon as possible. We expect to leave tonight. Saw the offices of the 24th Mass Rgt. Old Augustine acquaintances. Late in the evening received my pay to June 30th less the $10 per month responsibility money

FRIDAY, August 26th, 1864.

A weary night with little sleep. Got back per the paymaster Major Farr about 12 Oclk and was roused early this morning. Have paid over to Paddock the Right Fund $427.49 and his bill $2400 and to O'Rourke $110, giving him note for $30, and sent Mussey check to Father for $200, given by Major Farr No 67. Also sent letter to Lilly. Have heard to day that Elfwing is made Major but do not believe it. Col Barton came this evening but I have heard no news per him. We expect to move tonight and everything is in readiness. We hear per the Richmond papers that Fort Morgan is taken but we also hear per other sources that we have been whipped near Petersburg and rumor says have lost the Weldon Road again. I am afraid it is true. Everything is in readiness to move. The men knapsacks were packed in a wagon to be carried for them.

A very bad night. Every thing was packed and we had no shelter. It rained very hard and I got very little rest and wakeup this morning very weary. Saw Col Barton and learned for him that Elfering had received his Commission as Major because he was willing to be mustered, and I had told him I should go out the service. Told Col B my opinion of him and left him. I feel the indignity very much but it cannot be a disgrace because all the offices repose their disapprobation and Col B himself declares that he would not have done this but have promoted me if I would have remained in the service. At Division Hdqrs for an hour or so in the afternoon. They know little or nothing of our movement but expect to go tonight or tomorrow morning. Energy in camp in preparation for our movement. Got to rest early as I am very tired. Col B has no friends here and his course with regard to the majority is severely censured by all. At Division Hdqrs he has no friends. We are not driven off the

Wilder road but Hancock was whipped pretty badly.

No move last night and now at midday there seems as little prospect of it as for the past three or four days. Did not rest well and rise tired. We have succeeded in getting our baggage back and I have my desk. I hope we will remain some time yet. Only 14 days more for the old men. Lieut Acker has just returned looking pretty well and I am glad to see him and should like to see others. Gen Brown reported under arrest which I do not belief. Col Barton in Command of Brigade and Col Coan lying off. Was interrupted while writing Lilly in the afternoon by a very urgent order to move instantly. Every thing was fixed for a short stay although I feared we should move as it is Sunday. Got ready and started in about 15 minutes. Easy march to Petersburg arriving about 9 P M and took our position on the right of the line in this open field. Considerable firing but no one hurt. Col Coan took Command on the marsh. But I think he may go away soon

MONDAY, August 29th, 1864.

Up pretty early. Notice for the Adjt at 3 oclk but did not get up being on the line so that I had only to rise up and be ready for duty. This morning Commenced work on the Muster and pay rolls. Received two letters one for Lilly urging me to come home and another for Dr Strickland. Read one of my letters which Mr Wyman very improperly had published in the Brooklyn daily Union. Am getting every thing ready so as to hand in my resignation this week if possible. Shall make out my final returns in two or three days. This evening we came to the rear. The Artilly firing was very heavy and Continued until about 10 oclk in the evening. It was really a magnificent sight—the air alive with shells allmost all taking the direction of Petersburg. Some of them served rising to the Stars and singling their light with them. Lay down on the wet sand and having a Cold do not like it much

Gilmouth & Acker back with the Rgt

[illegible] fresh bean if decent would have invited me to stay with

TUESDAY, August 30th, 1864.

Up in good season. Not much rest. My Cold is worse. Change my quarters and succeed in putting up my tent in a very good locality. When I shall not be Compelled to be around Hdqrs Continually. Have been busy with my muster rolls and my Returns. Made an arrangement for turning over my property to Fletcher who was mustered as an officer today. Williams is back with the Rgt. and will act as Adjt. I have made out my request for an officer to be designated to receive my property. Loan says that there will be no difficulty in getting out and Williams says there is an order to the effect that any offr who has served three yrs by giving ten days notice may ~~rg~~ resign. My Resignation I think will go in tomorrow. This evening we have had a good sing. and I have enjoyed the 3rd Brigade Band. Commenced a letter to Lily but could not finish it. Received letters for Mother and Taylor. Muster tomorrow

Just as I retired the 3rd Brigade Commenced
blazing and I lay awake for some time
listening to the exquisite music. The last
Rose of Summer so appropriate was very
beautiful. I was almost entranced.

WEDNESDAY, August 31st, 1864.

My Cold is so severe that I am secured
by the Doctor for duty, and then escaped
detail for Brigade Officer of the Day and
obtained a respite so that I may attend to
my papers. Made the Muster Rolls Complete
muster out Rolls and monthly report and
during the evening completed my monthly
returns for C & C & G.E. for August all but the
oath on certificate for the Sergeant to sign
and having received the order to turn
over my property to Fletcher hope to
have everything completed by tomorrow
when I propose to make out my resig-
nation I shall then see Genl Birney to have
it put through immediately. Letter for
Mother and another for Taylor I wanted
to answer but could not. Every thing
quiet. Spent part of the afternoon with
Dr Throop and Hilliard at Avery's. Have drank
more than usual for the purpose of curing my
Cold, but not enough to hurt. Shall be glad
when I can get out of the army and away from
those with whom I am compelled to associate
home.

engaged a very fine view of Petersburg from the hill. This is a beautiful Country
quoted the Petersburg Express battery 3. 30 pds Parrott: No firing today

THURSDAY, September 1st, 1864.

This morning received a letter from Lilly
and one from Dunbar about Company papers.
Have entirely completed my monthly returns
and shall finish the Ordnance this afternoon
I hope. Have written Taylor and altogether
spent a busy forenoon. During the afternoon
went to the trenches saw the papers
exchanged with the rebels but they
contained no news. The officers of
the 47th N.Y. were indulging in melons
collected in front of our works.
This afternoon and evening have been
very busy in getting my papers
ready for the transfer of property
to Lieut Fletcher and finishing
my Returns which I hope to
send away tomorrow. Then my
resignation will be made out
and I shall urge it with
all the power I possess. Col
Coan promises to see it safely
through Brigade Hdqrs and I shall
see Genl Birney. Coan sick
with a chill.

FRIDAY September 2d, 1864.

Taylor my clerk was here at work on the papers when I got up and at ten Oclk Fletcher had signed the receipts. Fagans had sworn to the affidavits and I had got every thing ready for the closing up of my Returns which were all ready to send at noon. My Resignation is now in the hands of Col Cowan Hers somewhat ill but will see to it as soon as he can. I am free of all responsibility and have written to the Chiefs of Depts to send me Certificates of non indebtedness. Sent a letter to Lilly and mother and another to Frank. McClellan nominated but the platform of the Convention is such that I cannot vote for him. Lincoln must be elected under the Circumstances. News of Sherman success created a great rejoicing among the

whole lives. He is said to be in Atlanta.

SATURDAY, September 3d, 1864.

The Case of Lieut Shultz came of this morning and I went with the Dr to Div Hdqrs to give testimony. Detained all the forenoon but allowed at noon an hour during which time I saw Col Barton and secured a good endorsement of my resignation. With it I returned to Genl Foster's and Major Eddy secured me a favorable endorsement there. Gave my testimony in the Case. Attended to the affairs of Capt Moser and during the evening played a game of whist. A notice that I am the Div Officer of the Day for tomorrow and a copy of the official report of Col Barton of the action of June 1st Coal Harbor. A letter from Lilly this evening. I shall be exceedingly anxious until I hear from my paper and shall call on Genl Birney tomorrow and urge his favorable endorsement

SUNDAY, September 4th, 1864.

Sunday again with all the duties of any other day. Through my morning duties and at Division Hdqrs early in the morning. Licence instructions and go to Corps Hdqrs but the Genl is out. On the line all the forenoon. Pretty tired at noon. A little rest and then another trip to the Corps Hdqrs saw Genl Birney but could get nothing satisfactory from him. I hope he will endorse the paper favorably but cannot tell from what he says. On the line in the evening after writing Lilly. Fletcher & 2 Sergeants captured on the vidette line. Heavy cannonading during the night. An indistinct rumor that we are under orders to leave but nothing definite.

MONDAY, September 5th, 1864.

Learn early this morning that the firing last night was in honor of a victory by Sherman who occupies Atlanta and has whipped Hood cutting his army in two. At Division Hdqrs. with report not required on Court Martial. The rumor proves true that we are under orders to be ready to move at a moments notice. Provisions cooked. Have heard nothing from my papers only they left the Div Hdqrs yesterday morning. Rose plucked at the Friends House. Div Hdqrs on the hill overlooking Petersburg. Back to Quarters very uneasy. Sent to Boudinot in the afternoon and received word that he would write me in the morning. Wrote Lilly for I must keep her informed of the progress of events. Shall be very anxious until I hear from the papers. Boudinot said Dont worry. The papers will be back in two or three days from which I infer they have received a good endorsement a good letter from Lilly and one for Seward

TUESDAY, September 6th, 1864

The first thought this morning was in regard to my resignation. Wandered around until ten A.M. when I went to the Hdqrs. The letter of Bondinot's Camer about 11 A.M. while I was at the Col's. The endorsement was not what I wished. It was simply forwarded without approval or disapproval. There is some hope but I fear the worst. Could not write Lilly two or three days will soon pass and I can do nothing until the result is known. This nervous resitment has made me sick. The weather is cool and it has been raining a little during the day. Have seen the Colonel. He has recommended that the Companies be Consolidated and that several offices be mustered out. At my request my name is next to Col Barton's on the list.

WEDNESDAY, September 7th, 1864.

This morning received a letter from Father and one from Mother. They want me out of the service and I am sure will be very glad when I get home. Still anxious about my resignation. Hope to hear tomorrow. Not much encouraged. Prepared for a disapproval but there are still hopes of being able to get out in other ways. I feel that I could talk to Genl Birney and tell him some truths and if I am allowed to go shall do so. Am to try a case tomorrow James Mitchell Co B. Can do but very little in my present state of mind. Learn the Genl Butler is to be back tomorrow when the accumulation of business for the past ten days will be pressed to him and in the hurry and classed with other resignations that have been accumulating for the ten days mine will be dished. My name is first on the list of those to be mustered out if the Companies are consolidated. Wrote Lilly

THURSDAY, September 8th, 1864.

Got everything prepared to hold Court and waited for the witnesses but none Came. Ordered the man to return to duty without trial. My Muster out Rolls are nearly finished. Wrote Seward and Father. Taylor I learn has gone to Annapolis from which place the ride to Baltimore is but short. Still anxious about my resignation. No news from it. Barnum Came to bid me good bye having obtained his leave of absence. The news by the papers Confirming the Capture of Atlanta the various little successes and the speech of Seward on the Election give a cheering aspect to affairs. Expected a letter from L but none Came. May expect to hear from my resignation tomorrow but have lost hope of its being successful. Up in the trenches this evening and tomorrow. Resumed my duties regularly.

FRIDAY, September 9th, 1864.

A cloudy lowering morning. No disturbance during the night and only a little musketry firing during the day. The rebels have been guilty of very unmanly acts in shooting officers who were led to their lines under cover of a truce and the good feeling established some time since ceases. Came down to my Quarters this morning and returned but this afternoon I felt so ill that I could not go back. I have considerable fever. Head ackes and my limbs ache and altogether am very miserable. Got in bed before dark and covered myself well with Clothes. I am so miserable that I fear a fever. My back troubles me. No word from my resignation. It seems a long time in getting through. but since I learned that Corps 16 dgrs did not approve I have been preparing myself for a disappointment and I am really at a loss what to do if this fails. There will be some opening. Loud Cheering along

our lines over Sherman's victory

SATURDAY, September 10th, 1864.

On monday and even Sunday last I thought it possible I might spend the next Sabbath home but there is very little prospect. I am considerably worried by various matters. Fear that my resignation will not be accepted is but one trouble. This morning the Col sent me a letter requiring me to give in writing the reason for being absent from the trenches. I regarded it as an insult and in my answer endeavoured to exhibit my feelings without being disrespectful and in consequence another letter came. I think I have now settled the matter. A little better today than I was last night but still very far from being well. Letter from Frank. No word from my resignation. Retire quite early quite ill. Fainted away while I was being shaved

SUNDAY, September 11th, 1864.

Almost miserable night and I am so ill that I am now packing up to go to the Hospital probably the Base Hospital. I fear I am going to have a fever although I never had one yet. Very miserable because very weak. Cannot eat nor drink anything but water. It is now middle afternoon & I expect to go in an hour. It is said that Grant will let officers who have served as such thro' pass usage. Started for the field Hospital but was not detained there long being sent forward to the Base Hospital. I was very tired when I arrived and got to my bed as soon as possible I really feel quite miserable and cannot longer dodge the fact that I have the fever and as I fear I have carried it in my system for some time I may be confined to Hospital longer than I would like. Not a word from my papers. No letters

MONDAY, September 12th, 1864.

Commenced my course of medicine during the night and think it will with the rest I get secure me freedom from the fever very soon. During the day several of the men of the Rgt detailed here visited me and some of them who went to the Rgt during the day brought me letters. 2 from Lilly always welcome. They always come at the night time. During the day I sat up a little but couldn't move about. My head feels bad heavy and I am often troubled with dizziness. And cannot walk far. Had considerable rest last night. Wrote part of a letter to Lilly but it was not fit to send and I was really not in a condition to write a letter. So weak and disfurnished. The men return from the Rgt with the statement that nothing more is known of the muster out than I have known for some time

TUESDAY, September 13th, 1864.

This morning I felt decidedly better I think my fever, is about gone although I still take medicine. After breakfast took a walk round the place and afterwards visited Dr Porter with whom I had quite a long conversation on Sunday matters. Afterwards shaved by O'Rourke and then was prepared to return to my couch for I was quite tired. Succeeded in writing a letter to Lilly and preparing it for the mail. Kept my bed during the rest of the day and at night felt a little feverish. Took a little more reaction than I ought. One addition to the sufferers. Have been much surprised in the Hospital to notice that most of the officers are living on full diet and seem quite well having been here in this condition for weeks. The attendance here is excellent in all respects. No particular news from the Rgt. Elfwing is back. Barrett is also back. Don't know where the

Men will be mustered

WEDNESDAY, September 14th, 1864.

This morning thought when I rose I was quite myself again but found myself quite mistaken when I attempted to walk about still weak and my head is in a bad condition. Heavy firing in the front Artilly and infantry. Seems to be on our front. but I think it is nothing particular ~~[illegible]~~ Considerably better than I have been for some days. Have been nading most of the time and this evening I took a walk with the Chaplain of the 169th N.Y. Mr Chapman We went out into the woods and were chatting together cosily when I was much surprised by the appearance of Dr Throop and Adjt Williams After considerable parleying the Adjt handed me my discharge signed by Butler on the 13th. I jumped with delight Am a free man again and I went to bed and thanked God for this goodness.

THURSDAY, September 15th, 1864.

Today I was up early and felt quite myself. Soon after breakfast went to the Rgt visited my men visited the offices and had a kind quiting from all spent several hours there. Saw Genl Terry who was very kind and Captain Brooks and the others of his staff all kind. Also called on Col Pennypecker who I have found to be a gentleman and I like him much. All express their good wishes. Before starting this morning I wrote Lilly and Frank, Received a letter from Lilly and it was good this evening have been smoking talking and indulging in the pleasant prospect of going home. It is a happy thought and I return rejoicing that God has been so good to me.

FRIDAY, September 16th, 1864.

SATURDAY, September 17th, 1864.