

Documents

Diary of Lieutenant Frank Hughes

*Edited by Norman Niccum**

Frank Hughes of Adams, Decatur County, Indiana, was commissioned as a first lieutenant of Company E, Thirty-seventh Regiment Indiana Volunteers on September 10, 1861. Seventeen months later he was promoted to captain which position he held until July 28, 1864, when he died of wounds at Nashville, Tennessee.¹

The diary covers the period from May 4 to July 9, 1862, with the first entry made at Athens, Alabama, and the last item entered at Madison, Georgia. On May 9, 1862, Hughes and approximately forty other members of Company E were captured at the Battle of Elk River. The prisoners were marched through Moulton to Tuscaloosa. Their stay, however, was short since they were ordered to Montgomery on May 21. Nine days later they were transferred to Macon, Georgia, where they remained until July 9, when the prisoners were ordered to Madison.²

The significance of the diary lies in its portrayal of conditions in Confederate prisons in which Hughes was confined. There are also many passages referring to the beauty of some of the Southern towns. Then too, Hughes apparently was impressed with the vegetation in Dixie and often commented upon it.

Athens Ala

Sunday Morn. May 4th 62

Last night Capt Lord & I received orders from General Turchin to take our respective companies toward Elk river & guard R.R. Bridges. Capt Lord takes first Post at 10 miles from Athens. I go on to Mill Creek 12 miles farther within 2 miles of Elk River Bridge.³ Some sprinkling of rain to day. Orderly Harvey E. Rickets A. Knapp & I proceed

* Norman Niccum is a resident of Tecumseh, Kansas. The diary is in the possession of Lee E. Hughes, Ottawa, Kansas, who is a great nephew of Frank Hughes.

¹ *Report of the Adjutant General of the State of Indiana* (8 vols., Indianapolis, Indiana, 1869), II, 367; George H. Puntenney, *History of the Thirty-Seventh Regiment of Indiana Infantry Volunteers* (Rushville, Indiana, 1896), 143.

² For a brief sketch of the capture see also Puntenney, *History of the Thirty-Seventh Regiment of Indiana Infantry Volunteers*, 26-27.

³ In the diary someone has drawn a line through 12 and written in a 3.

on a scout after dark to Mr W. Holts Make a trip out over the Mounts return 12½ rained very hard I can remember all we done that night. I changed relief and laid down to rest

May 5th Rained all day to day we laid in Bunks

May 6 nothing of any importance occurs to day

May 7th We have had two reliefs on guard only. To night I make three by reducing the number on Post I have become acquainted with the country now. Find nearly all the Shot guns are out in service. Swango meets his accident the eveng by a pistol shot in the mouth. Goes to Town.

May 8th Lieut Shafer went to Bethel with a squad of men yesterday reports all quiet on the river To day was pleasant & fair I insist upon vigilant guarding. Some think it useless.

May 9th A beautiful morning I take a squad and go to the old Mill for corn meal. We return at 10 A.M. Capt Connet arrives at 10½ with 24 more men all have a good time congratulating reading letter &c when firing is heard on the Hill, we know in an instant that tis the Enemy. We prepare for action in a moment Deploy as skirmishers. Cavalry are swarming around us hailing Buck & Ball upon us constant firing is kept up upon both sides for 25 minuits, we surrender to overwhelming force of 750 cavalry men. The wounded are carried to gether at the springs. Robt Heaton & A. C. Scull were killed. Morgan Jordon, Whitlow, Conner and Tillison are Mortaly wounded. The camp is pillaged by the Rangers. Blankets coats and some watches were taken from the boys. We see horses and men lying upon every side. Prisoners are all collected under guard and put on a quick march from the Battle ground to Elk River Capt Connet received seven Buck and ball shots but not dangerously wounded. Those slightly wounded were made to walk but Capt Connet and five of the boys were convey in wagons that afternoon. Crossed the Elk River at 3 P.M. stop at 5 & get some corn bread go on the march till 8 P.M. all get in oxwagons drive all night arrived at daylight at Col Woodward's camp—remain till 4 P.M. of this day the 10th and start to the Tennessee R. cross at 9 P.M. on a small ferry—and camp on the south banks of the Tennessee

Sunday May 11th A beautiful morning walked 4 miles took breakfast and continued on to Courtland Left Capt Connet, O. M. Garret H. Creed A. O. Scull Jas Hanger We ascertained yesterday that we had killed about 13 men & two of their best captains 80 of the Texas Rangers were the (1st) first Kentucky cavalry C. S. Army who captured our little Band of 45 men Capt H. E. Lord & Lieut Shafer were about ¼ Mile up the creek were picked up by texas Rangers Marched 14 miles today

Monday Morning May 12 Slept in a Cotton Gin House last night take breakfast this morning at 8 start on our March to Moulton 17 seventeen Miles toward Old Tuscaloosa. We begin to realize that we are in the most desolate barren and God forsaken country our eyes ever beheld—Arrive at Moulton at 4 P.M. take quarters in the CourtHouse—The Yahoos Male & female turn out in mass to see the Yankees Capt Hervey of Kentucky caval has his company under vigilant guard while in charge of the Yankees seems to be opposed to this thing of Sentinels sleeping while on Post

Tues May 13th Marched to Phaxtons shop by the old school House now a Shoe Shop We got wagons to day at ten A.M. 48 Prison hawled in 3 wagons drawn by Mules

Wed May 14th passed Thorn Hill Springs at 4 P.M. We see the Magnolia ———— [?] to day in the Mounts 24 miles to day

May 15th Traveled 22 miles over a miserable rough road country barren and desolate Civilization has not yet made way into this region Our fodder has been of the roughes cast of course corn meal without sifting made into hard bread without salt— We get some poor Mast fed Hog meat

May 16th 1862 Travel 30 miles today pass through a section of find country timbered by pine exclusively—

May 17 Leave Mr Thomas this mornng early. Girls were kind to us Neices of Mich Swope *Inda* We travel 16 miles and arrive at Tuscaloosa at 4 P.M. Yankees are not so rare here but still the Buternut portion of the inhabitanee have a great deal of curiosity to know where *we alls come from* Precocious Youths of southern shivalry go flying around town uniformed in all the variegated hues of the rainbow, like unto Josephs coat of many colours. Mr. Pea ———— [?] seems to be in command. We are imprisoned in a filthy 4 story garret of the old Tavern stand formerly called the U. S. Hotel. Our heart almost sink into despair while contemplating our future prospect—mid the sick and starving and dying prisoners who are already here about 50 in number and 4 or 5 nurses. Yesterday there were about a thousand prisoners sent to Montgomery Ala The sight of iron grates in the windows continuly remind us that we prisoners of war now imprisoned in the Shot gun confederacy

Sunday May 18th 1862 All quiet this morning some of the boys are actually singing and whistling others gently *steal a while a way* from the old garret and with a stealthly step reconnoiter through some of the other rooms. A prisoner dies of actual starvation in a room near us 2 or 3 die per day now.

Mon 19th Corn Bread & Beef to day as usual in very small quantities 5 or 6 prisoners are now in Irons for attempting to run away our boys are all well yet, Capt Herveys squad went back yesterday Surgeons Young & Cary are parold for the purpose of attendg to small pox several cases have ocured. Capt Robts 28th Iowa adjt Bunt and Serg Felt are ———— [?] near us.⁴ Cap Lord Lieut Shafer & I myself are in on the 2nd floor

Tues 20th Prisoners were removed this morning down to the old paper mill Much more comfortable quarters The Boat Demopolis comes to night at 9½ We suspicion that we are under marching orders

Wed 21st Sure enough we are ordered to Montgomery. Pack baggage and Hospital goods to the boat all on board at at 5 P.M. the sick were packed in close order. other prisoners were piled all around on the guards at 5 P.M. Steamer pushed out on the Black Warrior

⁴ In the diary in pencil Ills has been written over Iowa. There was a captain William R. Roberts of the 28th Illinois Regiment, but he had resigned on December 31, 1861. *Official Army Register of the Volunteer Force of the United States for the Years 1861, '62, '63, '64, '65* (8 vols., Washington, 1865-1867), VI (1865), 257.

all were pleased with the idea of a change as it could not possibly be worse than in the city of Pith [?] River barely navigable because of low water. A very narrow but deep stream banks are from 30 to 50 feet high Water is frequently 70 feet higher than at present. The banks are now overhung with willow, Live oak cypress & many other trees on which the Bamboo Briar hangs its beautiful tendrils vines Passed gun shoot at 9 P.M. This is a narrow defile one hundred yds in length the sides of the boat both raking the bushes we passed with an hours putting and dragging through the bushes pass Green wood bend at seven o'clock

May 22 now 60 miles from Tuscaloosa by water & 28 by land. Water Turkey Wild Ducks—Cranes white & gray. Snakes and alligators are seen to day in abundance. Prison fare very low to day. Arrive at the junction of Tom-bigbee river The Bigbee is somewhat larger than the Warrior and both together forming the Tombigbee makes a good stream for boating Here we see the beautiful Magnolia in full bloom

May 23rd 1862 passed out of the TomBigbee into the Alabama River this morning at 1 A.M. Distance from Tuscaloosa by water 320 miles by Land 160 from the mouth of the Bigbee we passed down the Alabama 10 miles to Mount Vernon we laid here from 3 A.M. till 9 A.M. This is HdQrts of the Regiment which furnished our escort from Tuscaloosa to Montgomery. *Col. R. H. Smith*. We are now within 35 miles of Mobile Yesterday evening we met the St Nicholas, the Wm Bagely Henry King the three are lashed abreast going up the Ala. indicative that there is something Billious down about mobile

Sat May 24th 1862 The broad stream of Alabama river is pleasant to travel on banks are low allowing passengers to see over into Dixie frequently espying a corn patch way down in the wilderness down in Alabama cloudy to day rains this afternoon very hard— cane brake and cypress swamps are now in view. Distance from Mobile to Montgomery by water 500 miles. Selma is a beautiful town on the west banks of the Alabama quite a large number of our prisoners here including Gen Prentice

Sunday 25th 62 A dark day overhead but our spirits are lively prospects fair We met the southern republic this forenoon. This Dixie pride Double Decker steamer—As far as I know all are satisfied about as soon be here traveling through Dixie at her own expense as any other way or means of enjoyment. This afternoon I commenced this memorandum of items taking them hastily. 'Tis now 9½ we are nearing the town of Selma I shall retire after we pass Selma— The Yahoos still afford amusement for the crew 3 prisoners were buried to day

Monday 26th We are steaming up the Proud Alabama this forenoon a fair day— Arrive at Montgomery at one P.M. At 3 we are marched up to the old Penitentiary Work House. Yesterday about 1000 privates were sent Home on Parole. All the commissioned are detained. We find none but western Prisoners here except a few from the Gunboats. All sleep on the 2nd floor

Tues 27 We are ordered to change prisons—for one at Chatanooga this place is to be found 300 yds from the former we are all sold on entering the filthy stinking old cotton ware House instead of going

on the cars But still this is only slight disappointment again Description list is taken to day—

Wed 28 Here in the old Montgomery Jail we meet prisoners from all the Western States. Commissioned & non c only We are told to day that all are to be paroled soon Sent Home by way of Savannah Men amuse themselves as best a Yankee can Manufacturing pipes Rings Rhymes & c—

Thu 29 Discription list was taken yesterday which indicate that they intend to parole us Soon but we cant believe anything we hear. We draw 2 days rations to day forour Trip. Now ordered to Macon Georgia. Well tis all right; Any thing to keep up a harmony of good Spirits—

Fri. 30th Men begin to crow at daybreak, all are up prparing for a trip to Macon. on the cars—Leave Montgomery at 7 A.M. at 7 P.M. we are at Columbus Ga. Leave Columbus at 9 travel all night arrive at Macon Ga at 7 A M

Sat 31st Columbus Ga was a very pretty town of 14000 Inhabitants on the Chattahoocha River 100 milles from Montgomery—but we find Macon a still better town we are marched out into Camp Oglethrope (Fair Ground) where we find quite a number of Noncom prisoners all in fine spirits in a very beautiful camp having the privilege of the entire camp Com. officers—128. nonco are separate from privates by cooking & sleeping only. 9 days provis issued to night.

Sun June 1st Tis a beautifuly clear morn All are becoming naturalized to this place. Generally thinking of staying a while now. Privates are expecting to go home next week. I hope this will be done. However we find comfort here to what we have had cars running very busy to day & night

Mond June 2nd Yesterday eveng we learned that they were fighting at Richmond a thousand reports are going around every man judges as his mind dictates. Lieut Col. Adams is permitted to go out in town to make purchases for the prisoners we buy our plate cups and eatables at high rates. The chat is now that Richmond is *gone up*. Spirits at low *ebb*. We have a few pieces of old torn up books to read—

Tues 3rd Nothing occurs of unusual importance to day, but a great deal of anxiety is manifested about the impending Battle

Wed 4 Rain Yesterday and last night the first I have seen for a Month We look for Wertz back to day—but has not come Adjut Tyner 9th Iowa an old chum at Brookville now makes a good companion in prison at Macon.⁵

Thurs June 5 Our gallant old Kentuck contrives to get a paper of this days ————— [?] which inform us of Rebel defts [defeats] East & West Just Such as was promised by our Generals 2 months ago We think the day of Retribution am close at hand. *Very warm to day* However but little Sickness with us yet. Mr. Vanderill Co. K. 11th Illinois died at dusk has not been well since the Donnelson fight. Boys now have to clime trees brake the dead limbs hunt for chips to cook

⁵ The figure 14 has been substituted in pencil for 9. Noah N. Tyner was a first lieutenant in the 14th Iowa Regiment. *Ibid.*, VII (1867), 269.

with we have been promised wood for 3 day but no ————— [wood] jet [yet] Our Rations are going short—

Fri. June 6th A fair day. We get no paper to day but learn that the Rebels make no report on Corinth. This indicates to us that they *have gone up the spout*. But they report StoneWall Jackson to be Marching on to Baltimore with 90000 troops 3 guns are fired in the night.

Sat June 7th The firing of cannon last night proved to be only only from extra rations of whisky. To day we learn that Corinth was taken By Hallock Buel &co. To night we receive new recruits from Chattanooga. They confirm the loss at corinth of 12000 Rebel Prisoners. Gen Mitchel took Chattanooga yesterday— Our chances for staying in Dixie seem fair for Commissioned officers.

Sun 8— A strong force of prisoners detailed on *Police duty*. Clean up our camp. All is clean and neat to day. Tis a beautiful Sabbath to us here notwithstanding they deny us privilege of church preaching among us. The Boys last night brought the first word I had heard from our Division since our capture. Two Ladies from the city visit our Hospital this evening. Many eyes are gazing at us over the paling fence— A calm & pleasant Evenyng The music in our prison both vocal & local has a charm for me to night— What few old worn out Books we have a[re] busily sought after.

Mon 9th A pleasant shower of rain this morning. Clears off by 10 AM Lieut Jackson 12th Iowa died at 10½ A.M. We gain information that Beauregards army was all captured Richmond taken at the Point of Bayonet and Stone Wall Jackson is taken prisoner good if true.

Tues 10. Nothing unusual to day

Wed 11. We find that some of the late reports prove false. but still the Rebels wear very long faces indicative of a prospective downfall of the Shot Gun confederacy—

Thur 12— Several deaths have occured in Our Hospital this week and several more will die soon Gen Mitchel has perhaps left Chattanooga but we do not know why

Frid 13 Weather cool especialy at night Sea breezes causing a chilling sensation to the system unusual with us in the North two more prisoners dies to day—

Macon Georgia Sat June 14th 1862 We learn from good authority that Charles. Savannah & Ft. Sumpter are now in possession of Federals Lieut Shaffer & I cooked to day.

Sun 15. A clear and pleasant day. There are corpses in the Hospital to day. We hear that the 500 prisoners rejected by Gen Mitchel will return to this prison Boys begin to studdy the Geography of this Confederacy

Mon 16. Rains some to day— We draw 7 days rations of stinking meat & Flour rice & one days ration of Mollasses. Lieut Maize 6th Kentucky U.S.V.I. takes a fence furlow to night. Bully for Kentuck

Tues 17. Some sprinkling of rain to day very cool We learn that the prisoners that were paroled are to return here tomorrow. Lieuts Geyher, Agey & 6 or 8 others make their escape to day some go tonight Moss & C fails.

Wed 18 To day has [been] one of General sport and high spirits

Noon reported absent yet our Yankee tricks Work well. 500 prisoners return this evening. I have engaged in the Bone trade. have 25 cts invested in Stock.

Thn 19. Our Prison is crowded by the additional 500 prisoners but we Manage to crowd through time and tide Todays paper contains discriptive lists of prisoners escaped from the prison \$100 per man is offered for Officers.

Fri 20 This morning adjutant Tyner reports the absentees. we are all threatened by close confinement We are told by the Baker that all privates will leave here next Monday. he is baking crackers for them. We hope tis true

Sat 21 All is quiet to day as usual we begin to believe the privates can be released

Sunday June 22 This is truly a delightful morning— Yesterday eveng the Quartermaster brought in 200 Shirts to be distributed to the Ragged assed of Prisoners This morning they all turn out to hear the Rebel preacher or Chaplain who preaches to the prisoners but does not allow our own Chaplain to preach Mortality is now about 9 men per week dying in the Hospital.

Mon 23 Nothing unusual occurs to day. Weather dry—

Tues 24 Quite a funny Joke was exposed this morning 50 consts vammoused & Ten Artillery men left for parts unknown Supposed to be on a ticket furlough— Bully for Dixie

Wed 25 Last night 10 Artillery Soldiers absquatulated last night— Judge Meek of Ala visits our camp to day— four of Co. E are complaining of fever to day About two P.M. two Lieuts of the I11 19th arrive direct from Chattanooga We hear from the gallant 8th Brigade— It is now proposed to send a deputation to Washington Representing to our Govnt the true condition of the Federal prisoners now at Macon Ga.

Thurs 26 Three men dies to day at Hospital— C. Ballard of co. E 37 Ind goes in today though very reluctantly. we all lend as much assistance as possible for their comfort Lieut Ford went out last night is caught to day by Bloodhounds— his friends fail to meet him— Corp Pike is studdying the map. He has been very sick but is now able to walk about some.

Fri 27 Corp Pike & several others ceceded from this instiution last night, they only ask to be let alone. Mortality here is becoming alarming. Fred Beck is sick with chills & fever.

Sat 28 Very warm this forenoon. We hear that they are fighting at Richmond that Beaureguards & Hallecks army have gone to Richmond A meeting of the Prisoners was held in Officers Quarters for th purpose of Electng or appointng commissioners to go to Washington & intercede parole exchge or some ——— [alleviation?] of our suffering here by sending money. Medicine &c for Hospital use & clothing for all the important medicins in Confederate stores having entirely exhausted, our men enter the Hospital to starve suffer & die. Said meeting appointed a deputation of five officers to petion to ——— [?]

Sund 29th Rained yesterday afternoon and continued last night & no less than fifteen prisoners escaped through th gaard line while

raining Sentinels calling for the corporal at all hours of the night "Corp of the guard Post No 8" "Corp Gaard Po no 15." "Corp gd Po No 12. double quick-run-Yankees running out over my line—" Another Sentinel cries out "Let em go! dam it. The wars over any how." "Corp gaard Post No 19—" Yankees running out here like sheep." Why dont you shoot? My dambd old gun wont go off." We are greatly amused by this kind of confab among the Sentinels Lieuts Ford was brought in last night in chains Lieut Randolph still in chains— Another meeting was held to day to close the business of Yesterday meeting on commissioners rehearing & reelection &c

Mon 30 We now learn that Richmond is still the Seat of the Rebel Army Boregard entire force has concentrated here for one last decisive struggle. They are now fighting. Current report here that Gen Mclellan and 9000 men taken prisoner. Ill bet thats a lie. We are all brought into line and counted Mustered in good order. Not mustered for pay but for Corn Meal & Rotten meat— We hope Uncle Sam will be able to muster us soon at enemy Muster if not at Meal Muster We expect G. Bendel to die to night. He talked of Death as no terror today—

Tues July 1st We draw 7 days rations to day—rains to day we have nothing to eat for breakfast & dinner—out of wood also George D Bendel Co. E. 4th O.V.C. died at 7 P.M. A hard storm to night about 20 are ragged in Butternut attire. Spect they require to cecede to night. all right rains some the poor corp is kept on the trot looking foty [forty] ways for Sunday Sentinels all scared to death. The Yankies begin to leak out at Dusk. Sentinels all doubled and thripped all instructed to shoot without halting any one coming within Six paces of thier line The result in the morning is found that the Corporal of Guard was Shot by a Sentinel supposing him to be a Yankie. This is

Wed 2 before breakfast. I have just written what occured last night & yesterday. I am afraid some of Co. E will cecede some of these dark nights— I dont like the Idea of running a gauntlet of 4000 miles—I have possession of a Georgia Gazetheer from Lieut Moss. Report from Richmond is that McClellan is Driven back with great loss his army demoralized. The expect him to capitulate Soon. As usual this make the guards saucy toward us. The guard is more strick in vigilance some of them swearing they must kill a Yankee before this war closes. All is quiet as usual among us but at Dusk a Sentinel Shot the old French man a harmless & innoensive man. Was standing 60 feet from the line ball entering passing through his body through the Barracks of men tearing the Coat of another private.

Thur 3 Many Doubts as to what McClelan is doing but at night we are told that Mc asked for an Armistice of 4 days to bury the dead but Gen Lee answers "*No let the dead bury the dead.*" but our secret opinion is that Gen McClellan will make fourth of July celebration in Richmond to morrow Postage has been raised from 5 cts to 10 pr letter This speaks well for Southern Independence

July 4th 1862 Here we are still in Macon Prison a dark cloudy morning. Men from all states of the old Union from Maine to Florida and back to Wisconsin all say they never knew the temperature so cool all wear coats Col R. H. Smith was buried to day in Macon Flags are waiving at half-mast, through the town— Not a word of new is heard

to day— The only way of celebrating the glorious old 4th is profound & silent meditation we are told this evening that the fight so far at Richmond closed as a drawn Battle Capt Clay Crawford of our Mess was brought to camp to day in chains He had made his escape a week ago from here was retaken in Northern Ala near our lines. He with four other are confined in tents at Guard Post Many of the boys have made fine specimens of Bone work of these they will make presents to ther Patriotic friends at Home— twas cool & cloudy all day here seemingly as a frown from Heaven.

Sat July 5 The morning news is that McLenllen had surrend His entire Army of 300000 men to Jeff & Gen Lee—Understand this is the latest despatch by the Grape vine Telegraph on the Surrender of Gen McC Gen Lee marched direct to Washington ———— [?] Abe Lincoln & cabinet fled from Halls in disguise Mrs Lincoln in escaping from the the White House caught her dress upon a nail and tore it most Shamefully— The confederate congress was for the present to sit at Antioch untill some of the Yankee calvry in the west could be captured Turns warmer today—Lieut Geyher was captured and brought into camp to day we carry their victuals to them but not allowed to speak— fortifying Atlanta now

Sunday July 6 Another bright Sabbath morn and yet at Macon Prison we are told that our Army is routed and in a very humiliating condition Guard are insulting to us This evening a Cecesh captain calls for Capt Crabb for whom he has been exchanged of course the capt is willing to accept Our men are writing letters to be inspected by the Maj & not rejected carried to over lines by capt Crabb. I write to P Jones^e & Lieuts Holman & Burk—we learn that congress is dis-

^e Reverend P. Jones received the letter, and it was published possibly in a Decatur County newspaper with the caption "The 37th Indiana Prisoners." It is here reproduced as it appeared in the unidentified newspaper clipping.

Macon Ga. July 6th 1862.

Rev. P. Jones, and other friends in Decatur Co. Indiana:

Many of our friends are anxious, no doubt, to know the fate of Co. E 37th Ind. Vols. With grateful feelings, I embrace this opportunity to give the names of all who were captured at the battle of Elk River on May 9th 1862. Capt Connett perhaps is within our lines, or, perchance at home. But I will state that Capt. Connett, O. M. Garret, A. O. Scull, H. Creed, Jas. A. Hager and John T. Wolverton, were wounded and left at Courtland Hospital, on parole. Those of our Co. now imprisoned at Macon Ga. are 1st Lieut. Frank Hughes, Serpts. W. B. Harvey, T. B. Peery and G. W. Hungate, Corps. J. W. Gully, W. N. Barnes, M. M. Wilson, and Joshua Barton and Privates F Beck, C. Ballard, M. Brooks, L. C. Brooks, N. A. Butler, W. E. Clark, T. H. Carter, Ed. Coleman, Jas. Cox, A. Eusminger, G. H. Ewbanks, Add. Hughes, J. T. Johnson, A. Knapp, Wm. McKeon, B. McNeely, J. C. McKee, J. W. Mauarry, D. Price, Will. Ritchy, Wm. Stopper, B. R. Smith, J. B. Stogsdill, Thos. Trois, W. H. Thompson, Sam'l Wells and T. J. Wood. Capt. H. E. Lord and Lieutenant Shaffer of Co. G are also with us. Six4th Ohio Cavalry were taken with us, but one of them died here a week ago of fever. No other serious cases of sickness have yet occurred in our company, and we are in as good health, and fine spirit as we might wish; or, at least, expect to be.

Yours Ob'tly,

Lieut. FRANK HUGHES

cussing the propriety of a general exchange after the fight at Richmond—

Mon 7th All are up early preparing letters to send home but doubting whether they will be permitted to pass their lines Capt Crabb bids us GoodBye at 8½ A.M. May heaven smile upon his latter days he has been sick through 7 months captivity in Dixie. Tis very warm to day This eving a train loaded with Soldeirs of Inftry and one Battery of six guns are seen going out on the Chattanooga R.R. Mustered again to day for our Corn Meal & stinking meat—5 or 6 officers are now seated around on their bunks searching eagerly in the seams of their unmentionables for something they dont want to find

Tues 8 quite a number of the prisoners now have the scurvey My mouth is very sore I have headache This afternoon the com Officers are ordered to prepare 1 days Rations we bak biscuit this eveng weather fair spirits in doubtful thought

Wed 9th 1862 Some anticipating exchange This day two months ago we were taken prisoners & this day we commissioned Off. take leave of Private & ———— [?] Men at 9 we march to the Depot. bound for Madison Ga where we will be confined more closely no doubt We take the Chattanooga train arrive at C. at 4 P.M. quite a pleasant looking town we stay at the Depot till 8 then start for Madison—riding in cattle carrs dirty & filthy no seats arrive at Ma at 12. walk ½ mile to the prison Halted kept standing in line an hour counted 3 times finally turned into the Madison steam Mill—slept on the 2nd floor till next morning not knowing how many or who is here—had plent[y] of nothing to eat