

the hospital with my Cousin over night, who was wounded in the Battle of Stone River. We took a stroll over into the town in the morning

Thursday 21 *I left Cleveland on the two o'clock train to day. I went through with Major Cotters men. We arrived there about ten in the evening Lamford Lowton accompanied me through. We took our rendezvous in the depot for the night. We had a little squabble with the Copperheads at the first station on the southside of [Cressline?] about fifty miles from Columbus*

Friday, May 22, 1863 [Page 24 of diary] *I am exchanged. We are all exchanged all that were delivered over into our mens hands at Citty Point up to the first of this month. We were exchanged on the 15th of this month. We are Camped at the West end of the Camp I am in C.E. forth Battlion [Company "E," Fourth Battalion] The Boys moste of the time were at home. They have hurd of this exchange & begin to come in in droves.*

[Paroled prisoners who were "exchanged" could then return to fight in the war. Later in the war, Grant ceased to exchange prisoners to exacerbate the manpower shortage in the Confederate Army. He did not need his prisoners exchanged with the urgency that the Confederacy did.]

[No entries from May 23, 1863 through June 14, 1863]

Monday, June 15, 1863 [Page 25 of diary] *This morning every thing is in confusion in Camp Chase. The Copper heads down in Homes Co [Holmes County northeast of Columbus] are resisting the enrollment. Evry man that is exchanged if able is wanted to go down & help put down the Copperheads Parole men can go if they are a mind to [the S Ohio three Co of the Govern?] guards & two men of the 22nd Ohio Battery are ordered to go*

Tuesday 16 *We left Columbus about eleven o'clock last night. there is about four hundred & fifty of us in all. I volunteered to go. We landed at Drake Station near one hundred & thirty miles from Columbus. We marched out to a Town called Nashville about seven miles from the R.R. & got dinner. We marched about three miles to the other side of Napoleon Town*

Wednesday 17 *We encountered the Copperhead pickets last night about four o'clock Captured two of them & drove the rest in We came upon the[m] in a body about forty in [illegible] They fired two or three shots at us but not hurt any one We drove them into the Woods Captured about twenty of them & wounded two for the night. Camped*

Thursday, June 18, 1863 [Page 26 of diary] *This morning the Officers held a courtmarshal & pardoned some of our prisoners They were made to take the oath of Allegiance. They had their Head quarter in house near by. [In the house] We found plenty of cooked rations of bread & boyled ham & eggs, besides the vegetables. We also found a barrel of whisky some of cidor every thing was the up side down The man that owned the plas We had him a prisner*

Friday 19 *Our Camp we moved last night We are now about sixteen miles from the R. R. the citizens have brought in three lads of [illegible] from Nashville to day. Col. Wallace commanding the force he & the head leader of their [the Copperhead] gang has made a compromise They have to give up the men the marshals has warrants for & those the marshal had under arrest before But were rescued from him by the mobb*

Saturday 20 *We left our Camp yesterday about noon & marched to the other side of the Town, Warsaw & Camped for the night We found some Copperheads with guns there but they succeeded in escaping without being hurt. The Company I was in organized my fellows belonging to [illegible] Regmts called Co. Q captured a cannon about twenty inches long & three in diameter*

Sunday, June 21, 1863 [Page 27 of diary] *We left Warsaw about six in the morning & marched to Kchocton in Kchocton Co [Coshocton in Coshocton County, just south of Holmes County] We were treated to the ail & beer as We marched through the streets. We were march down to the Fair ground where We staid untill the train come & then We were marched up to the depot & took the train for Columbus. arrived there about eight in the evening This ended my expedition down among the Copperheads [Ohio was a hotbed of Copperhead activity, probably due to the leadership of the outspoken Copperhead Clement Vallandigham, who ran for Governor of Ohio in 1863.]*

Monday 22 *I arrived in Camp Chase about twelve o'clock last evening I had to foot it all the way out there the distance about four miles The Boys, those that were out on the expedition were paid off this afternoon I got two months pay. The paroled men are making their way toward home Though there is orders against it*

Tuesday 23 *Every thing is quiet in Camp today. The Boy [sic] are spending their money playing shucluck or poker. The guards are up this way frequently to keep the peddlers & the from playing in Camp. All the exchanged men those that thinks themselves unfit for for field duty are to be examined to morrow*

Wednesday, June 24, 1863 [Page 28 of diary] *There is nothing exciting going on in Camp this morning. The milk & pie peddlers are in swarms crying out who wants some milk, who wants a pie. Sales not very brisk. This after noon all the exchanged men those that are under the Drs care are ordered to reporte to him to be examined to see if they are fit for field duty. Those that are not get certificates disability I dont get one We are ordered to be ready when called upon to go to our Regmts.*

Thursday 25 *Camp Chase. This morning all is quiet the sun rises East throwing its light & warmth out upon the universe. There is not a cloud in the sky to be seen. The Boys are passing the time in playing uchre & other games. Noon all the exchanged are ordered to reporte to head quarters to get their Regmts. I am one of them We rode to Col..bs [Columbus] in a Buss & there took the cars for Cincin [Cincinnati].*

Friday 26 *We arrived in Cincinnati last night about two o'clock. We were marched to the Barracks. We were under guard all the way down. a deserter made his escape about ten miles from Cincin. No search was made after him We are up in the third story. It is rather a dirty place to stay. We have had three meals to day: a little piece of Bread & byled beef at each meal There is Rebbel Prisners & deserters over our heads in the next story*

Saturday, June 27, 1863 [Page 29 of diary] *To day has been market day: the street in front of the Barracks has been full of Drays all day long. It rained yesterday a good share of the time: We left the Barracks to day about noon: We are now on the Prison Boat anchored in the middle of the Ohio: it is sidid upon both sides enough space left to let air come in: There is about seventy five of us all together We are not permitted to go out now of the Boat.*

Sunday 28 *There was a squad left here to day for Murfreesboro, Tenn. There is six rows of bunks in the Boat. They are six in hight, one above annother: they are made of canvas tacked on racks We pass the time in reading & taking [talking] about the progress of the War: There is parties go to the Parlor Grove on the Magnolia about six miles distant on the Ky side every day: & We are left in the Boat*

Monday 29 *I am still in the Prison Boat. The reporte is that there is a squad a going to leave here for Louisville Ky to morrow I can look over into Covington [Covington, KY, across the Ohio River from Cincinnati, OH] There was some Ladies stood on the River Bank opposite the Boat I waved my hankerchief but they did not return the compliment. So much for being a soldier. The Sun set down in the West. fair prospects for a plesant day to morrow*

Tuesday, June 30, 1863 [Page 30 of diary] *This morning there was a General muster of all the men on the Boat: by the major of the 115th O.V.I. [Ohio Volunteer Infantry] commanding there To our great supprise a rolle was called for those that were a going to leave for Louisville I was one of the lucky ones. We left that Boat about noon & got aboard of the Steamer Major Anderson [named for the commander of the troops at Fort Sumpter during the first shots of the war]. It is a splendid scene going down the River when the trees and fields are in full bloom*

Wednesday July 1 *We arrived at Louisville Ky last night but did not land untill this morning. We were marched up to the Barracks No. 1 on main street. nothing has happened of any importance to day. The Town is full of people & business is brisk. The patroll guard keeps marching through the town to pick up straglers We expect to leave here to morrow*

Thursday 2 *I left Louisville this morning about seven o'clock train for Nashville, Tenn. The farmers are harvesting their wheat & making hay. Some corn fields the corn is breast high to a person. We arrived at Nashville about six o'clock to night. We were put*

into passenger cars where there was a gun & forty rounds of cartridges enabling us to defend ourselves if we were attacked by gunshots

Friday, July 3, 1863 [Page 31 of diary] *Last night I went to the Theater in Nashville. This morning we left for Murfreesboro [Tennessee], rode all the way on top of the cars. We arrived in Murfreesboro about ten this morning. I am in Convalescent Camp now. The fortifications here are almost impregnable. We can hold at bay three times our number. General Vancleve is in command of the Fort. [General Horatio Van Cleve]*

Saturday 4 *This morning I was detailed to go out on Picket. We are about a mile & a quarter East of the Fortifications. They have been firing Cannon in the Forts to celebrate the forth. It has rained moste the time this after-noon We are under command of a Sergent, a Vancleve Ordely Half of us have not got any guns*

Sunday 5 *We got in off from Picket this morning about ten oclock The Drs are examining the men in Convalescent Camp. Them that are fit for field services are sent to their Regmt & those that are not are left here. I am one of that No. [that are leaving] There is 13 sent out of my Co to thier Regmts. This after-noon the rain just pored down, runing through the tents & almoste drowned the men out*

Monday, July 6, 1863 [Page 32 of diary] *To day it has been very warm I have been loafing around our Camp all day longe. Our Camp is a [illegible] mudhole There is some of the Boys ought to be at home but they still keep them here. They are sending Convalescence [convalescents] home every day. The reporte is that General Mead of the Army of the Potomac has gained a decisive victory in Pa. [News has arrived about the Union success at Gettysburg] We hope for the best.*

Tuesday 7 *This morning the sun shone bright & every thing looked pleasant. I was strolling around through the Camp as luck would have it I found one of our Boys from the Regmt. He said the Division [trains?teams?] were in after rations & would start back in the afternoon I went over to my quarters & got my things & started with the Boys to the Regmt*

Wednesday 8 *Yesterd [sic] We come about 8 miles. it rained prety much the whole after-noon. We Camped in the road last night. the roads are bad & We cant make much head way. it has not rained any to day We have come about twenty miles. it is near dark We are Camped within two & a half miles of the town, Manchester [Tennessee]. The distance is about thirty & half miles from Murfreesboro*

Thursday, July 9, 1863 [Page 33 of diary] *We came into Manchester this fore noon about ten oclock. I am once more with the Regmt & Co for the first time after being taken a prisner. The Boys are in good health & appear cheerful. We have marching orders. We left Camp this morning about ten. We are on our road to joyn the rest of the Division at McMinnville*

Friday 10 *We camped last night in the woods near a stream about ten miles from Manchester. There is four Regmts belonging to our Brigade now. There was two more with us We are under command of General Beatty. We got into Camp about thirteen miles. We are Camped on the Bank of Barren R. about half a mile from Town [Benedict was in the Army of the Cumberland, commanded by General William S. Rosecrans; the corps commanded by Gen. Thomas Crittenden; the brigade commanded by Brigadier General John Beatty]*

Saturday 11 *Nothing of any importance has transpired to day We still remain in Camp near the River The Boys have been putting in the time a washing up their cloths & picking black berries. The Boys tore down the fence around the Burrying ground yesterday to day the Boys had to give all the boards over eight feet long the rebild the fence again*

Sunday, July 12, 1863 [Page 34 of diary] *We are still in Camp the reports is We shall move our Camp to morrow the weather has been rainy to day We have to fall in at roll call in the morning with Arms & equipment on or work upon the entrenchments four hours in the day*

Monday 13 *The day has passed off plesant & agreable. Our camp is on the sout [sic] west side of Macminnville about half a mile from Town We drilled about half an hour to night after dress parade I have not returned to duty yet*

Tuesday 14 *The day has passed off & We [s]till remain in Camp. The Regmt recieved a large mail to night I received one letter & that was from home*

Wednesday, July 15, 1863 [Page 35 of diary] *We moved Camp this fore noon are now Camped on the east side of the Town about the same distance from the Town as before. We received some cheering news to night & that was Fort [Henelson?] was ours now with seventeen thousand Prisners & Vicksber [Vicksburg] also with thirty one thousand Prisners.*

Thursday 16 *To day there has nothing transpired of any importance. The Boys are permitted to go where they please so [long as] they [are] back to roll call three times a day Chas. [illegible name] together the 79th Indana had to drill to night for hollering sow-belly crackers [apparently name-calling to some locals] [Poor writing & several errors in this entry]*

Friday 17 *The day has passed by plesant. We still remain in Camp. I went out on dress parade to night for the first time since I come back to the Regmt. Co. [K?] was ordered to go over to the depot as a guard there they took every thing with them*

Saturday, July 18, 1863 [Page 36 of diary] *The day has passed off plesant & quiet as usual in Camp. We have received the intelligence from the Army bus the reporte that Charlstown has fallen, [The following appears to have been penciled in later:] which is a hoax I guess*

Sunday 19 *I have remained in Camp to day. The weather has been warm Capt Smith of our Co came here last night. He has been acting Col of the Pioneer Corps for some eight months. I received a letter from home last night*

Monday 20 *I was detailed to go out on picket this morning. We are about one mile & a half from Camp. There is nine of us on the Poste. Three on out post duty & six on reserve We can here our provision train coming in from Murfreesboro. The day has been offal warm*

Tuesday, July 21, 1863 [Page 37 of diary] *I was on picket last night. it rained from tweloc [twelve o'clock?] till about half past three in the morning. I come into Camp about nine this morning. Passed the day in cleaning up my gun. The report is that John Morgan [General John Hunt Morgan, Confederate Cavalry commander] & force pretty near all captured up in [illegible] Himself escaping*

Wednesday 22 *The day has passed off. Everything plesant & charming to a soldier. We devote the time in playing all games to amuse our minds. The sun set in a clear sky to night*

Thursday 23 *The drafted men turned over their things & left Camp about twelve oclock last night. We have about thirty eight men left in the Co. Lieut. Knaff sent in discharge of the men. The day has been plesant*

Friday, July 24, 1863 [Page 38 of diary] *The day has been plesant There has not any pickets went from the Regmt to day on account of our being paid off. We were paid this afternoon I received thirty five dollars & ninety six cts for last years clothing*

Saturday 25 *The day has passed off agreeably plesant. We still remain in our Camp & pass the time to the best advantage we can I sent my money home by Capt John Smith He is going to express it from Columbus I sent thirty five dollars*

Sunday 26 *I was detailed to go out on picket. I am on poste No two. Lieut Briarly of Company H is in command of the picket I have commeced to throw up breast works, as We expect to be attacted by General Forrest Rebel Gen [Confederate Cavalry General Nathan Bedford Forrest]*

Monday, July 27 1863 [Page 39 of diary] *There has nothing of any importance happened to day I have done my washing & wrote a letter to [illegible..Lt. B?] The Capt that has our money expects to start to morrow morning*

Tuesday 28 *I have passed the day in Camp. There were some scouts sent out of our Regmt to night; they were mounted. They went in a northern direction from here*

Wednesday 29 *The weather keeps pleasant & We pass the time in all kinds of ways. Our Scouts came in this morning they run on to the Rebel scouts. They had a skirmish our men made them skidaddle Our men killed one of the enemy & took two Prisoners*

Thursday, July 30, 1863 [Page 40 of diary] *The weather was pleasant this forenoon. Hbut we have had a drenching rain this after noon. There was a volunteer scouting party went out from the Regmt to night. Kelly was the one out of our Co they were mounted They went toward Sparta [Sparta, Tennessee]*

Friday 31 *The weather has been agreeable pleasant to day. We have had nothing to do but to go out on General Inspection*

Saturday, August 1 *We have a Co record now of the three cleanest guns and the three dirtiest, the three cleanest men & three dirtiest & three of the most obedient & three the most disobedient these are recorded in a book every week & sent to head quarters every week*

Sunday, August 2, 1863 [Page 41 in diary] *The weather has been agreeably pleasant to day & the men are attentive to their duty, cleaning up their guns for inspection as we have it most every day*

Monday 3 *The Boy[s] have been to work at cleaning up the street to day & also their guns & cloths for another general review We are ignorant of when it will come There has nothing of importance transpired to day*

Tuesday 4 *We have fixed up our quarters so that they are quite pleasant We have have [sic] sad but exciting news For the past few days there was twenty [seven?] detailed out of our Co to go out and serve for two days*

Wednesday, August 5, 1863 [Page 42 of diary] *We left Camp last night about four o'clock. there was about two hundred & tenn in all from our Regmt. We was out about fourteen miles to a River. Captured sixteen Rebs We were on the Sparta road within twelve miles of the place We arrived in Camp to night about five o'clock*

Thursday 6 *We have been politticing up [applying poultices to] our soor feet & cleaning up our guns to day. I feel pretty badly used up to day. We brought in with us quite a [illegible] of beef cattle last night. all has been quiet to day in Camp*

Friday 7 *I spent this day out a foraging We were out on the Manchester road about ten miles from Camp. We mowed our hay that we got . I brought in two bushels of green corn for the Co I got in between eight and nine o'clock in the evening the day has been pleasant*

Saturday, August 8, 1863 [Page 43 of diary] *All remains quiet in Camp to day. there has nothing of any importance transpired this day. the Soldiers follow thier daily avocation & that is cleaning guns & riging up the streat. The day has been pleasant*

Sunday 9 *We still remain in Camp there is not much signs of our leaving this place very soon. the day has been plesant*

Monday 10 *There was one man detailed out of our Co last night to go to Nashville to get Pack Mules for our Division. it is the general belief to day that we will pass the mountains for Knoxville before long. The day has been cloudy & sultry.*

Tuesday, August 11, 1863 [Page 44 of diary] *There was nothing going on in Camp to day I have put in the day a keeping to cleaning up my gun all is quiet this day has been plesant We have an opportunity to renlist for three years & get four hundred dollars Bounty. You can stay in the same Regmt you have been in or joyn Cavalry or Artillery*

Wednesday 12 *This day I am on Picket. Lieut Chamberlain is in command of the Picket. We are on the Smithville pike [the road to Smithville, TN]. It has been a good market day. four or five loads of provision came in. There was over thirty Rebel soldiers & sitizens came in to day to give themselves upp & taken the oathe of allegiance*

Thursday 13 *I got in off from picket this morning about nine. We had general inspection at eleven o'clock. We had the Articles of reinlisting read off to us to night on dress perade We are not allowed to go in the Navy but have to go either in Inft. Cavalry, or Artillery*

Friday, August 14, 1863 [Page 45 of diary] *The day has been rainy I have kept myself in Camp There has nothing of any importance transpired to day*

Saturday 15 *The day has been plesant [illegible-returned?] to the ranks out of Co. D. to night on dress-perade We have received marching orders to night, to be ready at six in the morning with three days rations in our haversacks by seven in the Co. waggons*

Sunday 16 *I was detailed to go out on picket. We relieved the old pickets & had been there about an hour when we were ordered to go. We had to carry everything with us. We marched about six miles, forded two Rivers, & Camped at Collins R. about six miles from McMinville Lt. Lane was left back sick. The day is rainy*

Monday, August 17, 1863 [Page 46 of diary] *It rained all night last night We camped upon a hill about a hundre [sic] rods from the R. We [bair?] the best the country can afford We for amusement had a little Boy take the oath of Allegiance as Father was in the Rebel Army There was a company to each waggon to get through the Mountain. Our Regmt has orders to stay back to help the supply train through We marched about forty rods to day*

Tuesday 18 *This morning about half of our waggons with ten mules to each W., started up the M. We left Camp about seven this morning. there was a Co left at each steep place. Our Co went to the top and stacked arms. We were afterward detailed to go down*

& help the waggons up. The whole train got up about one o'clock We marched till about eight in the evening, making about six miles

Wednesday 19 To day we have had hard marching. We did not help the train any as they did not much help at our time We made six miles in two hours We have made about sixteen My Co are Camped in an orchard, just opposite from a dwelling house. We have all the potatoes we want but water is pretty scarce We are about ten miles from Pikeville [Pikeville, Tennessee]

Thursday, August 20, 1863 [Page 47 of diary] We camped in a hollow last night between two hills. Our team took the advance to day. We did not have to help the teams up only one hill. We got into Camp about noon to day after marching about ten miles. We are in the [Scarce?] V... The officers are not allowed only go round & weight of Baggage it is wayed Pikeville 38 miles from McMinnville & fifty from Chattanooga

Friday 21 We are Camped on the North side of the Town. Yesterday the officers Baggage was wayed. They are not allowed only 80 pounds of Baggage. There was three Regmts went over to night the other side of the Mountain to rout out some Secesh Cavalry [Secessionist Cavalry] some Artillery went with them it was Cavalry that went. We have cleaned up Camp to day. The day has been pleasant

Saturday 22 There is not more than twenty or thirty houses in the town. Our men got in here the day before the Rebel conscription day was set on. The Union Citizens are forming an independent Company here to day. there is something like three hundred joined. They are coming in by squads to save the [illegible] from the Conscription. The day is warm & pleasant

Sunday, August 23, 1863 [Page 48 of diary] [This page is very faded] To day I am on Picket Lieut [Kafer?] is in command We are on the main road that runs through the Valley on the west side of Town. The Citizens pitch in. Apples, peaches, pies, potatoes, & trade them to the Boys for Coffee, sugar, & salt. They have had [haven't been able] to get such things since the war commenced

Monday 24 I got off of picket about nine this morning. The Boys are riging up their tents. There is some prospects of our staying here a while. There was a supply train & one Regmt out our Brigade. About fifty started back to the hills for provision The report is that the rest parte of our Corp is here in the Valley & some say that Crittendon's head quarters is within ten miles of Chattanooga [Major General Thomas L. Crittenden of the Union Army, Corps Commander of Benedict's unit]

[During the first six months of 1863, the army of Confederate General Braxton Bragg and Union Major General William Rosecrans' Army of the Cumberland lay no more than 30 miles apart in central Tennessee, where Charles Benedict was. They menaced each other's supply lines with cavalry raids but were otherwise inactive. The inaction was difficult on the soldiers. Lincoln and the War Department had to push the cautious Rosecrans into action. Now the Union forces are beginning

to coverge where the battles of Chickamauga and Chattanooga will take place near the Tennessee-Georgia-Alabama state lines.]

Tuesday 25 *The day has been plesant, nothing of any importance has transpired in Camp to day Forage trains go out every day There is abundance of it here in the Valley. This is a rich Country for raising corn, wheat & so forth there is every almost fruit & such like here. Sitizens come sixteen miles on purpose to sell in market for the Green backs.*

Wednesday, August 26, 1863 [Page 49 of diary] *Co. C & D went out to with their waggon yesterday to forage for their companies. Our Co. & H would to day. I went out but was detailed to go with the Commisary waggons. There was eight and of each Co that went with the Co. W They brought in potatoes peaches apples plumms & all kinds of vegatables.*

Thursday 27 *We sill [sic] remain in Camp. The day has been plesant Two waggons out of the signal Corps was ordered in front on the mountains with picks & shovels to night. We got a big mail to night. I got one letter it was from home The day has been warm*

Friday 28 *There has nothing been going on in Camp to day We drew rations yesterday Our supply train has come in I have abeen down to the creek & done my washing & writen a letter to day. The sitizens come into Camp & sell their market for green Backs at reasonable prices*

Saturday, August 29, 1863 [Page 50 of diary] *To day has been plesant things are as much in camp to day. We are expecting orders to go away from here. [A line is drawn after the above and then Mr. Benedict wrote a correction to the entries that follow:] I have made a mistake I was on picket the 31st We left Pikeville on the 1st of Sept.*

Sunday 30 *I am on picket to day out on out-poste We are west of the Camp. Lieut Bosh of Co. F is in command of the picket We have marching orders to be ready at six in the morning with three days rations in our haversacks & ten in the waggon*

Monday 31 *I got in off from picket just as the get ready call was blowing. We left Camp about seven oclock. our Regmt is in the lead. We have marched about fourteen miles to day. We got into C amp about two oclock. We have passed through no towns. We are going upp to Jasper. It is at the head of the Valley*

Tuesday, September 1, 1863 [Page 51 of diary] [Here Mr. Benedict lined out the following, apparently to correct his mistake mentioned above:] *The Regt is rear guard to day. We left Camp about six this morning [Now he continues:] I have made a mistake. We left Pikeville to day We were marched at a moderate gate [gait] to day. We Camped within about six miles of Dunlapp. We are marching upp on the west side of the Valley*

Wednesday 2 *Our Regmt is in rear guard to day. We got into Dunlapp [Dunlap, TN, due north of Chattanooga] about noon, staid there about an hour. We can see where the Town is , but there is not more than half a dozen homes to be seen. We have marched about nineteen miles to day We got into Camp about dusk*

Thursday 3 *We left Camp at day light We were camped in an open field. Our Brigade is in the lead We are the second Regmt in the lead We have made about fifteen miles to day. We are at Jasper, Camped on the south side of the town. We were here on the 22nd day of last Aug 1862. We camped here over night*

Friday, September 4, 1863 [Page 52 of diary] *We camped at Jasper [due west of Chattanooga] over night left there about six in the morning. We crossed the Tennessee river in flat-boats propeled by oars East from J... [Jasper] our teams went around by Bridgeporte [Bridgeport, Alabama, a Tennessee River town near the borders of Tennessee and Georgia] to cross on the pontoons. We have joyned our Corps here We are Camped about a mile from the R. at the foot of the Mountains*

Saturday 5 *We remain here in camp during the day time. The Boys are feasting on fresh pork to day. We are now about twenty-one miles from Chattanooga by R.R. [Benedict spells Chattanooga correctly for the first time; perhaps he has seen it written correctly on signs now] There is a cave here that runs about fifteen miles, through three different States; Tenn Georgia & Alabama I have drew rations from Brg [Brigade] head quarters to night*

Sunday 6 *We left our Camp & marched about eight miles last night We did not get into Camp untill about twelve oclock. We had the roughfest roads I marched upon in a long time. there was a good many waggons broken down. We marched about eight miles and Camped to day We have made about five. We have stoped & are expecting to move ahead every minnet.*

Monday, September 7, 1863 [Page 53 of diary][Faded almost to illegibility] *We are still here where we stoped last night, about thirteen miles from where we crossed the River. We are now about twenty miles from Chatt. [Chattanooga] We are approaching the place gradually. Our Corps is upon this road. Burnside [Union General Ambrose Burnside] is coming upp on the other side of the R. the day is plesant.*

Tuesday 8 *We left our Camp this morning about day light only one waggon out of each Regmt is allowed to go and that is to haul the Officers baggage. We Camped about ten oclock. We are now about three miles from our other Camp. there is a little creek runing through the hollow and we are Camped by it on the side of a hill*

Wednesday 9 *We left the other side of Lookout Mountain this morning. [a landmark and strategic point of great importance in the battles of Chickamauga and Chattanooga] our Brigade was ordered to go upon the Mountain to drive some Rebs off or capture them. We laid in the top of the Mtn. until about noon then we started for Chattanooga some sixteen miles distn. We passed the town and campt about 8 oclock.*

Thursday, September 10, 1863 [Page 54 of diary] *Chattanooga was evacuated yesterday we are in pursuit of the rebels. they have checked our advance we have formed a line of battle we marched about eight miles. our Co. and H were sent out as skirmishers.*

Friday 11 *We left our camp at day break. The Rebs are out of our road. We had a light skirmish at a town by the name of Ringold [Rinngold, Georgia] no men hurt we killed three Rebs and wounded one. We Camped in an open field on the other side of the town about four miles off. We marched about ten miles to day*

Saturday 12 *We left our Camp as day broke this morning our division was ordered over to the right. We marched back through Ringold. We are Camped tonight at Gordon Mills. We marched about seventeen miles to day [On this day Confederate General Braxton Bragg made an effort to snare Crittenden's corps, to which Benedict belonged, which was marching southward from Chattanooga right into the heart of the Confederate Army. Bragg sent Gen. Leonidas Polk to attack at the wrong place, and Crittenden moved to safety with two of his other divisions to Lee and Gordon's Mill. The mill was the scene of one of the confused skirmishes that started the two-day Battle of Chickamauga]*

Sunday, September 13, 1863 [Page 55 of diary] *Our Brigade was ordered out to the front to drive the Rebs pickets away our Regmt took the left side of the road & the 17 Ind. [17th Indiana Infantry Regiment] took the right hand side we drove them about four miles We had two men killed out of Co. D Capt. Drewry of our battery was wounded*

Monday 14 *Our whole Corps started over to the right. We marched about seven miles and Camp in a Cornfield I was on picket to night*

Tuesday 15 *We started back this morning and took another road we camped by a big spring by the name of Crawfish spring We marched about seven miles. Palmer went out to the front. [Major General John Palmer, head of a Union division] [Crawfish Springs, Georgia, where commanding General William Rosecrans would briefly make his headquarters during the forthcoming Battle of Chickamauga]*

Wednesday, September 16, 1863 [Page 56 of diary] *We remain here in Camp to day we have orders to wash up our cloths we got a small mail I got one letter*

Thursday 17 *We remain in the woods at the Crawfishs [sic] spring to day. we have drew new clothing the day has been plesant*

[THE BATTLE OF CHICKAMAUGA]