DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall
1864-1868

Card Catalogue call numbers:
THS 11-E 3 Box 6

Summary of the Diary and Memories of Brice McFall from the Card Catalogue in the Tennessee State Library at Nashville, Tennessee:

Consists of the personal Journal of Brice McFall, 2nd Tennessee Cavalry, Regement, USA. Contains references to engagements with Forest's Cavalry in Northern Alabama in 1864, the Presidential Election of 1864, engagement with Confederate General John Bell Hood's Army in Alabama, in Nov., 1864 and an attack on Hood's pontoon train in Jan. 1865, also mentions McFall's views on the secession crisis of 1859-1860, politics, the National War Debt, soldiering speculators, proposed amendments to the Tennessee State Constitution dealing with Reconstruction and Negro Suffrage and includes poetry relating to Civil War, McFall's fellow soldiers and living conditions around camp.

Enlisted 9/15/1862 Sevierville, Tn
Mustered in at Murfreesboro, Tn 1/26/1863

Copied and typed by Juanita McFall Malone (deceased)
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Biography of Brice McFall and First Hunting Trip pp 225-227
Biography of the Life of Arthur McFall, born 1790 in N. C. pp 228-232

Donated to Stones River National Battlefield
by John Brice Kernell, III (great, great grandson of Brice McFall
2427 East Main Street
Murfreesboro, Tn 37127
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McFALL

DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall
(Copied July, 1994 Tennessee State Library)
THS 11-E 3 Box 6

Information from Brice McFall DIARY

Brice McFall had Rheumatism of left knee and back which caused him a lot of pain. Brice worked at home repairing plow stocks. He was mustered out of service 15 July 1865, home by July 20th. Was in camp at Edgefield, TN

Others mustered out at the same time:
Co T 2 Tenn Cav 3 fell in battle, 24 died of sickness, 14 deserted
Co F died 14, deserted 15
Co D died 30 Privates, killed one Capt McRenals, deserted 1
Co H 12 dead, deserted 8
Co K died 23, deserted 19
Co L dead 15, deserted 6
Co M died ? , 37 deserted
Co B 29 died, 3 deserted
Co G 25 died, 2 killed, 9 deserted
Co E 28 dead, 3 deserted
Co A 25 died, 2 fell in battle, 2 lost in action

Brice Alex McFall

In service 2 years and 10 months.

McFall

Copied from a DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall
Supply Sgt., Civil War 1864-1868
Donated to the Tennessee State Library by Thomas Kernell
year unknown THS-E 3 Box 6
(the book is in very bad shape but it is 129 years old in 1994)

pp 81

Under Command of Capt J.W. Knight 19th There was 50 men Detached from the Regt to take a lot of horses (475) to Nashville & me among the number & the same day we Drove to Athens Ala & staid all night on the 20th we went back & gathered up what of the stock we had lost & in the Evening we left Athens & went about Seven miles & Encamped for the night & put out Picketts (having learned the Rebel Force was on the Same Side of the River & Within Seven miles of us) with their charge that if the Rebels fired on us to shelter behind a fense that was near us & win a victory or all die But we were not molested the next day we Drove about 30 miles & it & that night the Capt never slept any But Visited his picketts the whole night next morning by day light we was on the march & Reached Franklin 18 miles South of Nashville & on the next day we reached Nasville & got off the stock off our hands then we had made our Journey Safe with the stock the Rebels had got to the Decature & Nashville RR & had torn the Road for some 15 or 20 miles burning 2 briges 3 tunels & captured 3 Tenn Cav nearly all & some of the 4th & 11 of the 2-- & wounded 1 of the 2- & at Pulaski Gen R-------met them & made them turn the head of their Colume & turn covering the Road & follow them whiping & killing a great many of them til they crossed the River & part of the forces turned & went to their Respective Stations & the 50 of the 2nd that was detached joined the Regt at Athens Ala & marched to Decature on the 11 day of Oct & foreyed & faught the gurillas til the 22nd Oct 23rd there was a scout ordered to watch the movement of the Enemy

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pp 82
And on the 21 they returned having saw no Enemyon the 22 Oct there was 5 of the enemy came to our Pickett & surrendered them selves prisoners of war on the 25 of the same month there was a squrmish ordered on a Scout & did not return the same day & on the Scout Returned the 26 The same day the Rebels Attacked Decature & then they fired on our Picketts Part of the 2 Tenn Cav & part of the 10 Ind Cav about one full Regt formed in a line of Battle & sent out a line of skirmished I myself was one of them that went out & I was mounted on a very unruly horse & after firing at the enemy for some time we moved our line forward & held the Rebel Line or Rather Beat them Back & night coming on put an end to the Action & in the night the Rebels made a fight on our Pickett Line But they Effected nothing & again 28 just as day was dawning they made one other charge they lost 114 taken prisoners & I do not know the number that was killed & in Bringing off the Prisoners* James McFall+ was killed He was the last man killed in our Regt & the the battle went on all day & night Ended the Action now there was nothing more than Shelling & Skirmish fighting the same only on the 29 & on the 30 the Rebel force
pp 83 On the 31 we Remained quiet Nov 1st, 2,3, on the 4 we had a small fight & drove their picketts 5th we was quiet & the detachment that was guarding the fort of Elk River Returned to camp & on the 6th the Regt with 4 Regt of Infantry went out & we hear them fighting They drove the Rebels about 4 miles Killed 2 Wounded one that fell into our hands & Captured one & then Returned to Camp without loosing any killed or wounded the 7 we Rested only Picketing & on the 8 we held an Election for President Resulting in vote of 546 for Lincold & none for McClenian the 2nd Tenn Vol Cav on the 9 was quiet on the tenth quiet on the 11 &12 on the 13 we had a Skirmish that Resulted in our killing 1 man & 1 horse & Capturing 2 & we lost nothing then quiet on the 14,15, 16,17 all quiet & the 18 There was some fighting & one Captured one prisoner & wounded 1 Rebel & Returned to Camp then on the 19 we Brought in some Refuges 20 Remained in Camp 24 brought in more Refuges & 22 nill fight time since 23 we drew five days Rations 24 went out & fired on the pickets & drove them about 2 miles & Returned to camp & on the 25 Broke up camp and Evacuated Decature & the Rebels About fifty turn in to town before we had got across the River we shelled them across the River We Burnt the town & all the Camp & about dark we moved off & came to Morriville on the 26 we came to huntsville & Encamped on the 27 we camped at Maysville on the 28 we Camped at Point Rock Station on the 29 we Camped at Larkinsville on the 30 we never went into town but lay by the Road Side

December the first 1864 we moved on to Belfont

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pp 84 and from there to within three miles of Slivinson all this in Ala. 2 in camp 3 and camp 4 in camp 5 in camp & ordered to Draw 10 days Rations
5th Marched through Belfont & camped by the Road Side Sent out Scouts Who Returned with ten Prisoners & we lost one horse shot under Sargh William McCarter of Co T 2 Tenn Cav & we marched to Larkensville & camped & we moved to Paint rock Station & drove the rebels from the RR Bridge & on the same Evening the Rebels run a RR Engin with 4 or 5 Boxes wit our Pickets & ran Back
8th We went on a Scout run to the Rebel Pickets & captured 14 of them & on the same day we sent another Scout after some of the Ala home guard that the rebels had cut off from the main Army and Surrounded they had faught the Enemy------before & killed one Rebel Scout
9th Scouted again & run for nothing Sent another Scout they found nothing heard of three Rebels the night before
11th Sent out Scouts as usual found one Rebel & him & one of our men Left their horses & took to the Mountains & after a run of Some mile & half burst over run him & caught & tied him & brought him to camp the day before the 10 Ind Captured 2 this is 28 Captured & 2 killed
12th Scouted & forayed as usual finding no Rebels But getting Plenty foraye
13th As yet all quiet Reported on the night before that Henry----of Co M killed one Rebel of Shooting at each other 11 shots & on the 13 we took on what was-----& learned nothing from pp 85 him we turned him loose
14th We sent Scouts in all directions and in the Evening when they Returned one Co of 10 Ind fell in with 30 or 40 Rebels & after Exchanging Some Shots the Ind troops broke & run & the Rebels pursued to where they had the Road blockade there the Ind Boys left three horses & took to the Mountains the Rebels got most of their Stock & some of the Co & the Remainder came to Camp then at 11 O'clock there was a Detachment of the 2 Tenn Sent out with one days Rations 14th day of Dec 1864
15th at daylight Surprised the garrison of V------ Ala & captured 4 that was all the Rebel Soldiers that was in town & one of the Prisoners was a Capt bush Whireker he was tied & sent to Slivinson Ala & from there to Nashville Tnn 16th the Rebels Demanded us to Surrender which was refused 17th We moved camp & got us some foraye 18th in camp Sent Scouts as usual on the 16th the Scouts reported 1000 Rebels with 2 pieces of Artillary within 2 miles of us which was was all -------Lunt John and with 2 men of the 2 Tenn & 10 Ind 10 men & one Sargt went to the place we the Scout Said the Rebels had their Parlay where the Sargt Refused to go further -----Andes & his two men went about 2 miles further pp 86 & Saw five or Six Rebels then he Returned The Fouraye Scouts that went out the 18thReturned with the wagons well filled with corn and the other Detachment Captured 1 horse & 1 mule & run 3 Rebels to the Mountains & made their Escape then in the evening there was another Scout that went out returned without Seeing any Rebels

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pp 86 THE HEROES of the WAGON YARD

1. Boys don't you know Some of our men
When pursued by the foe too hard
Men of courage none can deny
But they do go to the Wagon Yard

2. Not that they feared a host to meet
One and all get their Reward
For Bravery and they mean to keep
Out of the Wagon Yard

3. But when bullets fly thick and fast
Their blood within them stirred
They want to go on but cannot
They reinforce the Wagon Yard

4. These heroes none so great
At telling yarns long & hard
As around the fire they sit
Those billers of the Wagon Yard

5. They tell of fights that they have faught
When from the fire Scarcely a yard
Of wonders musing they have performed
Over bumps of the Wagon Yard

6. They tell us the fields the place and then
Among the horror & battle Scared
But some must always be behind
To take care of the Wagon Yard

7. To pass the hours & drive dull care away
-------is thrown card after card
While many run ours are
Our men of the Wagon Yard

8. None can beat them at their games
They may try Ever so hard
They will not fight but they can play
Our men of the Wagon Yard

9. Excuses come on every hand
Tom Serkels So upon my word
Says a harty looking chap
And off he goes to the Wagon Yard

10. Another Says my horse gave out
In vain I tried to get him out
I always go when Ever I can
And now I go to the Wagon Yard

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pp 87
11. Those that belong those too well
Of whom I speak of me to think hard
He that the shoe fits let him wear
Of those around the Wagon Yard

(Those verses were composed by R. M. B-----)
2 May of Tenn 2 Cav Vol.
At Paint Rock C-----in Dec 1864

1. Just before the Battle Mother
I am thinking not of the
When upon the field of Battle
With the Enemy in view
Comrade brave around me lying
Filled with thots of home and God
For well they know that on the morrow
Some will be beneath the sod
Farewell Mother you may never
Press me to your heart again
But O you will not forget me Mother
If I am numbered with the Slain

pp 88
2. Hark I hear the bugle Soungling
It's mie Signal for the fight
Now may God protect me Mother
As He always does the right
Farewell Mother you may never
Press me to your heart again
But O you will not forget me Mother
If I'm numbered with the Slain

(Author Unknown)

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pp 88 19 Dec Still in camp at Paint Rock Jackson Co. Ala 20 we left Paint Rock & moved to Wart Browns Bowugh on arriving within a few miles of the place we came on the Rebel Picket fired on them & charged & we all came to Brownsboro under whip & spur crack & crack about 3 miles then we came to the whole force about 30 we captured 4 killed one & there was some ten or 12 that Got drowned in attempting to swim their horses across the River it was very much------- then on the 21 at 3 O'clock we moved for Huntsville at which place we reached just at day light we captured 3 the column having left the previous evening This is 22 we went out some 12 miles captured 2 Rebels on of them was a Capt. We was also Sent after some fat hogs which we brought in to Huntsville where we was in camp & again went after more which we brought in Dec 23 At 4 O'clock A.M. we started to Surprise a Rebel Camp about two hundred Strong which we did completely & killed some ten & captured 76 with all their horses & accouterment of all description & Returned to Huntsville the same day by 9 O'clock A. M. the same day we heard that Gen Greenyer had retaken Decature that we had Evacuated by the orders -------Thomas on the 25 of Oct

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Then in another Charge they -------18 wounded making 19 wounded 8 or ---- killed by the Enemy & one killed by one of our own men the Boys had a number of horses killed and then still they succeded in capturing a good number of Prisoners more than their whole number this was one of the hardest of Battles Hood lost over twenty thousand killed wounded and Captured & retreated across Tennessee River with the Remains of his Shattered force Dec 5 I am still at the same house with my little----& my Friend Simmons that is sick is better also my pains are not so Severe in the Evening of the same day Capt Walker came in with 5 of the Regt & report the Capture of some 200 prisoners & also that the Rebel Body command was demoralized & that the Federal Calvary was cut off from the Infantry & was Supposed to be Captured though not certainly known & that the 2 Tenn had captured & Burned Sixty Pontoon wasgons & the Pontoons with the wagons & also fifty Boyage(Bogie) and Burned them & we still rushed forward & captured & burned Hood's whole Supply train about 350 in all The 6 day of Jan 1865 the Regt came to Decature & Encamped for the night (not sure of page no. could be no. 90) January the 7 day 1865 Was under Moreberry orders January 8 was sent to Henry Kimbler to give his property with William Curson January 9 I was still at Kimble & my Burns no better Jan 10 Still at Mr Kimble's no Better of Rheumatism Jan 11 Still at the same house & not much better A cold Deruguable day Jan 12 Nothing worth writing Jan 13 Still at Mr Kimbell's & some better of my Rheumatism heard nothing of my Regt Since it left after breakfast I walked out to take a little Refreshment in the air Saw hundreds of Ducks shot one the Back Water from the River up Lime Stone Creek is this day 2 miles from the Tennessee River & you could see thousands of Ducks & wild geese But having no canoe or skiff consequently I could not get to them & being Afflicted with Rheumatism I was not able to get about after them much Jan 14 Still at the Same house & But little Better rode out about 1 mile & Returned

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The Broken Dream

pp 93 The Sun to rest is Sinking down
The twylight Shuder came stealing on
And Clouds of gold and Crimson hue
But lind Enchantment to the view
The tiny birds with folded wing
Their merry songs have ceased to sing
And not a Sound now fills the breeze
------gentle rustling from the trees
And mournful Songs of Whipowills
As Echoes from distant hills
The twilight deepens into night
The moon inflames palled light
And clouds assume a darkened hue
But show their Silver lining through
Beneath the rays by finner sheet
A maiden recline her weary head
Upon a bosom filled with love
As constant as the Starr above
As constant aya for hear him breathe
Such vows as only love can -----
As so that form is ----past
While leaning on the manly breast
Love is the tender touching them
That ------- the parting line
And many a sweet forget me not
is Spoken on that trysting Spot
Long weary miles will pass between
While over and thru parting scene
For now they part a kiss to Seal
Of all that lovers lips reveal
Down on Atlantas bloody Plane
There lie the dying and the slain
The wounded men must have a care
And dying ground must _____ the _____

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pp 94 No Pillow there to rest his head
Save bloody corpses of the dead
No gentle hand to wipe the tears
If blood that Trickles over the face
The sun sinks down the dying lie
Beneath the dome of asure sky
The moon unconsius of the death
Where beams of beauty over them shed
----of men are gathered round
----that Strew the bloody ground
And one is born upon a pall
As the name familier to us all
As the bier of our -----
-----helpless from the frightful Scene
they lay him down with tender care
Up on the Straw a Soldiers fare
But soft he speaks I'm dying now
The damp dew gathers on my brow
The blood is building in my vein
I feel deaths agonizing pain
Mother where O where is she
Tell her to shed no tears for me
For like a Valiant Soldier I
-------doomed a Soldier death to die
------Share another gentle form
Would have Sheltered from life Storm
I ask too Soon I am doomed to die
Lay me where Earth Mortal lie
When I'm gone I know she'll weep
------beneath the Sod must sleep
Winter winds cold over me blow
At A winding sheet of Snow
-----will come the Icy flake
Then It's frozen fitters brake

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pp 99 As our evry true loyal man in the land
Our Country's in danger then heed the Command
For traitors have risen in mighty way
And the life of the nation is threatened today

Oh flee to the rescue not one can be spared
Not a man who is willing to do & to die
For the welfare of freedom hesitate long
Your service is needed then join in the throng

Rebellion has lifted it's Serpent like head
And thousands on thousands of freemen have bled
Their vows against treason with blood hath sealed
And still vile cecession Refuses to yield

Then let us be Earners determined to stand
Against traitors til cecession is swept from our land
Henceforth & forever our motto shall be
To stand by the Union to die or be free

With this firm resolve we shall surely Suceed
In destroying not only this but the Seed
Of Rebellion & Treason & peace shall once more
In triumph return to Coloumbus Shore

Oh then will our songs of rejoicing arise
On the wings of the wind til they enter the Skies
Then angles will join in the glorious Strains
And Send back the music to Mortals again

Sept 12 1869 Daviletation ? (could this be Deceration? see following names)

george washington
John Adams
thomas jefferson
James monro
john adams
benjamine taler

William h harrison
andrew jackson
James k polk
abraham lincoln

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pp 100 February 1 1865
At Mr Kimbells & feels a good deal better the ride out yesterday did not hurt me
On this day I Sat & meditaded of all the trouble of this Cruel Rebellion & the vast Debt that was on us by it & a thought passed through my mind you did not make this Debt No nor the Common people of the United States for it was the Corrupt leaders of the country about the month Jany 1859 or 1860 the Rulers of the South wanted to rule the Southern States & in July 1860 the Democrats North & South met in Charleston & held a Convention at which place they Divided and became two parties one party was for S. A. Dougless & the other for Brecinridge then there was another party the whey they held another convention they was for John Bell & they nominated him this was 3 candidates for the Presidency then there was a Convention that nominated Abraham Lincoln now 4 3 in the South & 1 in the North the next is Elect Bell to Save the Union No Elect Douglass to save the Union No Elect Brecinridge to save the Union for Says Southerolind if Lincoln is Elect I will Secede when she knew that Lincoln would be Elect & that the Charleston Convention was the course of his Election By its Division And nominating & Running 2 Candidates then the Leader of Democracy Revised the hue & cry of Treason Treason & well they might when they themselves had concurred & Brought it forth So on rolled the time the Election was held & with the Expected Results Lincoln was Elected
pp 101 Then the South or Traitor Part got up their armies & rushed to & fro all through the South Country and that of course caused the friends of the other party to be on watch the Rebel Part Swore that Lincoln never should get to his seat in the White house But on the 4 of March 1861 he was inaugrated the Rebel Party all the time had their armies under full training & had Stole all the Armies of the United States nearly & the President after he had organized his cabinet he called on the Militia of the Loyal States for 75,000 then the hue & cry was raised he has done an unconstitutional Act this I care for the honest mind to Settle whether or not he did then the Armies on both sides organized & went in to open hostilities & has warred for these (left blank) years & has contracted an immense Debt both North & South Now an honest man When we contract Debts with our neighbors we should & would pay but this is A debt that we the masses never contracted & I am not willing to pay any more than I have already paid Neither do I Believe that any of my fellow Soldiers are willing to be taxed down year by year to pay a debt that belongs to Every man a like the whole Debt is as though It was an Estate in the hand of a father to be Divided among his heirs now the Repudiation of this great National debt will not hurt the United States government not one dollar there is no farmer that the Repudiation will hurt there is no mechanic in the country that it will hurt there is in Short But one class of men that Repudiation will hurt & that is the Specutaters he has been behind the lines When a bullet never came now my fellow Soldier this Repudiation will not hurt

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pp 102 you though you pay five hundred dollars your farm ----crops is worth 1000 1500 or 2000 or any other price that land of yours is property to be taxed Sure now if worth 1000 there is 2 dollars per hundred on your land you have 5 cows taxed at 5 cents per cow Seven doors at 50 cents per door 8 windows at 50 cents per window you have 2 yoke of cattle 50 cents per yoke 100 bushels wheat 30 cents per bushel1000 Bushels corn 5 cents per bushel now you are taxed all this to pay the National debt Besides your state and Co tax now your internal Revenue is ninety one dollars out of your five hundred the first year so you See that your stac k of green backs has to go for your part of the Internal Revenue -----then Repudiation will a profit to you So it will be to every farmer & mechanic in the country Besides you farmers have to Support the Mechanical class the Proffesional & Speculative & by Repudiatiny this great national or war Debt you can Support four familys & these other class of men as before Remember we Did not Contract this Debt & if we try to pay that will Encourage mean men & corrupt men in after ages to get up a war for the purpose of creating a Debt on the Masses to be paid by men that was honest & had nothing to do with the commencement of it though they will have to face the awful Missils of Death & water the Earth with their Blood & those men that get up the fight is far behind where there is no danger & they will I say to you go and defend your country the Gov't will gain 1500 more pp 103 dollars as the price is more or less that is good wage go Sir it is Patriotic Serve your Country & away you go for fifyeen Dollars per month you earn that money at the risk of your life & when you get it you send it home to a Suffering wife & helpless children there is this Benevolent Soul that was so Patriotic your wife has got some money & he has corn that was selling when you left home at fifty cents per bushet But now this Suffering wife has to buy Bread She goes to him tells her wants yes I have some I can Spare well what will you let me have corn at one dollar is the Reply well but my husband is in the Army & that is mighty high O yes maam your husband is in the Army & that that is Patriotic just what he ought to do And I am mighty Sorrow for you but I can get a dollar a Bushel for all my corn & your poor wife has to give that witch that has no more feeling of humanity than a hungry Tiger one dollar per bushel for his corn & he stays at home where he is safe from all harm & fifteen dollars per month will not Support a family of six or eight persons & your wife & children must work for the Balance at this -------- witches Price for the Remainder of their Support So you see where his Patriotism is it is in the money that is the price of the SoldiersBlood & toil an in the labour of his wife and children and there is another Sort of Speculator Still worse when the Soldiers wife has gotten a little money She is compelled to have Salt and goes to him the unfeeling creature tells her tail of Sorrow at which he is Extremely Sorrow pp 104 February the 2, 1865 I am still at M.M. Kimbells & is mending of my afflictions

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PP 104 February 3, 1865
Tell her of all the Patriotic deeds & tell her he has Salt What is the price is the Interogating the answer is only 30 cents per pound when the women reply Sir that is mighty high O no maam why I can get 50 cents just as Easy so you see that I am Selling my Salt low Well knowing that the unfortunate woman must have Salt So she must then thare comes in to notis another Speers of Speculation he has a few thousand dollars in Spices & you my fellow Soldiers have Earned Some green backs at the hard Duty of Soldering at 15 dollars per month & your wife has found where she can buy a Cow to give her children milk Provided she can get forty dollars in gold or Silver then goes to this inhuman man Tells him her wants O yes I will let you have the money one dollar Spices for three of paper this one cow will cost the Soldier 8 months Service an awfuf price for one cow thier taking advantage of you Nessities &that in your absence
Saturday February 4, 1865
Now you can begin to See where the Patriotic Gentlemen is & what is their Patriotism why gentlemen they don't care for any Government So they get the money & they don't care how they got it So that the Civil Law can't get hold of them pp 105 Sunday 5, 1865 Still at the same house Rheumatism not much better the day cold & disagreeable pp Monday 6, 1865 at the house of Kimbell the morning cold & unpleasant Tuesday Feby the 7th 1865 This morning there is snow here 2 inches Deep My health is still improving My pains are better
& all the time they cry Union Constitution & Enforcement of law When in truth they don't want law & good order at all in the land

Wednesday Feby 8 Nothing worth writing today
Thursday Feby 9, 1865 There were Some Negroes moved to the Cumberland Camp
Friday Feby 10 They just Finished Copy Some prose and is Still with Kimbell yet & mending slowly of my Rheumatism
Saturday 11 Nothing Different
Sunday the 12 Another Beautiful Morning & I feel thankful for the favors Bestowed on me for I am getting of my Rheumatism

THE PARTING

pp 106 But there was weeping far away
and gentle Evy for him
With watching many an anxious day
Was Sorrowful and dem (Bryant)

Ye woods & wilds how bright ye Sun
As green the mantel on your bough
As when in days now long gone by
Ye listened to my Edmund Vows

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pp 106 The birds sang out their happiest vows
The wild flowers wore their brighest hue
The Skies is beauty over us bent
Bold in their Softer Lovelest blue

Oh were not these delightful hours
When Evry hope of life was young
Where with fond womens busling powers
Upon Each tender word I hung

-4-

But ah the Blessed charm Soon fled
For they who loved were doomed to part
The one to die in foreign lands
The other to bear a Broken Heart

-5-

We parted Each Returning morn
I came to look upon the Sea
And Evry Eve I Set me down
Beneath the Shadow of these trees

-6-

For Ever Hallowed be the Spot
Where first & last I sat with him
We gazed upon the Sweet Spot
Until my very Sight grew dim
But Soon the fatal news came back
It Spread like wild fire through my brain
That he the loved & gifted one
In Battle on the Seas were Stain.

-8-

For many a long & weary month
I wandered forth a man in a wild
Until a mothers tender care
Restored the reason of her child

-9-

Since when with fond but faded hope
I've wandered through the Earth alone
Cleared by the light & holy hope
I yet shall morn with him I mourn another
But ties around this heart were Spurn
That could not would not be undone

Oh it is but a little while
Since thou and I first met
And yet thy image is on my soul
I deeply firmly Set

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pp 107 Tis but a little while Since thou
'ert all unknown to me
And now thou art the guiding Star
That rules my destiny

I knew it felt it Ere I Stood
One moment by thy Side
And with rebuking Stirness Sought
The feeling back to chide

But vain it gathered over my heart
Like waters orr the deep
A feeling in my soul around
That would not could not Sleep

I slood armed the young the proud
The gallant and the gay
With not a thought for those around
And not a word to Say

I looked in those Blue Eyes of thine
'ith Strange and timid fear
And turned away with palled cheek
And Scarcely hardened tear

pp 108 For though thy voice was ever kind
As friendships voice could be
Others had shared these gentle tones
Breathed not alone for me
I think of thee at Early morn
And dream of thee at night
A day Star Set within my soul
For Ever pure & bright

All other hopes may fade away
Lifes Earliest dream depart
But thee art ground on memory
Enshrined within my heart

TO MY LITTLE NIECE

Thou art Spoiling amid the flowers Sweet Child
And a lovely flower art shone
The Rose in buding upon thy cheek
And the Lily upon thy Brow

2

Thine Eyes was as Dark as the bright gazells
But of just as soft a hue
As the Violet when it foles it's leaves
Neath the Star light and the dew

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pp 108 Thou art Sporting on in thy guiltlinness
That Free & joyes thing
A hapy child Ere the cares of Earth
A shed over thy brow can fling

-4-

Long long mayest thou be a child at heart
As gladsom and free
As now thou art my little niece
In the days of thy childhoods glee

THE SPECULATORS

"VIEWS OF PEACE"

O Says the Speculator all those peace rumors & peace Missons are up to nothing why the South don't want peace no other way than this. Independence & the North want give them that I know when he knows nothing only that he wants the war to go on so that the Labouring men will have to be kept in the army and Every thing he faught that he can get all the money for his trash I have this day (that is the 7 of Feby) heard of a Newspaper of the 3 Inst that gave some news of an Embassy paper 3 men Stevens, Campbell & Hunter their mission is not Deffinately known there is ------ of talk about the Embassy the Soldier is of the opinion that they have went there to make peace while the Speculator say there can be no peace yet then the question Naturally was why O they say if peace is concluded upon the time of the resolution of the Union that will be disgraceful to the South that if I was in the South I would never submit to no such terms Again if they set the Negro free I will never agree to that well mr Speculator what terms will Suit you you seem to want peace O yes just to save the Shedding of Blood I would have peace but the Rebels have not Suffered enough yet. Well then Mr Speculator what will. O I ----- Mr S. Let me ask you have you not a Contract by which you Expect to make Some 10000 or 20000 Dollars O yes though all that matters not if we can get peace though that can't be yet pp 110 the Reason to me is plain this contract is not fulfilled yet he has not got as much money as he wants & he is Secure from danger where he hears no bullets Sees no Stains and hears not the groans of the dying this is the courses that he thinks there can be no peace yet when Sir if there was a way by which to get him on the battle field a few times he could See a very Early & Speedy way for peace Why gentlemen ask the thousands of mothers North & South & they want peace hear the cries of the Millions of Widows & Orphants in our Distructive Country they want peace then ask the Father that has had Son or Sons Burried in the wild forest under the Cold sod where there was no friend to pity no heart to mourn no hand to Sooth & he wants peace all then are a unit for peace then why O why this deluge of blood is there no way where there can be peace & stop this shedding of Blood

DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall

pp 110 by those that perhaps were born to be Brothers if there is O let me hear it We can not for the Speculator Class of mankind we care not if peace does injure them it is the masses of the people that we pity it is for their sake that we want the war stopped So that Brothers will cease to kill Brother & Son to kill father & that there may no more Widows be made in the Country by the Civil War this is what we want Are we willing to have the Union as it was & the Constitution as it is then Every man Should think that he should do as he would wish done to him & though the Rebels have done wrong he should Say I may have done wrong to & if the Confederate will join the Union of The United States to restore the Union Lay down their arms We will have peace

pp 111 FAR IN THAT LAND OF DREAMS

"WHAT DREAMS WILL COME, ANON"

Come gentle maid & go with me
To Sweet Delusion Cell
And to the Praying of at time
A Story I will tell
No doubt you all have Read
The dreams which history has toiled
Of Josephs & Pilots Wife
Belshazzar too of Oly
You know that Biron Said he dreamt
What was not all a dream
And this I think is just the way
My dream to you will seem
I dreamt a dream A Strange wild dream
And horible to tell
I dreamed I started on a Scout
Got lost & went to Hell
The Devil looked at me to know
What course he must pursue
And bursting in a bough he said
Why Doctor how-dy do
I've heard of you in yonder world
I knowed that you was Som
But while there was a better Place
I did not think you'd come
To you I must avow
Kentucky used to be your home
Where are you living now

McFall

DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall

pp 111 I am a Veteran Soldier Sir
If I may make So free
And with the 9 Ohio Bound
For Nashville Tennessee
My god the Devil Said friend Doc
If this is truly So
You might as well put up your horse
For I Swear you Should not go
I did not like the looks of things
But with a hope firstborn

pp 112 I tied old Stonewal to the rope
With a nose bag full of corn
When Col Hamilton he said, "is he in Tennessee?"
Although I know him well, he is a friend to me
He thinks a man can be a man
Though in a Soldier Suit
And if they steal he'll shave their head
And drum them out to boot
Bully for Hamilton said I
That Suits me very well
If men are Soldiers just to Steal
They'd better be in Hell
There's Col Cook the Devil said
I was I do declare
At Woods Theatre one night when Col Cook was there
That Cook will fight her Royal game
And to the 9th a Shield
A friend & neighbor at his home a corn in the field
If I were Abe or Uncle Sam
I'd fix the 9th all right
Let Hamilton Command the post
And send Cook out to fight
W here's Williams & ------- now
I think they are in the field
Two noble men who'd dare to die
But would not dare to yield
There's with the bloody 9th Said I
Each in himself a host
And when this Civil War is over
The men's names shall not be lost
But handed down through coming time
To Earth remotest age

McFall

DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall

pp 112 Among my Country's noble Sons
The heroes Patriot Saga
Bully for you the Devil said
If Jeff keeps up the war
They'll tear the Eagle Pretty Soon
And in a year the Star

pp 113 I told him I knew Maj Finch
And Capt Sharp quiet well
Then shook his head and duly Said
No use for them in hell
There was no Better men than Finch
A private he can see
And if there is a better land
'T for such men as he
And Doctor Sharp will go to heaven
If any Doctor does
For he has one redeeming trait.
He is a ladies Man
That--------is a man
Discreet in all his ways
He never Enches Uncle Sam
And never drinks nor plays
The devil gave a knowing toot
And cut his Eyes that way
He Said you must be Ignorant
Or don't care what you Say
Where is that Acting Asjuctant
I mean Lieutenant Swiny
There he was your Adjuctant
But knew it was no Such thing
He was A man I must Confess
I never saw before
But I realy knew some wicked
Boys that called him Commadore
I know that's so ,old Satan Said
But who the devil cares
A man who--------- thare
They say he puts on airs
There's Capt Gatch said I to him
The Bravest of the Brave
He left his home & joined the 9th
His bleeding land to save
The Devil looked at me & said
That won't do here to tell

McFall

DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall

pp 113 I see you don't know half as much
As we do here in Hell
Thare's charges here against that man
& true ones too they say

pp 114 That from their Mother's knee he couxt
Their ---------- boys away
And if it's wrong to force a youthborn
I not forgot
It's likewise wrong to take a child
Down South & have him Shot
There's Bolus Coe & Sweetland now
Commanding Co K
Theyr noble brave and daring men
Their Countries friends Said he
And you can never Envy them
By sulking here to me
They are the Sturdy Country boys
Who do their duty well
And if a man insults them here I know
He'll kick him out of Hell
The Devil here rose to his feet
And briskly walked that way
And I was like a little boy
Had nothing more to say
Said I I know Lieut. Knapp
And Capt Hestler too
Said he I've known those gentlemen
Longer perhaps than you
I saw them at Lousville
They both were harty then
I need not tell you if you know
They're both trustworthy men
I told him I knew Stonehocker
Adventerous bashful youth
Said he your mother taught you once
To speak the nacked truth
I know said he Stonehocker Strong
And hardships can Endure
If he don't stick his shovel in
Where there is no manure
I told I knew gardner -------

McFall

DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall

pp 114 Second in skill to none
And if there is gentlemen
I thought that he was one
That's so the Devil said friend Dock
He is willing learned and bold

pp 115 He'll be Capt purty soon
For Turners grown old
There's many there that I do not know
Which Every day I see
But as i'm but a Sargant there
They never notice me
That's so the Devil said I know
The way a Sargt fare
But you can watch the Ignorance
Of those who put on airs
And when you see a love bird
Al over bearing game
Just note him in your letter home
Sally Airels will publish his name
But I woke, it was a dream
The night was almost spent
I found ols Stonewall to the rope
My nose bag to the tent
Around me was among the placed bills
Green were the placed stream
I rubbed my Eyes, laughed heartlt
To find it a dream
If anyone should take offense
At what I said or done
Please go to hell & get redress
For I am not the one
I've spoken well of Every man
That you may plainly see
That if old Nick insults you
Just go to him not me

Vinelex

McFall

DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall

pp 115 The Speculator Again

We have a gain to note the Speculator, We were in our Boarding Room by our fire & one of those carectors with us Discussing the topics of the day when the Subject turned on gold the Different rises & falls when he remarked that wished it would come to 3.00 then he could get massy Sums of ----bucks with but little gold or Silver pp 116 whereby Involving the govt. in an awful Sum that you and me and Every man that has property has this to pay. Now my friends will you Support Such men and fill their pockets just because they have staid at home while yiu was in the Battle field. Now my Brave friends those corrupt men have brought this Disaster up and we continue the war they won't agree to any terms of peace & the reason they won't is this, When this war stops this great chain of Speculation Stops. Well my fellow Soldiers for my part If the making of peace takes Every dollar from me and strips me start necked I am for prices to stop the sheding of blood & the Cries of the widows & orphans.

The Miseries of War

After the Brightest conquest appears what of all the glories for vanquished chains for the proud Victories what also reigns over desolated. Warner Moore

Dark was the Battlefield dark with the Canary/Red with blood of the wounded & slain /Low plaintine moaning Broke on the night winds/ Moanings of anguish moaning of pain

-2-

Pale gleaned the moonlight over the dead Warrours
Sad looked the Stars on that desolate Sight
Proud forms had Perished that day in the Battle
Fond hopes had died mid the thickest of fight

-3-

Hoof Leader Scared by the Sword & Saber
All showed the solace where the formen but strives
Mournfully many led the _____ and bypasses
Broken hearts wept for the ties it ____ reven
pp 117 Sad Sad the wind Spirit and the lone branches
Sad as a requiem or derge for the Slain
Pale Watchers looked from their lone for off dwelling
Dreaming of loved ones they'd not meet again

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pp 117 -4-

Paused I a moment beside a bauld warrier
Slowly his Spirit was passing away
Grouped in his was the Standard Battle
Bravely he'd faught for his country that day

-5-

Seenes of my childhood he murmured in sadness
Wife of my bosom and children adeau
Farewell my country I faught for your freedom
There are tears for my loved ones but glory for you

CHICAMAUGA

On Sunday morning September the 20th
The armies arrayed in order of fight
The battle began about nine in the morning
And raged----the place then even to night

pp 118 THE PROPOSED ALLOCUTION AND AMENDMENTS
FOR THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE

Section first That Slavery and Involuntary Servitude Except as punishment for crimes where of the partie have been duly convicted are here By for Ever abolished and prohibited throughout the state

Section 2 The Legislature shall make no law Reoranizing the right of property in mass

Schedule SCHEDULE

Section 1 of the Second Article of the Constitution which is as follows the general Assembly shall have no to pass laws for the Emancipation of Slaves without the concent of their owner or owners is here by abrogated

Section 2 The declaration of Independence & Ordinances disolving the federal relations Believe the State of Tennessee and the United States of America Passed & Promulgated by the Legislature of Tennessee on the 6 day of May 1861 by which the State was declared Separated from the Federal Union and all laws and ordinaces by which Tennessee become a member of the Federal Union Annuled and abiogated was in like manner an act of Treason and insurection unconstitutiona nul & void

McFall

DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall

pp 118 Sec 3 The Convention agreement & military League Entered in to by the Commissioner of the State of Tennessee & the Commissioner of the So called Confederate State of America made May the 7 1861 & on the same day ratified by the Legislature was an act of treason null & void

Section 4 No Statutes of Limitations shall be held to operate from and after the 6 day of May 1861 until Such time here after as the Legislature may perscribe nor shall any writ of Error----- ----- or abate in any course or ------

Gen. Buller being welcomed

pp 119 Fellow Citizens at Lowell Massachutus

?

Said

His honor the Mayor My Friends and Neighbors I propose with your leave to Recall to your minds what has happened to the failed & Especialy what has occured in the narrow levels where I have Endeavered to Serve the interest County Since I left you a year ago last November Called by the Particle Pannel of the President to take command of the department of Virginia and North Carolina upon Reaching for ----- ------- and looking about to see what duties devolved upon one I found there is in the first place demanding immediate attention 80,000 free men and women and children who have Escaped from Slavery and thrown themselves as wards upon the guardianship of the United States There was no department organization for the care, maintaince, protection & Education My first duty then upon assuming command in the absence of Active Military Operations, Seemed to be to move the helpless beings cast upon our hands I know what you would have said ought to be done under the circumstances and I did as I thought you would have done I Established System Organization of labour So that the freed men that would work could work and those who would not work might find means whereby they should work and so that Every man woman & child should have what I think gov within Massachusetts for all food and Rament and protection from the inclearing of the weather(APPLAUSE) Ordered by your fellow Citizens Capt Brown, Capt Wilder and Capt James I applied myself to the work and Presently ordered and -------- arose out of Chaos in the affairs of the Freed men in North Carolina and Virginia the organization of those affairs was

pp 120 carried on still further under the charge of Lieut Col Kineman and has

? since been continued under the Supertendence of your townsman Mayor Carney We have as the result of one year work in that department ?000 men brought into the Army of the United States without Bounty and how many more with Bounty Ido not know because they were not credited to Several States in whose Regiment they inlisted and not to the United States By the labour of other years we have demonstrated that the former Slave Population of the South can be Sel Supporting Even without a large perportion of the able bodied men we have Saved from the govt Rations Alone

McFall

DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall

pp 120 which were to be dealt out among them $100,000 and all this in two districts
? having much the larger losses in the negro afairs in N. Carolina because
of the disturbance of labour from the yellow fever the fall of Plymouth
and the Evacuation of Washington in April last by the order of the Lieut
general within the Same space of time we have Succeeded in demonstrating
that these negroes are capable of being Educated ordered by the Self
sacrificing labours of benevolent teachers from the North hundreds &
thousands of children have there been taught to Read and Adultd too who
never Read before & thus the Negro is being fitted for that new state
of liberty & citizenship to which he has been Raised Such are some of
the results this war(APPLAUSE) the next matter in order of time to which
my attention was called was the Exchange of Prisoners a subject which
interests Every man, woman or child who has a brother, son, husband or
father in the Army that also was placed in my hands by the partiality
of the President I founded the former Commissioners of Exchange of the
United States Condending upon Questions as to how to account in regard
to the Exchange of Prisonersshould be kept whether the United States
had Raised a few more or less than the Confederate States pp 123 on the
Contrury & once a State Embettered feeling had arisen between ~~them so~~ that
Exchanges has been I therefore tried the Experiment to see if the Confed-
erate would return man for man They giving as many soldiers as we gave
them This done and laying all other questions aside a Special Exchange
went on Sometime in March Capt Wm Oulet the Confederate agent of Exchange
came to(Monrow ?) & after a full discussion of all the matters of differ-
ences we came to a just & Equitable understanding ------ the adjustment
of numbers delivered Paroles & Exchanges on all Disputed points but one
& that related to the Exchange of Negro Soldiers & the Confederate Agent
-------- that Negro ------ ----- in Bondage when captured Should be treat-
ed as Slaves & Set to work or Slaves under their Masters this I could
not permit Whoever has worn the uniform of the United States or a Soldier
was entitled to its protection in the fullest sense having settled all
Else however I have determined to bring about a System of Special Exchange
until we should free all the white men held by the Rebels and should give
them Equal number in Exchange & thus all our white soldiers would be
illerated when the Exchange man for man had given us all our white soldiers
in their prisons There would still remain about fifteen or twenty thousand
rebel prisoners in our hands and only about five hundred negro soldiers
in theirs Arriving at that point I proposed to Say to the Confederate
We are willing to take these five hundred men and give you an Equal number
of your soldiers if the Rebels refused that offer and still held our
Negro Soldiers in pp 123 Bondige and at labour I design to Say to them if
you do not deliver these men like other prisoners of war & if you work
those five hundred I will work your fifteen thousand & as Napoleon built
the canal Languodoc with 40,000 Austrean prisoners of war so will this govt
build the ship canals we want to connect the Missippi with the lakes by the
labour of Rebel prisoners own hands

McFall

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pp 124 My work for it is that stand had been taken We should never have built much canals because when afterwards the rebels Sat some of my negroes at work on the fortifilation and I put an eyual number of Virginia ----- at work in Dutch Gap in retaliation the negroes was instantly taken out of the trenches and treated as prisoners of war I proported the points of agreement Between Myself and the Rebel Agent to the Secretary of War and asked for power to adjust the other questions of differences -----to have the question of inslavery negro should return alone to be delt with by its self and that the whole power of the United States should be Expected to do justice to those who have faught the battle of the country and been Captured in its Service the whole subject was refered by the war to the Lieut general Comanding who telegraphed me on the 14 th April, 1864 in Substance Broke off all Negotialtion on the Subject On the Subject of Exchange till further orders and therefore all negotiations were broken off Save that a Special Exchane of sick and wounded on Either Side went on On the 20th of April I Read another telegram of gen. grant ordering not another man to be given to them To that I answered on the same day Lieut General Grant orders shall be implicity obeyed I assume that you do not mean the Special Exchange of the sick & wounded now going on to this ----- a reply in Substance do not give the Rebels another able bodied man from that hour so long as I remain in the department Exchange of Prisoners stopped under that order credit ------- could not give the Rebels their able bodied Soldiers in Exchange by sending the sick and wounded forward how ever Some 12,000 of our Supply Soldiers have been relieved being ------ of 8,000 more than we gave the Rebels August last ------ ----- ----- were broken off

pp 125 And that no Exchanges were made ---- to gen Hickcock the Commissioner at Washington that the Rebels were Ready to Exchange man for man All the Prisoners held by them as I had Proposed in December under the Instructions of the Lieutenant gov I wrote to Mr Ould a letter which has been published Saying do you mean to give up all your actions and revoke all your laws about the Black men Employed as Soldiers these questions were there in -----Justly as I think not diplomatically but abusively and demonstratively not for the purpose of furthering Exchange and furnishing a ground on which we could fairly stand I am now at liberty to state these facts because they appear in the Correspondence on the Subject of Exchange now on the public files of Congress furnished by the war department upon ------ I am not at liberty to state my opinion as to the correctness and propriety of the course of action of the Lieut general in relation to Exchange because as it is not proper to utter a word of condemnation of any act of my Superior I am not Even applauding where I may think them right but not applauding in other Instances Such acts as I may mention would imply

McFall

DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall

pp 125 censure I only desire that the Responsibility of stoping Exchange of Prisoners be it wise or unwise should rest upon the Lieut general commanding and not upon me I have carried the weight of so grave another for nine months and now propose as the facts are laid before Congress and the Country not to tarry any longer any more of it than belongs to me Since I wrote my farewll address to the Army of the James I have received letters from the far west saying why do you claim that you have not uselessly sacrificed the lives of your men when you have left thousands of our brothers & sons pp 126 Slave and rot in Southern Prisons in answer to that appeal I ----only to Repeat I have not uselessly Sacrificed the lives of the Soldiers of the Union their Blood does not stain my garments This is not criticism upon the acts of any body But only the uncertain of a fact in Explanation of which the responsibility of my position will not allow me to say more The next movement of concequence in the department was the attack upon Plymouth By the Enemy

Wednesday 15th
Nothing worth writing

Thursday 16th
No news

Friday 17th
A beautiful morning with wind

February, Saturday 18, 1865
The morning is beautiful & clear, Also very pleasant

Saturday Feb 19/65(same day of week repeated)
The Rebel general E. Winder The great Southern Savage is dead He died at Florence, S.C. on the 6th----where he was Engaged in the Pleasant Part time of Starving Prisoners to Death His Pupil Box Fox the Knoxville jailor and ------preceeded him a few days. Nashville Union Feb 15, 1865

McFall

DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall

pp 127 NOTES on WILDERS BRYADE

By Joseph O. Elwell, Co T 123 Reg-------Vols

-1-

Suppose you've all heard of Wilders Bryade
And how we whipped Wheeler while making his raid
How we've braved the valley & mountains & plains
To rid our dear Country of treasons dark stains
Chorus Sing Carol cal Toorul Cal Lu

-2-

We are after the Rebels where Ever they go
We are always right Sure to Play high to their low
We have made their Sky do ------- from many a field
For brave Wilder would die before he would yield
Chorus Sing Toorul lul Toorul Calder

-3-

We went up in Tennessee not long ago
And camped near the town of Pulaski you know
And there we were welcomed by ---- and -------
For all knew the Story of Wilders Bryade
Sing Tooral Lul & C

-4-

One day came the order Be ready my men
We'll start Back to Huntsville this morning at ten
And we came on to Mooresville the very same week
And camped on a stream called Piney Creek
Sing Tooral lul & C

-5-

The Rebels may threaten the rivers to crops
But as long as a Sucker can climb on a horse
The Rebels from the Spencer will get up & walk
Crying here comes the Yankes from Wilder Brigade
Sing Tooral lul

-6-

But a word about Mooresville I have in my song
To Speak of its people it won't take me long
For people hearted where Ever they be
In the North or the South are the people for me
Sing Tooral lul & C

DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall

_7_

The men are kind hearted the women are fair
An kined to the Soldiers I truly declare
They welcomed us warmly where Ever we went
And we honor the men & the ladies So Sweet
Sing Tooral lal & C

pp 128

_8_

Notes on Little John's Brigade

First Brigade of Tennessee Cav.

Then hail Ala the time is at hand
When peace will again gladden all this fair land
And we'll hear mid the shouts of the Brave Soldier boys
Shake hands with old winers
Sing Toul lal & C

_9_

All hail to the Mooresville we'll keet it in mind
That to our brave Soldiers you've been kind
And we hope when at least we go home from the war
We may all live in peace neath the Stars & the Stripes
Chorus Tooral lail tooral lul tooral lulale
Finish

Maggie McFall(writing not the same)

Plymouth was defended in a most galant and able manner by Gen Worrel Who did all a brave gen could to keep it But the ----- -----had been depended upon to hold for holding the Ronoak River and when they were drawn out by the Rebels ran albemark Plymouth was no longer defendable If the gallant & commander Fullison who Commanded the Naval forc had not fallen in the first attack, Their run would not have controlled the river & the unit might not have hasened another consultation, Nort Carolina in April this was done by the orders of the Lieut general with intire deliberation without attack and Every dollars worth of govt propert was brought away & the forces holding it taken or part of the movable column of the Army of the James I should heredely have mentioned their Evacuation had I not been the Suject of -------adversion & to share that what Ever wad done was done under the Explicit orders of the propriety of this Evacuation however strong the opinion I might have in its favor I am not at liberty to speak for the reason I have before given you on the 1st of April last

McFall

DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall

two large armies lay face to face opposed to Each other and the pp 129
------ a small army of about 18,000 men 6,000 of whom were Negroes lay
in and around --------Monroes 2,000 men mre were ordered from the
department of the South to join that little army looking over the whole
field it seemed to me to be the hart of wisdom to move an Army upon
Burnside's hundred & Establishing there a base of operations as Strong as
fortress Monroe a base not to be interfered with or ------while the war
lasted & where an army lies with its hunches fastened on the Rebel Capitol
this proposition was submitted to gen Grant and approved by him this was
done on the 4th of May the Army of the James 35,000 strong with its art-
illary, its Cav & its supplies to 30 days was put on ships and seemed at
first to threaten the Enemy up the York River within 30 miles of the
Capito but in 24 hours that army was within 12 miles of Richmond Where it
has held its position Ever Since a position to which it Advanced with out
Shedding one drop of Blood on the same day the army of the Patomic The
Army under gen Mead more than a hundred thousand strong Started ------the
-------also Started to Richmond I need not Repeat that you all know the
history of the march of the Army But I have a right to Say Because now
It has passed in to history that the intention with which that army Set
out on in March was to move round the North Side of Richmond above Mech-
anesville Strike the James River above the city of Richmond and there
forming a junction with the Army of the James which was to move up toward
richmond on the South Side of the James River got round the city on the
South Side & thus cut it off. Now perhaps you can understand what pp 130
may have Slightly puzzled you here so for why the Army of the James River
demonstrating toward Drways bluff on the 16th of May while the Army of the
Patomic was coming down the -------- on the North Side toward Richmond But
the Army of the Patomic never reached its destination on the North Side of
the James nor did the Army of the James Suceed in reaching the James above
Richmond on the Sourh Side Indeed there was no call for the Army of the
James above Richmond, if the Army of the Patomic could not join But if
the Army of the James failed to decomplish all that it hoped for at least
it meet with no disaster we held the lines that we took up from the Appom-
attox to the James & we hold them to this day _ the Advanced lines Operat-
ing against Richmond, Besides doing this after fortifying our position, the
Army of the James Sent Seventeen thousand men to cut the Army of the Patomic
& Saved the battle of caul harbin Pass with me now to the next movement of
the Army of the James the Attempt to take Peters Burg, on the 9th of June
upon that occasion the order of its commander was not obeyed & the projected
assult on Petersburg was not made , But will you observe if there was a

DIARY and MEMORIES of Brice McFall

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in and around --------Monroes 2,000 men mre were ordered from the
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the Army of the James failed to decomplish all that it hoped for at least
it meet with no disaster we held the lines that we took up from the Appom-
attox to the James & we hold them to this day _ the Advanced lines Operat-
ing against Richmond, Besides doing this after fortifying our position, the
Army of the James Sent Seventeen thousand men to cut the Army of the Patomic
& Saved the battle of caul harbin Pass with me now to the next movement of
the Army of the James the Attempt to take Peters Burg, on the 9th of June
upon that occasion the order of its commander was not obeyed & the projected
assult on Petersburg was not made , But will you observe if there was a

McFall

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two large armies lay face to face opposed to Each other and the pp 129
------ a small army of about 18,000 men 6,000 of whom were Negroes lay
in and around --------Monroes 2,000 men mre were ordered from the
department of the South to join that little army looking over the whole
field it seemed to me to be the hart of wisdom to move an Army upon
Burnside's hundred & Establishing there a base of operations as Strong as
fortress Monroe a base not to be interfered with or ------while the war
lasted & where an army lies with its hunches fastened on the Rebel Capitol
this proposition was submitted to gen Grant and approved by him this was
done on the 4th of May the Army of the James 35,000 strong with its art-
illary, its Cav & its supplies to 30 days was put on ships and seemed at
first to threaten the Enemy up the York River within 30 miles of the
Capito but in 24 hours that army was within 12 miles of Richmond Where it
has held its position Ever Since a position to which it Advanced with out
Shedding one drop of Blood on the same day the army of the Patomic The
Army under gen Mead more than a hundred thousand strong Started ------the
-------also Started to Richmond I need not Repeat that you all know the
history of the march of the Army But I have a right to Say Because now
It has passed in to history that the intention with which that army Set
out on in March was to move round the North Side of Richmond above Mech-
anesville Strike the James River above the city of Richmond and there
forming a junction with the Army of the James which was to move up toward
richmond on the South Side of the James River got round the city on the
South Side & thus cut it off. Now perhaps you can understand what pp 130
may have Slightly puzzled you here so for why the Army of the James River
demonstrating toward Drways bluff on the 16th of May while the Army of the
Patomic was coming down the -------- on the North Side toward Richmond But
the Army of the Patomic never reached its destination on the North Side of
the James nor did the Army of the James Suceed in reaching the James above
Richmond on the Sourh Side Indeed there was no call for the Army of the
James above Richmond,, if the Army of the Patomic could not join But if
the Army of the James failed to decomplish all that it hoped for at least
it meet with no disaster we held the lines that we took up from the Appom-
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failure there was no disaster on the 15th of June the column of the Army of the James having returned from the Relief of the Army of the Patomic Another move on Petersburg took place which resulted in the Capture of the Rebs & at that time the only line of deference was Round Petersburg which works, held By the Army of the James are the Advanced lines of the Armies Operating on Petersburg till the day the strongest of these works was captured by askirmished line of Negro Soldiers & no troops have advanced a Step beyond their position in that direction pp 131 After seven months Seige
pp 131 on this 29 of September the Army of the James crossed the river in two Columns one at Varince then there at deep Bottoms one attacked batry Harrison the Skirmish line being gallantly led by a Lowell Boy Col. Donoho who fell wounded that column captured Batry Harrison the strongest of the Rebel works in their 60 miles of Intrenchments around Richmond on the same day Crossing deep Bottom the 10th Corps under the ------ Birney advanced its negro Division 30,000 Strong & a column of the division with muskets Right Shoulder Shift with not a ---- on a Single-----of -------charge through a Swamp over a breast work covered with double lines of a battle like a flash in the face of 800 Rebels who never stoped running for 5 miles the question as to whether the Negro will fight was thus settled Before the Eyes of Every doubter in the Army & thus from that forward asked not the question will the fight but will he fight for us I have thus Enumerated all the Assults that were ordered by the Commander of the Army of the James one against us----- -----but all defendent work for fort Harrison & another adainst a Strong & well defended work assult made by Negroes was made for the high & noble purpose of demonstrating for ever the Capabilities of a rece in arms resting under Every Prejudice, the Commander of the army felt that for such a cause he could take the responsibility of Ruling the loss of men by the assult who lay there as he rode past them with their faces upturned to God in mute appeal for his approval of this necessary Sacrifice in so holy a causing thus my friend I felt that I had right to say when I left the army of the James.