

## Documents

### CIVIL WAR DIARY

OF JABEZ T. COX

[The diary of which portions are here reproduced was kept by the young soldier in a leather-bound pocket note-book (5½ x 3 in.). All the entries were written with a pencil, save those of the first five days. The diary was begun on April 11, 1864, about one month before the company was mustered in. During the waiting period, young Cox studied Latin and read law. His Latin teacher, called Professor Cöchran by the diarist, enlisted in the same company with his pupil. His name appears several times in the pages of the diary. The young law student expressed the belief in his first entry that he could "never become eminent as a lawyer without taking advantage of every stray moment". After the war was over, he returned to the law. Some years later, he became a judge of the circuit court of Hamilton County. The Cox family lived in Bethlehem of the same County. The company, one of those recruited for one hundred days service, was formed at Noblesville. The first entry printed below was written on the day that the diarist entered the service.]

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May 12th 1864 Jacksons company was to go to camp to day. After bidding my parents and the rest of the family good by I and Milton Brag walked to town and after forming in the Court House square we marched down to the depot and while I was waiting for the train Aunt Mary and her children came to bid me good by: after the train came we got aboard: we were a merry set of fellows as ever started to war little thinking of the hardships that are to come After arriving at Indianapolis we marched to camp Carrington and went into quarters. In a short time we drew our rations and our company was soon collected around the fires getting dinner the hurry and bustle of camp life was all around us the sights and sounds entirely new to the greater part of our company yet when the dinner was ready we all fell to with a will to devour our meat bread and coffee. After dispatching our dinners we went out for Brigade drill. The men on drill this evening numbered four thousand. They were drilled by Gen Carrington and considering the short time they have been in camp done remarkably well Gen Carrington is a small man slightly built with black whiskers and moustache and keen looking black eye.

13th Waked up this morning at three oclock by the rowdy boys

and had breakfast by day light had company drill in the morning and brigade drill after dinner. Man shot by the guard this morning while trying to break guard.

14th Nothing of any interest occurred to day. We had no brigade drill

15th Sunday in camp is but very little different from any other day. The examination of men commenced yesterday was continued to day and I concluded Uncle Sam knew no Sunday. I and four others climbed the fence where there was no guard and went fishing: we caught a few small fish and went back into camp by putting our hats in our pockets and passing the guard at a break in the fence: any one could pass out by to the canal to wash by leaving their hats and the guard thinking we had left our hats suffered us to pass. In the evening a squad of us wishing to go out formed and marched down to the colonels quarters but he would not let us out to church even: and so starting out as if we were going to drill we went through several evolutions then marching straight past him without any pass, we wended our way toward the city—we went to presbyterian church.

After church we started for camp and taking one way between the camp fence and the canal we came to a place where we could climb the fence climbing stealthily up we saw the guard pacing his beat right beneath us and concluded that was not the place—went along the lines: got away from the patrol and got in

16th Had dress parade to day

17th Got a pass and went out in town and then as we came back they would not pass us in on it at the gate, so we went down the fence and the guard passed us in without looking at our pass.

18th Morning dawned clear and beautiful to day and the commissioned officers were all here to day for the first time. The hundred and thirty three (133) Regiment was mustered yesterday and received their uniforms to day and went out to the common and pitched their tents. The boundaries of camp was enlarged so as to include the green common on the north West. Camp Carrington is situated on the East of the canal and between the canal and the Lafayette Rail R. It is a splendid place for a camp. looking toward the South East we see the city stretching away in the distance and North west looms up a hill some five mile distance: a large house situated on its side looks like a mere speck in the distance and an orchard on its summit looks like a mere speck of green.

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25th The officers roused us this morning at day break and we began to prepare to leave old Camp Carrington. The rain was pouring in torrents and we had to form and march down to town in mud six inches deep at every house we passed along ladies and gentlemen were waving a good by

After going to head quarters and drawing our guns we marched to the Jeffersonville & Ind Fgt [freight] Depot. Governor Morton A. G. Noble and others were there and the dispatches received by Morton from Stanton were read and we gave three cheers for the good news. Morton

then made a short speech. He told us that the well wishes of the State accompanied us as much as any regt that ever went to the field that he honored us for the devotion and gallantry we evinced by leaving our occupation at this time of year and going into the service that he thought the service required of us would not be of a very dangerous character but whatever we were called upon to perform we would do it gallantly. We left Ind'pls about 2 oclock P.M. and passed through several nice towns before dark. Franklin [,] County seat of Johnson Co Edingburg [,] Columbus [,] Co seat of Bartholamew Co and Seymour. At dark we laid down in the cars and slept tolerably well until about three when the cars stopped at Jeff—and we got out and formed and marched down to the bank of the Ohio river and after remaining there a short time we were marched to a freight depot and went to sleep again

26th Daylight this morning we formed and marched on to the George Cromwell ferry boat and were ferried across the river a heavy fog was hanging to the waters edge so that we could see scarcely any thing a hundred feet distant. After landing we marched on three sides of three squares of the city of Louisville a distance of four miles and then went out to camp Taylor barracks. I was well pleased with the appearance of the city; there are many fine residences; and shade trees all tlong the streets the only thing I saw to mar the appearance of the city and that is the narrowness of the streets several flags were hung out from splendid mansions and many bright faces smiled us welcome and waved their herchiefs some scowled upon us and we could see their deep hatred while marching through the city we stopped at a fine boarding house near the Plante[r]s Hotel and some of us went in the yard to eat our breakfast on the grass

28th In camp Taylor yet but we leave to day at 12 oclock for Smithland at the mouth of the Cumberland. Had inspection this morning and at 12 oclock teams came to haul our baggage to the boat.

When we went aboard the boat we deposited our guns and accoutrements and were soon scattered over the boat—the Union. She is a fine boat and bound for New Orleans the deck hands were pulling and hauling away getting every thing ready to start and at 5 in the morning we left Louisville or rather Portland a part of Louisv'le The darkies that attended to the cabins were dressed in style and I thought rather looked down on soldier boys

About dark in the evening [29th] the boat stopped on the Kentucky shore to take on some hay and the dark[ie]s piled out to put it in it was up on a hill some 50 feet high and when a bale once got started it took all their strength to keep it from going into the river it was funny to see their action sometimes the hay would run right over them but little cared they. A little after dark we spread our blankets on the lower deck and went to sleep

30th When I first opened my eyes this morning we were passing very near the Indiana shore; and instead of the bluffs I noticed the night before only a bank arose some fifty feet high while the bluffs appeared

to have shifted to the Ky side. About sunup we passed two gun boats going up the river—We have heard several vessels since sunup and the river is much wider than yesterday

A few miles below Troy the river is near a mile and  $\frac{1}{2}$  wide with low banks on either side while away down the river is another village on the Ky side shining in the sunlight. I did not learn the name of it, but there are some fine farms just below it. Passed Rockport Ind it is partly situated on a river bluff whose smooth rock face looked like it had been hewn by the hand of man. About 11 we passed Owensboro in Ky it is a town of considerable size and contains some good buildings

A few miles above Newburg we passed several large islands that looked like large round mounds as we passed down toward them but when we came nearer they assumed and elongated form

Newburg is pleasantly situated on the left [right] bank of the Ohio it contains several good brick houses along the way, and just back on the hill are several pleasant residences. From the wharf we have a fine view of the river for miles about a half mile below is a large island with a dwelling and a considerable farm on it. Sitting on the hurricane deck as I looked up the river I could see for miles while the hills rolled away on the Indiana side and away up the river the tall trees looked like a mere thread of green

A short time after leaving Evansville we came to a beautiful Island in the river just above Henderson. Henderson is a town of considerable size pleasantly situated on the bank of the Ohio. A gunboat was lying opposite the town to keep off the guerrillas that were just back of town. Just below Henderson town we passed a large Island called Henderson island, and some miles below another called Dranond Island we passed just after dark: and stopped at Mount Vernon, Ind

31st Arose just at daylight and we were passing a boat but I did not learn the name of it. The country had assumed a different aspect since dark last night we had passed the Indiana line and were passing between Ills and Ky, the bluffs arose on either side and on the Ills side two large hills arose with the front of solid rock broken and ragged giving a very romantic appearance to the country. Just after sun up we passed a bluff on the Ills side with a jagged rock front that contained two caves one of considerable size and about 3 miles below the cave 3 Islands the 1st was small and 2nd but little larger but the third was some miles long and had some cleared land on it the river before was 2 miles wide or more but after we crossed the islands became very narrow again. Opposite the largest island on the Ills side is a small village called Liscoon: a few miles below the town on the Ills side is a bluff some miles long with a large cave in the lower end but I did not learn the name. Golconda is a pleasant looking little village with large island above and one called Golconda some three miles below it is covered mostly with small trees. The bluffs on the Illinois side is partly covered with small cedar trees with other small trees of different kinds. 15 miles below Golconda we arrived at Smithland at the mouth of the Cumberland river: there is

a large island right opposite the town in the Ohio river. The mouth of the Cumberland is not very broad but deep, and the water of a deep clear bluish color and when the water of the two rivers intermix each preserves its color and looks like grease in muddy water. The scenery is beautiful here in Smithland the fort mounting one grove is on a high hill right back from the town and is manned by Co G 48th Ky Vols and a Co of the 34th are quartered in the town. There have been some guerrillas near here within a short time and about five miles distant over the Tennessee river there are plenty. They have four picket posts one on each road. The village has been a very prosperous little place but the war has brought a great change over the place. Some remains exist of fine brick buildings that belong to rebels and were destroyed by the soldiers. We stacked our arms in an orchard just behind the town; A week ago the fruit trees in Indiana were just in bloom. But the apples on the trees here are large as partridge eggs. As I stood on the parapet of Ft. Sten and looked up the river the little green Isles and far off shore looked like a band of light blue stretched across the river and down beyond the town, the broad river looked a street of gold. Seen at a distance the Ohio looks of a whitish hue while the Cumberland looks a deep blue. We received orders about 1 PM to go to Nashville on the 1st boat that passed up that way. At dark a waggon came after our Camp equipage and guard was sent after to guard them until a boat came. We posted guard around camp and all went to sleep except those on duty. It was the first time I had ever been on duty as corporal of the guard, while my relief was on I lay down and thought of the time when I was so fond in my boyish sports of any play that had any thing of military in it and never thinking then that I would be engaged in the reality.

June 1 After going to sleep we were awakened about 2 o'clock. We were awakened by the Lieut ordering us to fall in and go to the landing. We went on double quick and aboard of the Nymph No 2 bound for Nashville. We went on the Hurricane deck and winding our blankets around us we lay down and slept until day light (June 1) at dawn when I waked we were steaming along up the Cumberland. The face of the country had changed considerable since we left the Ohio. The banks were low and sandy with but little cleared land along the river banks, about sunrise we came to the town Dykeyburg. It is a small place with two or three business houses on the shore. The Cumberland is a fine river and as we floated up the river we saw several droves of ducks, some 15 miles up the river we came to a large bluff. Every man we seen we made pull his hat or we drew a bead on him. About noon we passed another bluff of solid rock but not so high as the other. The sun at this time of day became very hot and oppressive as it beat on the hurricane deck of the boat. At Eddieville we got off and filled our canteens out of a spring right at the edge of the water roofed over with large rocks the water was cold as ice. The town is county seat of \_\_\_\_\_ county Ky and contains some good business houses and some pleasant residences. The first we knew of being in Tennessee was a view of the Tennessee rolling mills. Just above the mills the river bank raises to the height of 90 feet and then after a level interval of some few yds. a wall of rock raises to the height of 5 ft with large trees on top.

Below the mills is the only island of any size since we left Smithland. On the passage we have met two boats the Jolly Franklin and [the] J L Kellogg they were bound for Nashville but the water at the shoals was too shallow and they having no protection had to go back down the river. Canton is a small mean little town on the Cumberland; the boat landed and several of the boys went ashore and were welcomed only with scowls. Out on the bank was an old steam boat high and dry. Just below the town we ran aground but after backing off three times we floated clear and went on. At dark the water was so shoally that they concluded to stop and lay over until morning we put a guard on the boat and fastened the boat to the shore. At day light we started and after traveling four miles came to fort Donaldson the country before we arrived opposite the fort is generally tolerable level with an occasional eminence

At Clarksville we stopped to leave some freight it is a Town of some importance, the largest between Smithland and Nashville. the houses are mostly of brick and well built. The railroad between Louisville and Memphis runs through it. After leaving Clarksville we went on until near dark when we ran aground and stopped before an hour there was 4 boats thumping on the shoals near us. A guard was put on the boat and we took our guns and laid on the cabin floor with our catridge Boxes on and guns by us.

June 3. Awoke early this morning and climbed the hill and when we went back to the boat we had to march near a mile over the rocky shore when we reached the shoals we had to march again near 2 miles when we stopped and went to the house of a Secesh and he got dinner for the most of the co he was eat out before they all got dinner and after laying around awhile we went back to the boat and found them just off the Shoals just above the shoals is the wrecks of 3 steamboats and one gunboat captured by the rebels. Wheeler and Stephenson were left at the shoals and the boat run ashore for them but they being rather slow were left and had to walk to Ashland landing.

4th We awoke this morning in the city of Nashville or rather in the warf, and after disembarking we marched to the camp of our Regiment north west of the State house. we had been there only about one hour when we left for Murfreesboro and arrived there about three oclock, and pitched our tents on the East bank of Stone river.

5th My first sunday in Tennessee was a hot and sultry day, and our tents were pitched on the river bank in the sunshine in the morning a squad of us went into town to draw rations The town is larger than I at first thought it is a town of some 2,500 inhabitants or was before the commencement of the war; it was formerly the capital of Tennessee, and the state house is a good building. the Brick wall around it is torn down and numerous soldiers huts erected around the building. I wrote two letters to day one to grandmother and one to uncle Sile. In the morning the air was cool and pleasant but at noonday the sun beat down fiercely and almost smothered us in our little tents. About 5 oclock P.M. we left the fort and marched about neart 2 miles from the railroad bridge over

stone River, to a fine grove northeast of the Town near the contraband quarters

17th Went on picket on the Shelbyville pike this morning it was a beautiful place in a grove cool and shady and when not on duty we lay around under the trees and slept In the evening about supper time we observed some fine milk cows grazing on the hill so we sallied forth and milked enough for our suppers. After supper Stoops and I went about a quarter of a mile east of the reserve post to see a large spring or it is rather a creek bursting out of a rocky hill the rocks appear to have been bursted or broken to pieces and heaved in all shapes by an earthquake. We entered several small caves in the rock one that extends near a hundred feet into the hill When we came back Hugh Lee handed me a letter from home I was pleased to hear they were all doing well and glad to receive news from my relatives at home

18th Was relieved this morning and went to camp. I was not on either battallion or company drill Lieutenant Farley went with a number of our com to Stone river to bathe

In a hill on Stone river we found a cavern but did not explore it to ascertain its size

19th I went on pickett this morning on the Lunette Davis station with Sergeant Williams Corporal Arnot 4 of our co and 11 men from co "I" It was a very hot day and we almost smothered laying in the hot sun with but a slight shelter Sunday on pickett is but little different from any other day Lank[,] Corp Mc[,] Col.[not Colonel] went on Pickett this morning but I did not get with them they went on the Salem pike. The station we are now on is on part of the battle ground of Stone river The ground is covered with high weeds bushes and black berry vines full of berries which are getting ripe

Jim Williams our sergeant the corporals myself and V. M Arnett was awakened at 1 oclock and posted the guards and returned to the post all was still except the howling of a dog that appeared to be tied about one hundred yds from the pickett. near 3 oclock when the day was almost dawning the noise ceased and all was quiet

20th We were relieved this morning and after going to camp Syke White handed me a letter from my uncle William H Cox that contained some good advice

21st When Frank McShane and I awoke this morning the rain was pouring in torrents and the outer world looked wet and desolate no drum beat for reveille this morning and we had no roll call The principal amusement in camp today was throwing little darkies on a blanket men would form a ring around a blanket every one holding with both hands to the blanket, the darkey was thrown on the blanket letting the blanket slack so as to give him a good swing they would tighten it suddenly and send the ill fated darkey fifteen and twenty feet in the air and then catch again on the blanket. In the evening the "bommers" co K caught the Sarjeant Major and despite his struggles they put him on the blanket and sent his portly form flying into the air Their captain and the adjutant were compelled to go through the performance, and they ran the officer

of the Guard out side of the guard lines. At roll call we took a vote on the nomination for president and voted unanimously for Lincoln and Johnson about 3 oclock Lank came to the tent with a tale of firing on.

22nd Detailed to go on picket today with Fisher and Sarjeant Snively but we did not get together they went to the Salem pike and I with Syke White the remainder of our company and 1 sarjeant two men and one corporal of the 115th Ohio went on the Manchester pike it is a good place near the spring and cave Stoops and I visited last friday evening

A fellow from town came down and the Sarjeant and corporal and him went into the cave some yds and found a sack and large tin cup There are all kinds of looking character the proud southern aristocrat the poor whites and the poor contrabands One rather strange character passed today an old but rather rough looking man riding a small horse not more than half as large as himself he informed us that he had voted for Andy Johnson but had as good as swore not to vote for any man until the war was over In the evening an old darky woman was passing and the Sarjeant picked up a rock to drive a tent stake and remarked that he was not going to hit her and one of [us] said to her she was not afraid of Yankees Oh no sah I does not, hadent bin for the yankees dey a done had me used up afor dis time. We had a pretty good supper consisting of Coffee Tea Hard Tack light bread Stewed apples and milk About 10 oclock a gun was fired at or near the front post of our part of the lines and a bullet whizzed uncomfortably near the picket but the one that fired was not seen or heard and all remained quiet As I sat in the moonlight musing on the scene before me I thought of the privation and suffering the southerners have caused by their rebellion all the rich land before me was covered with a growth of weeds the fine mansions torn down or their beauty ruined and the owners where were they wandering perhaps with the rebel armies fugitives from their native state or filling traitor graves on some battle field and all to preserve what has ever been a curse to this beautiful State

23rd With the sun the stream of darkies begun pouring down the pike Were relieved and went to camp nothing worth mentioning transpired in camp today With the exception of a visit from two officers from the front Lietenant Conklin and Capt White, wrote a letter home today

24th Went on camp guard to day for the first time since we have been here Was awakened at one by the corporal of the second relief and after putting on the guards I returned to the guard house where Col Newby was on guard It was a soft southern moonlight night with a cool breeze blowing as there always is here and nothing save the distant howling of a dog to disturb the quiet scene and the distant steady tread of the guard, and I could not but contrast the scene presented now with that of 3 or 4 years ago then the open space to the west was as fine a grove as that in which we are encamped the tread of armed men and the clang of arms had never been heard on this quiet spot the inhabitants of the surrounding mansions were enjoying liberty peace and prosperity but alas how many by their own act have brought ruin on their homes 15 men from our com left to day to protect the town Darbuckle Among the no was our Orderly, Noble and my friend John Stoops



25th Came off guard this morning at 9 o'clock. The com was drilled in skirmish drill this morning by Cap White of the 101st and complimented for their efficiency in the manual of arms.

30th Our regiment was mustered for pay to day I saw some of the boys that were pickett on Woodbury pike The story was that about 11 o'clock some one inside and outside of the line commenced firing at the picketts with what was supposed to be revolvers They sent to camp and got 20 men they then doubled the guardes they then ceased firing at the guards and went up and attacked the reserve post the heaviest firing was at that time finding a good force at the reserve post they retired with the loss the Guard thought of one man

1st July 1864 I went on pickett again this morning on Shelbyville pike it was a beautiful day and verry pleasant for This season a cool breeze was blowing all day. in the afternoon I and Two others discovered a cave in the rock only a short distance from the reserves the walls and roof were of solid smoothe limestone rock and it was large enough for a person to walk slightly bent we went in near a hundred feet and then the opening became so small that a person would have to crall no one knows what may lie undiscovered beyond this a rival of the Mammoth Cave may exist here Among our squad is a Hanoverian belonging to Co "G" he is a singular character always carries all his property with him that he possesses to the picket post and then to his post. When my time came to put on the picketts I was awakened but Corporal Arnott could not sleep and as he was going to stay up I could go to sleep

5th A fine day once more nothing to day except the usual routine of camp life nothing of any interest often occurs in camp everything is dull. Sometimes there is a great noise raised against the cooks or commissary sarjeant because they had not received their full rations

6th Went on pickett this morning on the West Lebanon post this is one of the worst posts on the pickett lines, out on the open plain which was once a finely cultivated field but now over grown with tall weeds bushes and Briers there is one redeeming feature that is berries and apples exist plentifully verry near between the reserve post and town the ground is covered with trees felled to give play to the guns of Frt Rosecrans they are all that remains of what was once a fine grove within a hundred yds of us the brass cannon looked grinningly over the breast works Between us and Stone River is the graves of several union soldiers near the mounments over the graves of a Southern family They are a verry fine marble beautifully carved and ornamented. Near the spring we go for water is a part of Stone river battle ground, and I find that nearly all the ground for some distance north and west of the town was the scene of a sanguinary contest Whenever any one passed over the battle field he must think of the days when the cannon thundered and muskets rattled along the banks of Stone River

8th The drum beating revellie failed to awake me this morning I was sleeping so soundly when I awoke the sun was shining brightly I

have come to the conclusion that a man in the army is almost as much of a slave as the negro in the cotton there an over seer directs and orders without doing any work here a sarjeant or a corporal sets on a stump and over sees men that work like slaves without doing any work themselves. Sometimes it is for the benefit of the men at times solely for the benefit of the officers—Afternoon Haines[,] Chappell[,] Col Newby and I went in pursuit of berries we went a mile and a half east of camp after crossing over the breastworks came into a large field containing near a hundred acres that was formerly I suppose highly cultivated but now one great thicket of briers and Sassafras bushes

9th The sun poured down his scorching rays today unchecked by any clouds If it were not for the frequent rain and cool zreezes it almost constantly blows here the heat would be insupportable The duty we had to perform to day did not cause us any trdouble we had no battalion drive but in the evening the sky became overcast and the rain soon commenced falling and we had a wet evening

10th Went on camp guard to day. In the afternoon a thunder storm came up and the rain descended in torrents I spread my rubber blanket over my head and sat down, the rain soon began to run under the tents and the inmates began yelling like Indians This the certain follower of a rain as soon as the tents get wet inside the boys immediately yell.

11th After being relieved to day Haines[,] Smiley[,] Lank and I got through the lines and went after our usual object of pursuit black berries we walked about six miles and returned before roll call with a quart each

When the mail came this evening I confidently expected to get a letter but was disappointed by not getting any we passed through two large fields of cotton it will soon be in bloom and the darkeys say there will be a fine crop it is all the property of uncle Sam the darkies are hired by the month there are several hundred acres of government cotton in this vicinity

12th The sky was overcast with clouds to day and looked like rain but the rain did not come until time for battalion drill the boys were glad to see it rain at this time to get rid of drill. The rain ran in a stream through our camp and made it far from agreeable. This living in tent is not very agreeable when it rains the rains pays us a visit in the tent at night when we spread our blankets at night they are soon covered with bugs of all kinds and varieties from as large as a mouse to the size of a pin head.

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14th Was relieved this morning and marched into camp as usual The battalion drilled skirmish drill this evening the boys were all deeply interested in this drill.

some of the 17th U S Colored a portion of which is camped near our quarters passed through this evening they are all stout heartly looking soldiers their arms and accouterments are in fine condition and if it had not been proved before a view of these fellows would give the lie to the copper head tale that they will not fight

15th The camp this morning has an unusual number of waggons

buggies and other vehicles in from the country with pies and Chickens and CC the most striking among them was an old waggon drawn by a yoke of oxen the waggon contained some flour Chickens Huckle berries[,] pies made of the same an old lady old gentleman and a negro woman they came near twenty miles In the afternoon we went out to drill the skirmish and double quicked about two hours over high weeds dead cows and mules & co

16th After dinner Haines[,] Prof Cockran[,] Fisher and I went out in the country on a foraging expedition after passing the old breast works we found a goodly patch of briars and fell to picking the berries we heard a yell and saw Snively comeing through the bushes We then left with Snively and went about two miles farther into the country and came to a large cornfield. The corn looked nice and promises a good crop Tennessee I believe has the reputation of being a great corn growing state near this was a field occupied exclusively by bushes and briars of about 2 years growth. After filling our haversacks with berries we arrived at camp in time for dress parade. The F.F.F.

17th Went on pickett this morning on Woodbury pike directly east of the court house it is in an old grove near the college building its founder I do not know his name is buried near in a large limestone sepulcher This pike is traveled a great deal by contrabands and F.F.F. one old slave passed through the lines and came back with a pile of wood on his head he was 92 years old. Near noon a woman driving an old primitive one horse waggon passed she had a very sorrowful tale to tell of her husbands being arrasted on a charge of feeding bushwackers

It appears to come natural to the negro to show a pass when he comes through the lines for he has been used to it but it goes "hard" with the proud southerners to have to show a pass every time he rides out

18th Came off pickett this morning as usual nothing of any interest was going on in camp today. Except the not very pleasant duty of Skirmish drill

19th Beautiful morning with not a cloud to check the hot rays of old Sol. Professor Cockran and my self went down the branch for the purpose of was[h]ing our clothes and after some hours of rubbing we returned with them not much improved in looks We had general inspection this evening by a member of Gen Van Cleves staff[,] Capt Harrison[,] and he had been lately married to a young widow of 30 worth half a million but I would have considered the lady an incumbrance to the future. She came with him and remained seated on the horse while inspection was going on.

20th Another fine day after noon Elam[,] Rob and I went to town and visited the Christian commission it contains a fine collection of books it is nearly always filled with soldiers writing or reading its patrons should surely have the thanks of soldiers

21st Went on camp guard this morning at the guard house beneath the old tree we found eight prisoners seven committed for sitting and one for sleeping on posts

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30th Cloudy today and looks like rain I am sick today. Col Foster came from town and we had battalion drill I understand that when we get back to Indianapolis we and the 132nd are to drill against each other

31st Went on pickett today with some of the convalescents our sarjeant belonged to the 18th Regulars and had been in several bloody fights. They were fine jovial fellows: About 2 oclock it commenced to rain as if the bottom was knocked out and so continued until night I had been sick and had a fever all day. At dark I spread my gum blanket in the wind and laid down but I slept very little

August 1st 1864

This morning a waggon train came along the pike going after forage guarded by our com Nearly every one went but the sick and those on pickett After the relief came I started for camp but it was a long weary tramp as sick as I was. Our quarters looked quite lonesome bu the[re] was enough noise in other parts of camp Heavy storm in camp today

2nd Sun shining this morn I went up to the Dr at sick call to get some med—He prescribed S. In an awful dose[,] almost a tea spoonful [of] Capicu and a pill of Hydrarg, to be taken three times a day, and I was excused from duty

3rd Went to Dr. again this morning still had a high fever was not really able to get up The prescription I received was the same as yesterday. If I were at home I would not be up any at all but here I go as long as I can and then ly down In the evening our com came from their expedition They had a somewhat exited tale to tell of an attack on the train by gaurrillas a Lieut com[manding] a squad received three holes through his hat and coat he killed one reb and three were taken. Rain to day

4th Raining this morning when I awoke. I felt better than yesterday not so much fever the medicine I took today was Phlo Rhei and Dover At sick call the doctors tent is thronged with soldiers complaining of the divers diseases some really sick others trying to play off Sickness is something the soldier dreads more than battells hard fare and hardships They were nothing as long as I kept well but when I got sick I could not help thinking of the kind treatment I would receive at hom if there

5th Beginning to feel pretty well today. have had no fever at all to day Took nothing [but] Tinc of iron (the Dr said it was to strengthen me) In the evening the Lieut that commanded our boys in the affair with the bushwackers came into camp with his lady he is a resolute determined looking man

6th A fine morning sun shining brightly and drum beating furiously when I awoke. I felt a great deal better today than the day previous The treatment was the same as yesterday: went out and took a cold bath in the spring branch

7th Sunday in camp again the first time I have been off duty on sunday for several weeks I went to see the Dr again this morning he prescribed the same treatment as yesterday Had Regimental inspection at 8 ½ oclock. It was fine weather all day and we had no rain at all

8th Went to the dr this morning and had the same treatment prescribed as before

9th Still unable for duty went to the Dr and got excuse from duty but took no medicine at all rain again to day

10th Went to the Dr again this morning and was excused from duty but took no medicine I have not a very good appetite yet for beans and fat meat. Just at dinner a darkey came in with some pies and I purchased one for dinner. Down here the darkies are all that sell reasonable to soldiers and are really the only friends we have yet whenever they come to camp the boys curse them and threaten them

11th Still excused from duty but am taking no medicine at all rain again today I bought part of a leather army pie for dinner

12 Detailed to command the wood squad to day When we started it looked gloomy like rain, and we had not gone far until it commenced but the rain soon ceased and the sun came out the Cedar barren that we went to was about 3 miles out from the pickett post on Nashville pike on the west side of the pike It was a very gloomy place and crickets were chirping at noonday In the evening when I went to camp I was feeling pretty bad

13th A very fine morning to day. About 9 o'clock Lieut Farley came down to our quarters in a great hurry and wanted Sjt Snively and four men with 40 rounds of cartridges after a spy they went and returned in the afternoon with nary spy and very tired

14th Had no inspection (rain)

15th Detailed to go on camp guard but changed with Arnott who is not fond of pickett When we started it was raining and rained all the way to town but ceased after we got there I was not well this morning and against we got to our post I was almost smothered The boys occasionally took toll [toll] out of the waggons loaded with peaches & melons

16th Early this morning some waggons came along loaded with water melons The boys secured six without causing any alarm After being relieved we started for camp by taking it slow and easy I got there nearly tired down No Bat today on account of rain

17th I went to the 1st assistant surgeon and was excused and took three doses of ———: There was some excitement in camp last night false marching orders or no orders at all Comp. Sarjt Burdett did it to get some water carried for the cooks, but failed. We had rain again to day

18th Went up to the Dr this morning took no medicine I traded some coffee to day for a pie and found the crust made of old bread gathered up around our camp that is the style of a great many pies the darkies bring in. Camp life is wearisome to almost any one and it is worse when a person is sick I received a letter from home this evening which I suppose is the last one I will get where we remain here. Rain again to day

19th Bad and gloomy morning raining some. A part of our com (25) started for Tullahoma to guard cattle today they were some time getting in ranks and Farley roared and yelled at them as if the safety of everything and everybody depen[d]ed on their being quicker than double chain lightning After while they started and Farley not being able to get a horse had to walk through the mud I went to the Dr this morning and took one dose of med—I felt very weak and bad all day

20th Tolerbly fine looking morning bu the weather was showery all day sun shone hot whenever the clouds were out of the way I went up to the Dr again this morning but got no medicine At roll call as I had no gum blankett to put up in front of my tent I lay down cross ways and rolled up in my blanketts The rain soon descended in torrents; the tents commenced leaking and large stream came down on to my ears I put my hat over my head and went to sleep, the rain continued until morning and long after daylight

21st Sunday. raining this morning and continued until after sick call had no inspection on account of the rain Gen Van Cleve was coming to camp to review our regt but did not come from the same reason. Twenty five of our company being gone it was a lonesome and gloomy day and not a ray of sun light illumined the scene

22nd Monday. It was quite foggy this morning but the fog soon cleared off and we had a pretty good day. At sick call I went up and got my dose of quinine and was marked light duty In the evening our boys came home from Tullahoma they had few adventures to relate as they met with no bushwackers

23rd I went to town this morning and as some orchards happened to have no fences we went for peaches. The town was filled with waggons loaded with melons Apples and Peaches. the soldiers buy about one tenth of every load and steal the remainder Of course the old "rebs" dont like it but it cant be helped and so they put up with it There may be a great many Union men in tenn but they are very scarce in Murfreesboro and vicinity

24th I went to Dr this morning and was excused from duty Took Tinc of Iron About 10'o the Sarjeant Major came down with the news that we would leave tomorrow at 8 oclock They all commenced to get ready the officers tents were taken down and hauled away About night the rations were drawn and the cooks were buy all night cooking, and the camp was in an uproar

Thursday 25th—I awoke at 2 'oclock and there being so much noise in camp that I could not sleep I got up and went down to the cook shed I found several boys engaged in cooking a chicken that they had captured about five miles off We had reville and breakfast at four packed our knapsacks and left our old camp homeward borund. The face of the country had changed a great deal since we went to Murfreesboro the corn and cotton was then small the corn is now ripe and the pods of cotton bursting. the country generally looks desolate And old cotton press and an occassional dwelling with a few cultivated fields was all the signs of civilization seen we arrived at Nashville about one o'clock. We left Nashville for Louisville at about five o'clock as we went whirling on the country was gently rolling and has been nearly all cultivated we reached Gallatin just at dark so that I could not see it. When I awoke we were at a little station in Ky with only one house in view It was then nearly day, we went roaring on in the early morning the country along the road was generally wild and covered with a growth of small oaks The next station was Cave City 64 miles from Louisville At Munfordsville only part of the fortifications remain I only seen two or three

houses in the town: the bridge across Green River is very high and made of Iron The next Town of importance was Elisabethtown Arrived there about eight and left at one after leaving there The road winds around the side of Mularough Hill The next and last town before reaching Louisville was Lebanon junction reached Louisville about 4 oclock and left for Portland and crossed to New Albany just as the rain began to fall in torrents We lay around the depot until 1 ½ oclock when got aboard a train and rolled out: it was [so dark] I could not see, and I went to sleep but did not sleep much all night

Sat 27th the country was pretty level until we reached Mitchell a town of considerable importance at Bedford about 75 miles from New Albany the ladies were out at the depot with coffee and all kinds of eatables we went to eating as only half starved soldiers can and as we left cheer after cheer went up from street and car. After leaving Bedford the [country] was generally hilly with some fine fields of corn in the bottom We arrived at Bloomington near 1 o'clock and were rather pleased to find that the cityzens had a good dinner for us Some ladies came into the [place] where there was some of us not able to go to the public square with coffee and several kinds of eatables the next town we came to was Gosport in owen County We remained there one hour waiting for a train to pass The country between there and Greencastle was gently rolling with some fine farms. It was dark when we reached Greencastle junc we did not change cars there but went directly on for Indpolis Reached there about 1 oclock and went to the soldiers home

28th Sunday: got breakfast this morning and then marched to Camp Carrington As we went past the State house Gov Morton was out to see us pass. Our company went into the same barracks we went into when first went to camp The boys were all merry over getting back to Indianapolis again I being sick and not having slept scarcely any in three days and nights went to sleep early

29th Had a grand review to day 132 133 136 49 and two regts of the invalid Corps were out at the State House and were addressed by the Cols of the respective regts and by Gov. Morton while the Gov [The diary stops here in the midst of a sentence which was never completed.]