

THE JOURNAL OF 1ST LIEUTENANT JOHN H. BOLTON COMPANY F, 21ST OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY

Background Information

John H. BOLTON

ENLISTED ON SEPTEMBER 6, 1861 AT AGE 22 IN COMPANY F, 21ST OHIO VOLUNTEER INFANTRY FOR THREE YEARS: APPOINTED SERGEANT FROM CORPORAL SEPTEMBER 6, 1861

APPOINTED TO 1ST LIEUTENANT OF COMPANY I MAY 18, 1865

MUSTERED OUT WITH COMPANY JULY 25, 1865

VETERAN

THIS JOURNAL IS ALMOST DAY TO DAY ACCOUNTS OF LT. JOHN H. BOLTON FROM SEPTEMBER 1861 THRU MARCH 1863.

THE JOURNAL THEN SKIPS TO THE ACCOUNTS OF THE BATTLE OF CHICKAMAUGA, GA. IN SEPTEMBER 1863, WHERE THE 21ST OHIO SAVED THE UNION ARMY FROM BEING SWEEPED FROM THE FIELD.

[IMAGE- Lieut. J. H. Bolton in his uniform]

Jno H. Bolton

1st Lieutenant 21st Ohio Infy [sic] Vols

Louisville Ky

July 4th 1865

Special Forms

Head Quarters Q M Dept 21st Ohio Vols

Louisville Ky July 7th 1865

In compliance with special orders no 3 dated Head Quarters 21st Ohio Infy [sic] Volunteers July 5th 1865 I assumed the responsibility of Regimental Quarter Master and receipted to Lieut [sic] George F. Squire for the following Quarter Master stores and camp and garrison equippage [sic].

3 Three Stoves

2 Two Wall Tents

2 Two Wall Tent Flies

2 Two Set Wall Tent Poles of pine

Jno H. Bolton
1st Lieutenant and A. R. Q. M.
21st Ohio Infy [sic] Vols

Head Quarters Co E 21st Ohio Infy [sic] Vols
Louisville Ky June 27 1865

In compliance with special orders No 1 from Head Quarters 21st Ohio Infantry Volunteers dated June 27th 1865 I assume command of Companies "B" and "E" of this Regiment. The books and records of company "B" I found in good condition but those of Company "E" are deficient and incomplete.

Jno H. Bolton
1st Lieutenant Commanding Co "E" 21st O. V. I.

Head Quarters Company "B" 21st O. V. I.
Near Louisville Ky June 27th 1865

The following is a correct list of ordnance and ordnance stores found on hand in Companies "E" and "B" of this regiment upon assuming command of said companies this 27th day of June 1865.

Company "B"

Springfield Rifles Cal 58 6
Enfield Rifles Cal 577 11
Sets Infantry Accouterments 17
Elongated Ball Cartridge Cal 574 100

Company "E"

Springfield Rifles Cal 58 7
Enfield Rifles Cal 577 20
Elongated Ball Cartridge Cal 574 180
Sets Accouterments-Incomplete 27

Jno H. Bolton
Lieutenant Commanding Companies
"E" and "B"

Forwarding Book

[Note: The following information is transcribed from a table with 3 columns: Date; By whom; Place. The information will be transcribed in line form with semi-colons between the columns.]

June 30, 1865; Lieut [sic] J.J. Bolton; Louisville Ky Forwarded descriptive list of deserters and returned from were joined from desertion Companies "E" and "B" blank

July 1, 1865; Lieut [sic] J.H. Bolton; Louisville Ky Forward quarterly return of deceased soldiers Companies "B" and "E"
Company "B" blank Company "E"
7 seven enlisted men deceased.

July 1, 1865; Lieut [sic] J.H. Bolton; Louisville KY Forwards quarterly returns of men joined for companies "E" and "B"
Company "E" one man Anthony W. Miller from desertion.
Company "B" blank

July 6th 1865; Lieut [sic] J.N. Bolton' Louisville KY Forwards Muster Rolls of Co. "E" and "B" for June 30th 1865.

July 4, 1865; Lieut [sic] J H Bolton; Louisville KY Forwards descriptive list and accounts of pay and clothing of Private William Greadline Co "E"

July 12th; Lieut [sic] J H Bolton; Louisville KY Forwards descriptive list and accounts of pay and clothing of Private Michael Spangler Co "E"

Head Quarters Co "B" 21st Regt.

Ohio Infantry Vols July 14th 1865

Captain Samuel F. Cherry having returned to the Regiment and assumed Command of the Company "B" no longer remains responsible for any U. S. Government property pertaining to said Company "B" 21st Ohio Infantry Vet Volunteers.

Jno H. Bolton

1st Lieutenant 21st Regiment
Ohio Infy [sic] Vet Volunteers

Journal Pages

FINDLAY, O SEPT 19th, 1861

During the past week since our rendezvous in the place commonly known as Camp Vance we have been anxiously awaiting the day when we could be permitted to move from her to the place of active of hostilities. Our young "Military ideas" were just budding forth and fired by that zeal and ardent love of country which is peculiarly characteristic of very true and loyal Americans we were happy to learn that the U.S. Mustering officer (Capt [sic] Wood) had arrived and the necessary precautions were being made preparatory to our muster into the service. The necessary papers completed we were this afternoon mustered and now many were the rumors afloat concerning our departure for "Dixie". We remained however until morning of the 26th spending the time in drilling.

Sept 26, 1861

We this morning got everything into readiness for preparatory to leaving for Camp Dennison. The regiment numbering about nine hundred all told. We broke up camp and marched to Findlay in gay style and after waiting but a few moments the train was in readiness and we bid good bye to a host of friends and comrades. Alas; many of our poor comrades on this morning took leave of home and friend for the last time, some fell on the bloody field where the battle raged in all it's [sic] fury. Others died as martyrs for there [sic] country in the terrible prison pens of the south during a long captivity. Some who fell prey to a terrible disease died without even seeing or participating in the deadly conflict. We parted with all that renders life desirable and got aboard the train and left with the good wishes and blessings of the hundreds who came to give us a "Good Bye." With music playing and mid cheers and waving of handkerchiefs the train began slowly to move off as we would look back and give some token of recognition to friends and parents as they endeavored to cheer us on through with sorrowing hearts to part – perhaps for the last time. We proceeded on and at every place along the entire route we were greeted with immense enthusiasm.

Sept 27, 1861

Arrived at Camp Dennison at half past two O'Clock [sic] this morning and at dawn of day moved into barracks that had formally been occupied by some troops and left in

bad condition. So now we had a fine opportunity of testing our skills in policing and cleaning up our quarters.

Sept 28, 1861

Weather quite cool and blustering with high winds. We received our muskets today. Spent a goodly portion of our time in company drill and our first lesson in the manual of arms.

Sept 28, 1861

Morning clear and beautiful. Visited some of the principle [sic] heights in the vicinity of Camp Dennison. The scenery at and surrounding the camp is somewhat romantic and rather attractive and especially so along the Miami River.

Sept 30, 1861

Day warm and pleasant which is one thing rather favorable for us. Our time is now spent wholly in Company and battalion drill and exercises in the manual of arms which will require some time to secure efficiency.

Oct 1, 1861

Weather continuing quite warm and agreeable. Nothing new or of much importance occurring. Had our usual routine of Company and battalion drill. My mess mates are David Stokes, Cyrus Stokes, David Bohannon, Jacob S. Keller, John M. Scott, Robert F. Bohannon, Robert Pohnain, Cyrus S. Bolton and Ralph C. Watson all of Findlay, O and we generally enjoy ourselves well in our new vocation as soldiers. Wm Haven whose name I almost omitted altogether also belongs to our "Happy Family". We take regular turns in attending to the culinary department and not a few are the blunders that we stumble into whilst attending to the cooking, but then if one makes a mistake we all relish the joke and thus time passes off merrily.

Oct 2, 1861

Received orders this morning to be ready to move to Camp Dick Robinson, Kentucky. We immediately made preparations and got aboard a train of cars soon after 12 O'Clock

[sic] M. and proceeded to Cincinnati and crossed the river on a steamer and marched to the depot in Covington at which place we waited until 9 O'clock P.M. before we got aboard the train and proceeded to Lexington. Our quarters on the cars were remarkably small and we felt none too good after riding all night in such a miserable excuse as the cars was on which the principal portion of Co "F" rode on from Covington to Lexington, Ky.

Oct 3, 1861

Arrived at Lexington about 9 o'clock A.M. and were received with the greatest enthusiasm. We received but a short time here when we proceeded on to Nicholasville [sic], Ky. The day being beautiful and pleasant we could enjoy the scenery of the most beautiful portion of this state as we passed through it on the train. Arriving at Nicholasville [sic], we arrived into camp close by the town and soon found ourselves quite comfortably located in a pleasant camp. We here met with the 17th and the 38th Ohio Regiments. We are now fourteen miles from Camp Dick Robinson. The country at and surrounding this place is quite beautiful and fertile, being under good cultivation's [sic] and owned generally by wealthy planters.

Nicholasville, Ky Oct 4, 1861

Nothing of special importance aside from fixing up our camp and some company drilling. The weather quite warm and beautiful. this at present is called Camp Norton.

Oct 5, 1861

Remained in camp with little or no news of importance. The weather quite beautiful and pleasant. Our time will put in at drilling and exercise in the manual of arms.

Nicholasville, Ky Oct 6, 1861

Heavy shower early this morning. The weather continuing warm and sultry. Attended church in Nicholasville in the forenoon in company with C. S. Bolton, [illegible] Stokes and Bonhannons. Services in the afternoon in camp by the regimental chaplain, Rev Skinner. Citizen and contraband came from far and near to see the "Yanks" who are subjects of great interest to the sympathizers who look upon us with anything but a pleasant countenance.

Nicholasville, Ky Oct 7, 1861

Raining a good portion of the time. Weather cool and chilly. I am suffering from the effects of a bad cold in consequences of which I have been unable to perform any duty today.

Oct 8, 1861

This morning the weather is quite pleasant and everything assures a cheerful respect. Nothing but the ordinary routine in camp which is rather monotonous.

Oct 9, 1861

Feel somewhat relieved from the effects of my cold. Weather warm and beautiful. Several of the 17th O boys reported to have been killed in this place by poisoning. Quite a number complaining of colds and some chill fever in camp.

Nicholasville, Ky Oct 10, 1861

Weather beautiful and pleasant. Spent our time in drilling as usual. Artillery brought and shipped on to Camp Dick Robinson and Lexington predatory to commencing more active operation.

Oct 11, 1861

Weather cool and disagreeable. Rain falling the principal portion of the time. rather monontounios [sic] living in camp with nothing to do such a time as this.

Oct 12, 1861

Warm and beautiful again this morning. Forenoon principally spent in drilling. general [sic] Anderson the noble hero of Fort Sumptner [sic] arrived and visited the troops. the [sic] regiment formed and received him with great enthusiasm after which the General addressed the officers and men in an elegant speech after which he passed along the line, shook hands with everyone and then bid us adieu. He was again greeted with cheers and parade reception dismissed.

Oct 13, 1861

Weather continuing warm and pleasant. health [sic] none too good. I have not yet fully got encured [sic] to the change from civil to military but think a few more days and I'll be gay as any one [sic] could wish for.

Oct 14, 1861

Weather fair and beautiful. received [sic] orders to be in readiness to march at an early hour tomorrow morning. Quite busily engaged all day in getting ready for an active campaign and move by daylight tomorrow. Health rather poorly.

Lexington, Ky Oct 15, 1861

Broke up camp at Nicholasville early this morning and marched to this place. We are comfortably located in the beautiful Fairgrounds of Lexington. The weather quite pleasant and agreeable. The country through which we passed is very beautiful and all under an excellent cultivation. our [sic] march was rather agreeable and pleasant for a beginning.

Lexington, Ky Camp Dudley Oct 16, 1861

Remained in camp at this place all day. The regiment was marched to the cemetery and visited the monument of Henry Clay Speeches were made by several different gentlemen suitable for the occasion. The monument is a handsome structure also visited different sites in the city.

Camp Dudley Oct 17, 1861

Remaining in camp all day the weather rather gloomy and disagreeable rain falling the principal portion of the time. No news of any consequences making preparations to move on in the direction of Rimpian [sic] Spring.

Lexington, Ky Oct 18, 1861

Struck tents at an early hour and commenced our march at half past ten o'clock A.M. We left camp Dudley amidst the most deafening cheer from hundreds who came to visit

us and witness our departure. When we left a salute was fired by a battery and now we were under good heading on the road and soon through the city. We marched to within four miles of Winchester, Clark County and bivouacked for the night.

In the field, KY Oct 19, 1861

Struck tents and moved on to Winchester at which place we were kindly received by the citizens and an excellent dinner was served for the regiment in the fairground. After farring [sic] sumptuously at the hand of the generous citizens of Winchester we again resumed our march at two o'clock P.M. and came within 7 miles of Mount Sterling Montgomery County, Ky where we pitched tents and camped over night. Several citizens of Winchester came up and presented Rev Skinner our Chaplain with a fine horse as a token of their esteem. The country through which we passed is beautiful gently undulating and in some places rather broken and hilly.

The weather has been pleasant and agreeable which is very favorable for us and the bed of quite a swift stream of water. Consequently we were obliged to make both water and mud the principal portion of the day.

We halted at noon for refreshments in a narrow God-forsaken looking place of the valley. A blatant rebel came in camp and commenced quite an extensive harangue when Sergt [sic] Saml [sic] Riggs took the chivalric gentleman by the throat made him hurrah for the union and then marched him off in a manner not very agreeable to himself from the fact he had but three minutes given him to get out of sight. After dinner we proceeded on through the most horrible roads in the narrow pass between the mountains. very [sic] difficult work for our teamsters. A difficulty arose between Quartermaster R. S. Munger and D. R. Bohannon. Munger drew his revolver on Bohannon but did not fire which caused a sensation among the crowd for a short time but soon subsided. We toiled on with warier step until night when we encamped in a low and narrow meadow by the roadside which was scarcely large enough to get our tents on. But then her [sic] we could not complain no had a good solid rock to sleep on and as a matter of course enjoyed a nights [sic] rest on the soft side of a large rock very much and felt about as comfortable in the morning when I got up as when I lay down in the evening.

In the field, Ky Oct 20, 1861

Last night rather cool laying on the ground and felt unwell from the effect of it resumed our march at 8 o'clock this morning came on through Mount Sterling and encamped

about eight miles S. E. from that place Our march to day rather fatiguing [sic] and a goodly number were brought along on the ambulance.

In the field Oct 21, 1861

Struck tents this morning after a comfortable nights [sic] rest and took up our line of march toward McCormicks [sic] Gap After proceeding a short distance we found difficult marching. Surrounded on both sides with lofty [sic] and rugged hill with the road in a very narrow valley between which served the double purpose of a road.

Oct 22, 1861

Resumed our march again at an early hour this morning. Came on through narrow mountains passed wading mud and water as though we took delight in the "BIZ" We got through the gap a little before noon where we met the 2nd and 33rd Ohio regiments in camp. We here halted and went into camp. In the afternoon the Second Ohio Regiment with Seventy five cavalry and several pieces of artillery went out in pursuit of the enemy expecting to give them battle. Several prisoners were sent in during the afternoon.

Oct 23, 1861

Struck tents at an early hour preparatory [sic] to resuming our march after experiencing rather a gloomy and disagreeable night on the hillside. the [sic] weather cool and enjoyed anything except a good nights [sic] rest. The 33rd Ohio Vols took the advance followed by the 21st regiment after which came Captain Conkle's Battery. We marched on toward Hazel Green over very rough and disagreeable roads. We halted at noon about eight miles from McCormick's Gap and remained over night in order to allow some time for our transportation train to come up.

Oct 24, 1861

Everything in readiness we again resumed our march quite early this morning. We arrived at Hazel Green a little before noon where we again overtook the 33rd Ohio Vols and heard from the 2nd Ohio Vols who went by the way of West Liberty at which place they had a small skirmish with the enemy but soon routed them. Our loss was but one wounded, a first Lieutenant belonging to the 2nd Regiment. The rebels had seven killed a few wounded and lost a number of prisoners.

Oct 25, 1861

Remained in camp at Hazel Green. Weather fair and the men felt somewhat recruited by laying over. No news of any importance occurring here.

Hazel Green, Ky Oct 26, 1861

Camp wadsworth [sic]. Remained here all day. Weather continuing beautiful. Nothing of much consequence occurred here.

Hazel Green, Ky Oct 27, 1861

Remained in camp, weather quite favorable for us. A detachment of KY troops out scouting and brought in a number of prisoners – some horses and cattle also a good quality of forage. Citizens coming into camp and take the oath of allegiance.

Hazel Grove, Ky Monday Oct 28, 1861

Weather continues fair. Typhoid fever made its appearance a number of the soldiers are quite sick. Citizens in large number come to camp having a great curiosity to see the “Yanks” they are illiterate and poor as a general thing.

Hazel Grove, Ky Oct 29, 1861

Weather continues beautiful. A great many sick men in the regiment. R. F. Bonham quite ill.

Hazel Green, Ky Oct 30, 1861

Out on picket duty about one mile north of town. Guard posted on a very high hill west side of the road. The night of guard being spent in company with Monroe Lieutenant commanding the guard. Were visited by Maj Strong grand officer of the day.

Oct 31, 1861

Brought in the guards and commenced the necessary preparations to resume our march again. Struck tents about noon and took up our line of march for Prestonburg [sic] accompanied by the 33rd and 59th O Regt. Proceeded through a hilly country about 7 miles east when we halted and camped for the night.

Nov. 1, 1861

Resumed our march at an early hour this morning. Marched about ten miles over rugged hills and through muddy roads. Nelsons [sic] Headquarters [sic] team unfortunately upset and fell down quite a steep precipice. Evening cold and rainy and disagreeable.

Nov 2, 1861

Struck tents at an early hours and resumed our march, rain falling fast, roads very muddy and difficult moving. Proceeded about four miles when we came to a branch of Sicking River. Felled trees across the river on which the army crossed and drew the teams over by means of a long rope.

Pitched tents in a cornfield and had a fine soft thing for my bed, that is we slept on corn ground well soaked and furrows full of water.

Nov 3, 1861

Resumed our line of march again quite an early hour after a soaking night in rain and mud. The weather continuing cold, wet and disagreeable in the extreme. Roads almost utterly impassable, especially so for the artillery. Came on the central branch of the Sicking river which being very high we halted, built a bridge and then crossed on the opposite bank in a beautiful clover field for the night. The rain having now ceased and the skies once more looked clear and beautiful. Rumors afloat this evening of General McClellan defeating the rebel General Beauriguard [sic] and achieving spirits of the entire command although this rumor like ten thousand other camp rumors soon proved itself without formation.

Kentucky Nov 4, 1861

Morning cool clear and beautiful. Our time this morning being occupied in drying our wet clothing and blankets and making all necessary preparations to resume our march when

we received orders to remain in camp and not move into Prestonburg [sic] until tomorrow.

Nov 5, 1861

Again we resumed our line of march for Prestonburg [sic] at an early hour in the morning. Marched in quick time over hills and muddy roads in the valleys often times going at a double quick and halting at noon but a few moments for refreshments from our scanty supplies in the haversacks when we again moved forward and arrived on the river bank opposite Prestonburg [sic] at dark. Here we halted and Co "A and F" sent out on picket duty. We proceeded down the river but a short distance where we remained on duty until about 11 O'clock P.M., when we were called back crossed the river in a ferry boat and marched up into town through mud water and a must [sic] drenching rain. The night being dark beyond all description. Captain Ewing of Co D fell from a gully bridge about twenty feet down into mud and water. Blankets were tied together and lowered when he was drawn up more the better for muddy looks although unhurt.

We moved into town where the 2nd Ohio Infantry boys were quartered in vacated buildings and here found shelter for the remainder of the night in an old store-room where I crept into a pile of flax and slept until morning. This day we marched 23 miles over the most horrible roads and ferried the 21st Ohio Regt. Across the Big Sandy river which was quite deep at this time.

Prestonburg [sic], Ky Nov 6, 1861

Took up our quarters in this place and remained here during the day. I must state that I for one did not remain from any fancy. I took to this place but it was as the boys termed it a "Military necessity". What a miserable looking place this is surly [sic] none but some Kentucky mountaineers would take a fancy to it. The rebels fled on our approach destroying their barracks and retreated toward Piketown notwithstanding their position here for defending this place was naturally a good one.

Prestonburg [sic] Nov 7, 1861

Remaining in this place and are at present sustaining on very small allowance of rations. Making all necessary preparations for marching in pursuit of the enemy this evening near Piketown Pike county at which place quite a number of the enemy are said to be in force and fortified. All the necessary preparations are being made to leave when we received orders from General Nelson to remain in camp until morning.

Nov 8, 1861

Took up our line of march at 4 O'clock in the morning on the Piketown road up the river. We marched about 10 miles when the enemy's outposts were reached and a slight skirmish ensued. [illegible] for musket shots and two shell from our battery soon sent them off on a double quick retreat and we moved on in full pursuit about one mile further when a heavy volley of musketry was poured into our advance column and soon a brisk engagement ensued. The Kentucky Regiment along with us was in the advance next the 2nd Ohio and 21st Ohio then the 59th Ohio brought up the rear. The river running along close by the roadside on the south and Ivy Mountain on the north side of us with the rebels on the mountain on our flank and front left us in a narrow pass and a tight dangerous place. Our regiment immediately ascended the mountain and engaged the enemy, thus flanking them and routing the entire force after an engagement of about two hours. On the south side of the river quite a force of the enemy fixed upon us from a cornfield but were soon routed there by effective shelling them out, killing quite a number. Wilson W. Brown of Co F distinguished himself upon this occasion for his daring bravery, fired from the head of the ranks killing a rebel then rushing out into the midst of the enemy and bringing back the gun of his slain foe. The men behaved with decided coolness this being the first engagement the most of us had been into. The enemy lost her on this side of the river 14 killed besides quite a number of wounded prisoners and a number killed on the south side of the river is not certainly known.

After the fight was over here and the dead were buried we again moved forward a few miles and encamped on a high hill by the roadside for the night after quite a tiresome days [sic] work. This engagement is know [sic] as the battle of Ivy Mountain.

Nov 9, 1861

Reveille at 4 O'clock this morning, were up immediately and formed in line in the midst of a drenching rain which soon soaked us through to the skin. The march was resumed by daylight and in the midst of a drenching rain we proceeded some distance when we halted and sent several companies across the river to reconnoiter the country on the south side of the stream. After some reconnoitering of the country the troops recrossed to the south side of the river and we again presided forward removing trees that had been felled across the road, rebuilt bridges and all in a heavy drenching rain during the entire day. We came to within 4 miles of Piketown where we camped on a hill by the roadside for the night. Here rest seemed sweet although wet dirty and remarkably hungry, sleeping without any covering whatever on a cold wet ground we were in a

remarkably good fighting humor if there is such a thing during a soldiers [sic] life as being in that kind a humor.

Sunday Nov 10, 1861

Resumed our advance upon Piketown this morning. We proceeded some distance when we halted and discharged our fire-arms and reloaded. After we proceeded a short distance a courier from one of the companies sent out two days before under Captain Walker of Co B from our regiment to advance on another road leading into Piketown through the mountains. Arrived and informed us of the fact that Piketown had been taken early this morning with but a small skirmish. The rebels retreating into the borders of Western Virginia. We now moved forward into the town where we halted and managed to get something to eat which is always of the most important consideration with a U. S. Soldier and especially so under these circumstances. We made a raid upon a lot of dried peaches and corn meal and prepared some sumptuous meals good enough for a king. The enemy had been 3000 strong when they left although poorly armed.

Monday Nov 11, 1861 Piketown, Ky

Moved down the river to the grist mill one half a mile from town about 10 o'clock last night and commenced grinding corn to feed the troops with. Company F doing milling and John Scott and W. W. Brown being our engineers whilst the rest of the company is quite busily engaged in shelling and grinding. Weather pleasant and beautiful after a shower early this morning. No news of any importance today.

Piketown Nov 12, 1861

Remaining at the mill engaged in shelling and grinding corn. Weather fair and beautiful for this time of the season. A small river steamer came up today bringing our camp and garrison equipment from Prestonburg [sic]. Ever since our arrival here our subsistence has been corn.

Piketown, Ky Nov 13, 1861

Weather continuing fair. Sent letters home by the river steamer and received several this evening. Still guarding the old mill and grinding. Capt. H. H. Alban left for

Prestonsburg [sic] per boat this morning. Sergt. [sic] J. S. Keller and myself out and brought in a fine pony from a rebel planters [sic] dominions.

Nov 14, 1861

Remaining at the mill, no news of any importance occurring. weather [sic] fair

Nov 15, 1861

Cold and dismal, rain falling the greater portion of the day. Still remaining at the mill grinding meal for the substance of the troops notwithstanding the rebel sympathies of the miller himself who lives close by in a loghut [sic] and proves to be a fair stamp of those Eastern Kentucky mountaineers seesh [sic] whose tall lean form with an unusual elongated conterance [sic] down and stupendous roman nose and long locks of disheveled sandy hair hanging carelessly down over his shoulders give unmistakable evidence of the kind of sympathy we receive from the heart within the form covered with the best of a Kentucky Butternut suit which by the way is none the cleanest, and in all probabilities dirt accumulated on it by skirmishing with our forces several days ago as we were advancing to this place.

Piketown Nov 16, 1861

Received marching orders before daylight this morning. Got ready immediately and were into town before sunrise. We crossed the river in a small river steamer called the Sandy Valley and there awaited until the remainder of the troops had crossed over. We prepared to go down the river to Prestonsburg on a raft but after getting ready the orders was countermanded and got aboard the Sandy Valley and came down to Prestonsburg. Quite a number of those marching down go on rafts of logs and boards and "paddles their own canoe" down to Prestonsburg. One Mr [sic] Howard of Co "B" was drowned, also a private of the 2nd Ohio Infantry met with the same fate. The weather being quite cold and stormy. Took up our quarters for the night in a cold room which by the way could not be boasted of for either comfort or cleanliness.

Prestonsburg Nov 17, 1861

Morning cold and frosty the ground frozen hard, all making preparations to go down the river tomorrow. Have about a dozen tall lauk [sic] looking specimens of humanity along as prisoners of war. Contrabands anxious to follow and get to "free country"

Prestonsburg Nov 18, 1861

Marched down to the ferry and crossed early this morning and crossed the river. Here we remained all day assisting in ferrying the troops, artillery and supply trains across the Big Sandy river which was anything but pleasant and an easy task. Pitched tents here on a sand bank and remained over night on the river bank, although quite cold and stormy.

Prestonsburg Nov 19, 1861

Struck tents by an early hour and took up our line of march down the river to Sonisa Landing our camp and garrison equipment on a small boat and in the charge of Hugh Marshall and Bonsel rowed down the river. Our march this day over steep and rugged mountains and through mud and water in the valleys between consequently being exhausting and very fatiguing and irksome. We proceeded on our way until after dark when we halted one mile beyond a small village by the name of Paintsville, where we went into camp for the night, that is to say we halted, built fires and slept by them as best we could without shelter or cover excepting our overcoats, but you may rest assured that good large fires were kept up and a heavy requisition was made on the cedar fence rails of an old sesch [sic] planter on whose premises we halted.

Near Paintsville, Ky Nov 20, 1861

Last night spent comfortably enough until about 4 O'clock this morning when the rain began to fall in torrents after which time we certainly were very uncomfortable. We resumed our march at daylight and had a remarkably tedious time. Proceeded over rugged hills and through muddy valleys to within 12 miles of Louisa. This march being very hard and trying on the entire command. We halted on the river bank and found boats here with our camp and garrison equipage. The music of the brass band sounded remarkably sweet and cheerful in this desolate looking region so much as that it recalled to memory the pleasant times before the war when peace and harmony prevailed throughout the entire country.

Nov 21, 1861

Resumed our line of march at an early hour this morning. The weather being cold and frosty. We proceeded down river 12 miles to the town of Louisa arriving here about

noon. Here we halted and a silver quarter of a dollar proved sufficient temptation for a lady to get up a good handsome dinner which you can rest assured was soon dispatched with a relish such as none but a hungry soldier could complete with. Here we got aboard the steamer Rocket and came down the river 5 miles in the evening when on account of the fog we were obliged to halt on the Virginia side and wait until the next morning. My health continues good excepting a bad cold caused by sleeping on the ground and being wet for almost two days before getting clothes well dry. One of Co I men committed suicide [sic] by shooting himself through the head on the 19th inst. C. S. Bolton having gone in a detail ahead of us on the morning of the 20 inst [sic] I met again today at Louisa.

Nov 22, 1861

On board the steamer Rocket bound for Catlettsville [sic] at the mouth of the Big Sandy river at which place we arrived at 12 O'clock M Glad indeed were we upon our arrival at this place. After our sojourn throughout the mountain regions of Eastern Kentucky We were here received with the most intense enthusiasm on the part of the citizens with a salute from the battery. As the boats rounded to the shore from the mouth of the river our own band striking up the cheerful and appreciate tune of "Get out of the Wilderness" which certainly was in remarkable good place upon this occasion and elicited the most intense applause. Happily one more to get abundance of good supplies of every kind required by both man and beast. A small scouting party returning this evening bringing in eight rebel prisoners who are guilty of the murder of a union man by cutting his throat after shooting him. Thus the terrible nature of the conflict is slowly but steadily assuming a more shocking and terrible form. Father and son are arrayed against each other Brother against brother and the nearest and most sacred of all the kindred ties of nature disregarded [sic] while blood is upon the threshold of almost every household The weather cold and quite stormy.

Nov 23, 1861

Sailed from Catlettsville [sic] for Cincinnati about O'clock P.M., although somewhat retarded by a tremendous heavy snow storm which continued all night blowing almost a perfect hurricane. Owing to the heavy load of troops on board C. S. Bolton and myself slept under our blankets on the upper deck and received the full benefit of the storm which was anything but agreeable.

Sunday Nov 24, 1861

Snow falling and weather rough and stormy. came [sic] on at a bush rate and arrived at Cincinnati at 12 O'clock M. stopped [sic] here until about one O'clock P.M. when we received orders immediately to sail down to Louisville a distance of 150 miles further and soon after the entire fleet of General Nelsons [sic] brigade was under full heading for Louisville.

Louisville, Ky Nov 25, 1861

Arriving on the steamer Rocket at this place at noon we now disembarked and took up our march for Camp Buell, 5 miles south of the city. After considerable fussing and really unnecessary delay we arrived at the camp and pitched our tents in a low wet field with a good prospect of remaining here in camp for a short time at least after going through with those long and fatiguing [sic] marches on the campaign through Eastern Kentucky and West Virginia. How sweet rest seems. Oh! not only seems but really is to the weary and fatigued who through a long series of marches and campaigns is way worn and in need of rest to regain his physical strength.

Louisville, Ky Nov 26, 1861

This morning remarkably clear and beautiful although a heavy frost upon the ground We spent the day in camp in arranging our quarters policing and cleaning up everything pertaining to our uniform and equipments [sic] The truth of the matter is we were the most ragged set of men one can imagine upon landing So much as that we frequently heard the application of "General Nelsons [sic] Ragged Brigade" when marching through Louisville yesterday. But this will now soon be effectual remedied from the fact that the government has an abundance of clothing and we now are where we can get it.

Louisville, Ky Nov 27, 1861

Remaining in camp with nothing of any special importance transpiring aside from the ordinary duties of camp life. Weather cold and blustery and together disagreeable.

Louisville, Ky Nov 28, 1861

A cold disagreeable rain falling during the principal portion of the day, and owing to the low ground of our part of the camp we found the inside of our tents floating with water consequently we set about to remedy this by laying down a floor of common rough and heavy fence rails and slept on the soft side of them.

Nov 29, 1861

Weather cold and remarkably bad for camping. rain falling in the forenoon. Afternoon snow and sleet until evening when a heavy snow-storm set in and continued nearly all night. Our companies [sic] quarters being low was very wet and muddy the consequence is a good number of the men in camp are sick and unfit for duty.

Nov 30, 1861

Remained on duty as guard in camp although snow on the ground and weather rather cold. Now [sic] news of any importance to note outside of the routine of camp life.

Camp Buell, Louisville, Ky Sunday Dec 1, 1861

Remained in camp. The snow and cold weather preventing us from regular drilling and inspection, so much needed by the large body of Volunteers unaccustomed to military life.

Camp Buell Dec 2, 1861

Snow falling briskly this morning and quite a storm for latitude. Struck tents and marched down near town and got into better quarters in the afternoon although we were obliged to shovel snow and ice before our tents could be put down which was remarkably disagreeable work.

Louisville Dec 3, 1861

Cold and stormy. C. S. Bolton and myself at work making out muster and pay rolls for which purpose we occupy a good and comfortable room in the Chancert house near town, subsequently we anticipate pay before long.

Louisville Dec 4, 1861

Weather moderating to some extent At work all day in the hotel making out our muster and pay rolls. Slept on the floor in front of a good warm coal grate. No news of any consequence.

Louisville Dec 5, 1861

Weather fine and beautiful. The sun's bright and cheerful rays once more enliven everything surrounding us. We concluded our task of making out the muster and pay rolls consequently returned to duty in camp this afternoon and were on drill and regimental parade. The present location of our camp is certainly beautiful. The city of Louisville on the south in the outskirts of which we are encamped with the waters of the beautiful Ohio gliding by in silent grander [sic] with its hundreds of vessels upon its bosom bearing the merchandises of the nation as well as thousands of troops and munitions of war to different parts of the United States to take active part in the great struggle for American freedom now but fairly commenced. Here too upon the opposite side the undulating hills of Indiana rise above the level of the surrounding country with their varied scenery and fertile plains beyond. Oh! how many sons of that noble [sic] state rush to arms and swell the ranks of a mighty arm, go forth brought with hope and proud of their country will fall in the deadly conflict and find ones at home mourn [sic] their irreplaceable loss. A terrible conflict is before us and [illegible] reels of battle yet unfought must tell in the future history of the country how terrible struggle we are now passing through. The place of our present rendezvous is Camp Buell of the name of the General in command, Don Carlos Buell. Foreigners by the hundreds come to camp with their toys and trinkets for sale which often give some humorous incident relished by many notwithstanding they are frequently [illegible].

Camp Buell Dec 6, 1861

Weather beautiful and pleasant with no special news of importance. Troops are daily leaving and going to Camp Nevin whilst we expect orders every moment to march there ourselves.

Camp Buell Dec 7, 1861

Morning bright clear and beautiful. We were greeted by the welcome visitors Mr. Square Davis, Edson Voit. Squire Graham and Kinball from Findlay, Ohio bringing us news direct from home. Mr. Biggs also from there brought me a bundle of things from home

consisting of clothing to which came very handy indeed and are happy appreciated by us.

Sunday Dec 8, 1861

Day remarkably beautiful. Spent the time principally writing letters and making out some requisitions. Sent a letter home. Citizens out in large numbers to see parade. Getting ready to march to Camp Nevin at Elizabethtown, Ky tomorrow.

Louisville, Ky Monday Dec 9, 1861

Stuck tents this morning at a early hour and took up our line of march for Elizabethtown. The weather being very beautiful we marched about fifteen miles and camped for the night on the banks of the Ohio river. The country through which we marched being remarkably beautiful and fertile almost every article necessary for life.

On the march, Ky Dec 10, 1861

Resumed our march at an early hour this morning passing through a beautiful well improved and neatly built country. We marched on to what is known as Muldraugh's Hill and camped over night within fourteen miles of Elizabethtown. Weather beautiful and roads good, being a remarkable contrast between marching on this good pike and some of the roads we marched on in Eastern Ky.

Dec 11, 1861

Resumed our march at an early hour and came on to Elizabethtown arriving at Camp Nevin one mile from town about noon having come thirteen miles this morning. The troops being in fine spirits whilst the weather is quite warm and pleasant for this time of the season, consequently being much in our favor for moving troops and camp life in general.

Camp Harris, Elizabethtown, Ky Dec 12, 1861

Remaining in camp policing and arranging our regimental grounds more comfortably. Weather beautiful although cold mornings. Got a pair of boots repaired in Elizabethtown and must say that I had to pay a regular war price for it. This afternoon the Pay Master

arrived and commenced paying off the Regiment. I must say that he is by no means an unwelcome visitor, but just the contrary.

Camp Harris Elizabethtown Dec 13, 1861

Remaining in camp attending to the ordinary duties of camp life with nothing special to note aside from the required duties of company and battalion drill which occupies the principal portion of our time. Weather clear, warm and beautiful.

Camp Harris Dec 14, 1861

Remained in camp. Was on company drill in the forenoon and battalion drill in the afternoon. Weather fair presently being favorable for us. By order of the General commanding O. M. Mitchel the name of the camp was changed to that of Camp Washington today.

Camp Washington, Elizabethtown, Ky Sunday Dec 15, 1861

The entire division was inspected today by Gen O. M. Mitchel personally troops inspected in meadow near the village and troops presented a good appearance although not as effective as they will be by more drillings [2 illegible words].

Camp Washington Dec 16, 1861

Today on duty here as corporal of the guard. Weather quite beautiful. The number of regiments in the division at present are [2 illegible words]. The 2nd, 3rd, 21st and 33rd Ohio Vols Infantry, 11th Wisconsin and the 24th Illinois Vols.

Camp Washington Dec 17, 1861

Received orders to be ready to march early this morning, necessary arrangements soon made and took up our line of march at 10 O'clock A.M. passing through Elizabethtown and on the pike toward Mumsfordsville [sic]. We halted one mile beyond a place known as Camp Nevin and pitched tents for the night. the [sic] country over which we passed today being fertile and beautiful in appearance. Weather warm and pleasant.

Dec 18, 1861

Resumed our line of march at an early hour and proceeded on toward Mumsfordsville [sic]. Halted eight miles this side of said place one mile from a small stream known as Bacon Creek by the roadside and remained over night. Weather warm and cheerful for this time of the season. The troops being all in excellent spirits and good cheerful set of fellows with "hail fellow will and with most every one".

Near Bacon Creek, Ky Dec 19, 1861

Removed our encampment early this morning to the banks of Bacon Creek on the east side of the Railroad where regular encampment was laid out and the necessary preparations made for a regular camp of instruction during the most severe winter months. Time spent in cleaning off camp grounds which are being regularly laid out in compliance with the U. S. Regulations. Weather being beautiful. name [sic] given this encampment by General Orders from O. M. Mitchel being Camp Jefferson.

Camp Jefferson Dec 21, 1861

Time spent all day in camp drilling. More troops still continue to arrive including both infantry and artillery. Weather being pleasant which gives a cheerful respect to things around we [end of entry]

Camp Jefferson Dec 21, 1861

Our regular routine of duties in camp was for the present to consist of two hours of company drill in the forenoon and two hours of Regimental drill in the afternoon besides the regular guard duties of both picket guard and camp guards which at this place is not yet very perilous though quite irksome and frequently very important.

Camp Jefferson, Ky Sunday Dec 22, 1861

Weather cold rainy and disagreeable rendering it necessary to remain in our tents all day with but a few books or papers with which to contest ourselves and occupy our minds. No news of any kind or anything of special note occurring to change the dull and irksome camp. My health good excepting slight cold.

Camp Jefferson Dec 23, 1861

Morning quite cold and stormy. The ground frozen hard and covered with a sheet of snow. Spent the forenoon in drilling. In the afternoon crossed over the mountain east of us with a detail of men and got out a lot of wood, and hauled to camp for fires. Dress parade in the evening. the [sic] country in this vicinity is rather broken and rugged as a general thing.

Camp Jefferson Dec 24, 1861

Weather more moderate and assuming bright and pleasant appearance. the [sic] day principally spent in the usual routine of company and regimental drill and I will here add that owing to our limited [illegible] camp we secured several fine chickens and a small amount of other [illegible] luxuries which we are laying in store for a luxurious Christmas dinner on the morn which is something a soldier will always cherish.

Christmas morning Dec 25, 1861

Out at an early hour this morning and left camp in company with C. S. Bolton, John Morrel, E. Biggs and a number of others for the 49th Ohio Regt in camp Wood down at Green River. After a pleasant walk of a little over two miles down along the Railroad we arrived at Camp Wood where we found our numerous friends in good health enjoying the blessings of camp life. Seen cousin J. H. Bolton, Jonas Lenhart, John Cartwright, Wm Thompson and a number of others among whom were Capt [sic] Langworthy and Judge Palmer. After being in camp for some time we visited the bridge over Green river which has been a beautiful and extensive structure, being over 1000 feet long and the maximum height of 115 feet The rebels in their retreat destroyed a portion of this bridge which will require several weeks to repair We also visited one of those caves for which Kentucky is so much noted The cave is near this place though not large nor grand compared with the Mammoth Cave still had some interesting characteristics about it for the study of the naturalist. Visited also the battle ground where Col Willichs [sic] 32nd Indiana Vol engaged the Texas Rangers on the 17th inst [sic] Also Capt [sic] Cotter's Battery which is a model one. we [sic] also had the pleasure of seeing the initials of Daniel Boone with the date of 1798 on a beech tree which age has made almost invisible with age. the natives in this place claim they were carver [sic] by the famous hunter himself in the year 1798. [illegible] quite old and the marks on it are certainly original and despite all their assurances the [2 illegible words] placed them there I failed to see the point of the truth in it. We returned to Bacon creek sometime after dark in the evening very much [illegible] with our visit to Green River.

Camp Jefferson Dec 26, 1861

In camp attending to the ordinary duties in camp. Time spent in company and battalion drill. In the evening a very heavy rain set in and continued all night.

Camp Jefferson Dec 27, 1861

Rain ceased falling this morning. Clouds cleared off and a fine bright day as the result. Battalion drill in the forenoon. C. S. Bolton is sick today although not serious.

Dec 28, 1861

Remanded in camp repairing our quarter very comfortably. Nothing done aside from the ordinary duties of camp life. Weather beautiful.

Camp Jefferson Dec 29, 1861

Weather remarkably beautiful. After regimental inspection the Rev M Gaddis, Chaplain 2nd Ohio Vol Infantry preached a spirited and remarkably interesting sermon well adapted for the [illegible]. Dress parade at sun set. In the evening there was a very interesting prayer meeting in our tent lead by Mr [sic] Williams from Independence by reading a chapter and prayer. Quite a large number were present and an unusual good and interesting meeting was the result. Spent some portion of the time in writing home to friends. No news of any special character to day [sic].

Camp Jefferson Dec 30, 1861

On duty as corporal of the guard during the day and night. Called our guards twice in honor of General O. M. Mitchel, general department of guards on duty was good as the command is getting under fine military discipline and will compare favorably with any other command and in fact superior to a great many. Weather is beautiful.

Camp Jefferson Dec 31, 1861

The time spent principally in Co and Regimental drilling and target firing Weather unusually pleasant and quite favorable for camp life My own health not so good owing to the effects of a bad cold.

Camp Jefferson Jan 1, 1862

Weather warm and pleasant. Remained in camp during the forenoon and attended to the ordinary routine of camp duties. In the afternoon went along out in company with Captains H. H. Alban, D. R. Stoker, Davis Stoker, John Scott, C. S. Bolton and D. R. Bohannon to visit one of Kentucky's natural caves. We proceeded up Bacon Creek 3/4 of a mile when we came to the entrance of the cavern. After lighting our candles we began to enter the cavern by crawling on our hands and knees for some distance from the entrance before the mouth of the cave grew wide and high enough to permit us to stand erect. We soon however arrived at the large apartment and found ourselves within a high and beautiful hall as it were, beautifully hung with stalagmites with here and there the pure crystal drops of water slowly trickling down the sides of this wonderful natural structure while our lights reflected the most gruesome and varied splendor. A great many of the largest and most beautiful stateatites [sic] had been broken off and carried away by curiosity seekers like ourselves. Aften spending about an hour and a half in wandering through the different apartments and viewing the curiosities of the subterranean cavern we returned to camp all feeling well pleased with our visit to this Kentucky Cave.

Jan 2, 1862

Remained in camp continued the ordinary routine of camp therewith and nothing occurring to mark this sameness of drilling. Guard and fatigue duties. News of the arrest of Mason and Slidell the rebel ambassadors to England who left Fort Warren and embarked in the British steamers Rinaldo. This bold movement on the part of the Govt officers caused considerable feeling and this seems to be the only topic of conversation and various vague rumors and conjectors [sic] at the present time. Although hopes are entertained that this movement will not cause any serious trouble between the United States and Great Britain. From this time forward until Jan 12th we kept rather close to camp and but little drill or other duties owing to the inclemency of the weather, rain falling almost every day so that the amount of water on the ground and the mud rendered all drilling of maneuvering utterly impossible. On the 4th inst. Genl. Milroy captured \$80,000 worth of army stores and defeated the rebels at Huntersville, Va. Also learned that on the 10th of this month Genl. Garfield defeated the rebels under Genl. Humphry Marshall at Prestonsburg, Ky. the same place where we drove the enemy from

in November last. Owing to the disagreeable wet weather I caught a severe cold and from the effects of which I do not feel fit for duty of any kind and can scarcely get around. But such is the fortune or misfortune as it should be more properly called of soldiering.

Jan 12, 1862

Continued the same ordinary routine of camp duties with nothing new or of special interest. The weather once again tolerably fair with high winds, and muddy conditions of the parade grounds. My general health improving and now feeling much better than several days ago. Nothing new transpired up to Jan 14th when quite a snow fell and the weather turned stormy and blustery. In the afternoon the sun came out again and part of the snow left. At 2 O'clock the entire brigade went out on brigade drill and had a sham battle which by the way was by far more fatiguing [sic] than beneficial to any one.

Jan 15, 1862

Weather cold and changeable. Remained in camp all the day. Weather too disagreeable to drill. John Shelly of our mess very sick with typhoid fever. No special news of and [sic] consequence went on in camp. My health recovered and am feeling very near like myself now again.

Jan 16, 1862

Camp routine as usual and everything passing off as usual without any special news of any importance aside from the common rumors of Union victories and reverses which one soon gets accustomed to in camp and give credence only such as he sees fit. the [sic] names of the following members all of Co "F" from Findlay, Ohio and it's [sic] vicinity constitute my mess. D. R. Stoker, D. P. Stokes, D. R. Bohannon, J. L. Keller, C. S. Bolton, John Scott, R. F. Bohannon, Ralph C. Watson, Frank Hartman, John Slater and John Shelly. Received one letter from home and one from T. J. Burns.

Camp Jefferson Jan 17, 1862

Once again after a day long spell of wet and disagreeable weather we can congratulate ourselves upon having a beautiful bright sunshine and pleasant day. This forenoon was spent in Battalion drill and the afternoon in camp doing nothing at all.

Jan 18, 1862

Very heavy rain fell again last night. During last night a squad of cavalry here was surprised and taken prisoners by a rebel cavalry regiment, Genl' O. M. Mitchel being out reconnoitering came across very near being taken. A strong force is at present sent out after the enemy but I think stand but little show of overtaking them or recapturing any of the prisoners. Our cavalry were rather badly surprised and made but little or no resistance of any consequence. C. S. Bolton and D. R. Stoker on guard.

Jan 19, 1862

Rain continued and a good portion of the time very hard. Picket and camp guards having had during the past day and night a very wet disagreeable time of it. Occupied the principal portion of my time during the day in answering several letters and reading Milton's Paradise Post. The squad of cavalry captured yesterday were retaken to day.

Jan 20, 1862

Heavy rains fell last night attended with thunder and vivid flashes of lighting [sic] and today weather is quite cool again. Mr [sic] Tanner of C "A" a coming from guard duty placed his gun in the gun-rack omitting to uncap it where afterwards he went to take his musket from the rack the lock caught discharging the piece and ball passing through his heart. Mr. Tanner was a fine soldier and from West Independence, Ohio Hancock Co. Also on yesterday evening a fatal affair occurred in the 33rd Regt. Ohio Vols between two brothers who had a dispute in regard to some rations when one deliberately drew his revolver and shot his brother. Death was the immediate result of the shot. John Davis from Findlay, Ohio arrived here today whom we were glad to see.

Jan 21, 1862

Weather continuing remarkably changeable but little rain today. Jno Davis left camp this morning to join his regiment at Green River. The body of Mr [sic] Tanner forwarded per express to Findlay, Ohio today. No drilling during the past few days. Great deal of guard and picket duty to perform the past week so that most of the company are out all times.

Jan 22, 1862

We are greeted to day [sic] with bright sunshine. time spent to day [sic] in drilling and dress parade.

Camp Jefferson Jan 23, 1862

Fine and beautiful day. Battalion drill and dress parade. C. A. Croninger from Findlay, Ohio arrived her [sic] today early this morning. His friends glad to see him and hear from home. Just received the welcome news of the defeat of the rebels at Mill Springs, Ky under Genl. Zollicoffer killed by 3000 union troops under the command of Genl. Schoef [sic]. The union loss 39 killed and 127 wounded. My health is good.

Camp Jefferson Jan 24, 1862

Day fair and beautiful. John Scott and self out to bacon [sic] Creek attending to washing our clothes. Dress parade in the evening all the drilling done today.

Jan 25, 1862

Beautiful warm weather today. Time spent in Battalion drill this afternoon by Genl. O. M. Mitchel. After some practice the time required to form in line of battle and fire in order is just 45 seconds.

Camp Jefferson, Ky Jan 26, 1862

This being Sabbath morning fair and beautiful and according to previous orders the entire division was reviewed this forenoon by Genl. O. M. Mitchel. The appearance of the troops in review was good with apparently fine discipline. Upon returning from review Lt. Col. J. M. Neibling's horse fell and bruising Lt. Col. Nibling [sic] so as to render him unfit for duty for a short time. Time spent this afternoon in answering several letters and on dress parade. In the evening attended prayer meeting in Co "E" of our regiment.

Jan 27, 1862

The weather changed and somewhat cooler with occasional showers. The time spent in Co and Battalion drill. established [sic] color line in front of our quarters this afternoon. No news of special importance to note aside from the ordinary routine of camp duties.

Camp Jefferson Jan 28, 1862

Weather today changeable with high blustery winds. Out on guard duty this forenoon at Commissary Department. After posting sentinels returned to my quarters until evening when I went and relieved the guards but put on duty a strong guard for the night. A heavy rain set in early in the evening making my duty a very disagreeable on [sic] although succeeded with our overcoats and rubber ponchos to keep tolerably dry.

Jan 29, 1862

Heavy rains falling all day rendering our camping grounds very muddy and disagreeable again. J. S. Keller received a large box of provisions from home to day [sic] and among them such luxuries as soldiers in the field do not often get. We feasted bountifully and enjoyed a pleasant and luxurious repass [sic] with plenty of good humor and lively jokes from Scott, Keller and Bonham as well as others.

Camp Jefferson, Ky Jan 30, 1862

Nothing special of note occurring today in camp. The weather continuing quite changeable. Done but little camp duty and only a small portion of time spent in drilling. the [sic] general health of the troops in camp is good and all seem in very fine spirits.

Jan 31, 1862

Frequent showers during the day. The time spent principally in drilling and practice target firing. Received from Miss Mollie Paydene today a fine cake sent to me in a box to John Scott and John Davis. I enjoyed our excellent feast and had a jolly time this evening.

Feb 1, 1862

Cold, stormy and disagreeable weather today rain sleet and snow falling at intervals. Company drill and dress parade in the evening.

Camp Jefferson, Ky Feb 2, 1862

The weather continuing disagreeable with more or less rain falling the principal portion of the day. No drilling of any consequence owing to the inclemency of the weather. A Railroad accident occurred to day [sic] between here and Green River. A collision occurred between two trains. One engineer killed picked up dead from the debris of the wreck whose body was in a horridly mangled condition. Five others were badly hurt but most of them stand a fair chance to recover.

Feb 3, 1862

Rain falling during the greatest part of the day. We received a visit from C. A. Crominger and Wm. Haven who just returned from the camps on Green River and will leave tomorrow for home. My time today occupied in making out Capt. H. H. Alban's reports at which I have been busily engaged all day. Dress parade without arms in the evening.

Camp Jefferson Feb 4, 1862

Day rather pleasant and indications of nice weather are more favorable. This morning proceeded to the woods along with Sgt. Milhuff and several others to procure wood for camp fuel. Had a rather pleasant time and had the pleasure of catching several beautiful large fox squirrels and bringing along to camp with us. Hauled a load of rail also and in the evening had some fine roast squirrel for supper.

Feb 5, 1862

Weather pleasant and agreeable. The forenoon spent in squad drill by David Stoker and in the afternoon company drill. The men in camp are all in fine spirits and feeling well.

Feb 6, 1862

A heavy rain fell last night and the day rather unpleasant and no company or regimental drilling today.

Camp Jefferson, Ky Feb 7, 1862

Morning cool and damp. Time spent in the forenoon by squad drilling. Had one squad of ten in charge during the forenoon and in the afternoon about two hours of Battalion drilling by Col Norton. The balance of the day I occupied in writing up some of Capt [sic] Albans [sic] back reports. Received the news of Jesse d. [sic] Brights [sic] expulsion from the United States Senate on account of treason. Also of the Federal Governments [sic] decision that crews of the captured privateers were to be considered as prisoners of war.

Feb 8, 1862

No drilling of any consequence to day [sic] the weather being rather cool and disagreeable. John Scott's health is at present time rather poor. Fort Henry on Tennessee River attacked by the Union forces under Com Foote with seven gun boats. After an hour and a half fighting the rebels under Genl Tilghman surrendered unconditionally. The engagement took place the 6th.

Sunday Feb 9, 1862

Morning clear and cold. Ground frozen hard with cold sharp winds from the North. After company inspection our color line established. Attended preaching near our regimental headquarters by the Rev. Gaddis Chaplain of the 2nd Ohio Vols Infy [sic]. Mr. Gaddis is a fine eloquent speaker and quite a favorite amongst the troops where he is known. We had a good sermon well adopted to the occasion. The camp in the evening is all in a general uproar as you might term it. Owing to the fact that we have received orders to be ready to march at 7 O'clock tomorrow morning and it is understood that there is to be a general movement of all the union forces both by land and water. Expeditions under General Burnside and Commodore Goldsboro have started for Roanoke Islands. But We here in camp know but little of what is being done aside from our own maneuvering.

Feb 10, 1862

Reveille at an early hour this morning and seven O'clock found ourselves in line and marching on to Green River. Co "K" of our regiment remaining at Bacon Creek to come up with the rear train as guards. The ground frozen hard although the sun is out bright and clear. We marched on and by noon we arrived at Camp Wood on Green River where I saw cousin J. H. Bolton and Jonathan Lenhart as well as a number of others

from the 49 Ohio. Crossed Green River at an early hour in the afternoon and encamped on the south side of the river in a thickly set grove close by the suburbs of the little town of Woodsville.

February 11, 1862

Weather cold and disagreeable. Snow falling thick and fast a good part of the day. Davis Stoker and myself on guard duty. The cold disagreeable night had the effect of giving me a severe cold and hoarseness. received [sic] a box of provisions form home at the depot this evening and had quite a good little feast were [sic] visited by a number of friends and acquaintances from the 49th Ohio Vols. The men busily engaged in fixing up camp grounds, which are beautifully located on the south side of Green River. Our camp at this point is called "Camp Madison".

Feb 12, 1862

Morning bright and cheerful. Time spent in fixing up our Co and regimental quarters and have now got things quite handsomely arranged in our quarters. This morning received marching orders with directions to prepare two days cooked rations and be in readiness to move by daylight tomorrow morning. Everything is now all hurry and bustle and cheer after cheer from the troops in camp around as we can be heard as the orders are received for general forward movement of the army.

In the Field Feb 13, 1862

Revile [sic] at a early hour this morning and troops all in fine marching order. Took up out [sic] line of march at 7 o'clock A.M. for Bowling Green, Ky. The morning clear and frosty, as the sun shone beautifully over hills and valleys reflecting in brilliant splendor from the bright burnished arms of the soldiers as they passed over the hills and down into the valleys along the vicinity of Green River a most magnificently gorgeous view was presented to out [sic] sight. The scene was noble and subline. As we came on over rather rough looking country passing Horse Cave and several other small places we saw where the enemy had been in camp in force but had left upon our approach. Our division (The 3rd) commanded by Genl. O. M. Mitchel being in the advance on this march on to Bowling Green. We halted in the evening by a small R. R. station which the enemy had just burned and here we went into camp for the night in a meadow close by the side of the railroad. Late in the evening cold rain set in and after we all had lain down without our tents over us. Only our blankets and overcoats the weather set in cold

and about 5 inches of snow fell and completely covered us up under our blankets upon the ground. Notwithstanding this I slept well and felt good and ready to march of 21 miles to Bowling Green tomorrow.

Feb 14, 1862

Resumed out [sic] march upon Bowling Green at an early hour this morning. About 11 O'clock halted some time by the roadside owing to obstructions ahead rendering marching very disagreeable and tedious. A negro came along with a large team of fat oxen belonging to an old rebel. The artillery men killed his oxen for beef and confiscated the darky and made use of him for a teamster. About one o'clock P.M. heard considerable cannonading towards Bowling Green and received immediate orders to move forward with all possible speed. We march 15 miles quick time without even stopping to rest. the [sic] snow had got very soft and towards evening it again turned very cold. The ice was frozen to our pants from knees down so that we could scarcely walk. Genl. Mitchel's advance had shelled the enemy and fired the depot buildings destroying large quantities of commissary store arms. Also taking a number of prisoners. This days [sic] march was very hard one and my feet were very sore. Being blistered and Bleeding. The distance came today being 23 miles. In securing this town we have taken a very strong fortified place from the enemy and one of considerable importance.

Feb 15, 1862

In camp at Bowling Green and visited the different fortifications at this place six of them in number all of them large capacious and well constructed had not the evacuation of this place been forced by a flank movement our forces it would have been a hard task to take these works by storm from the front. As the positions here are naturally very formatible [sic] for defense and made doubly so by immense amount of labor and engineering skill in the constructions of very formatible [sic] fortress upon the commanding hills surrounding the town Weather cold and disagreeable.

Bowling Green, Ky Feb 16, 1862

This Sabbath morning finds us still in this camp the weather last night cold as any of the season consequently had but little sleep. Marched across the river today and camped in town. we [sic] carried all of our camp and garrison equipage across on our backs and loaded them on platform cars and run them by hand down to the place our

camp grounds near the R. R. depot where we pitched tents and soon were comfortably fixed up by appropriating [sic] considerable rebel property.

Camp "J. D. Adams" Bowling Green Feb 17, 1862

Morning rainy and disagreeable consequently remained in camp during the forenoon. In the afternoon visited some of the most principal places in the city. Our camp grounds very muddy. A portion of time spent this afternoon in making out reports for Lieut. H. H. Monroe. Just received the intelligence of the capture of the six forts on Roanoke [sic] Island by Genl. Burnside and the taking of 2500 prisoners and 3000 stand of small arms. One loss being only 50 killed and about 200 wounded. Also just received the news of the capture of Fort Donelson and the unconditional surrender of the entire garrison by Genl. Buckner of between 12,000 and 15,000 prisoners, 40 pieces of artillery and a large amount of army stores. the [sic] Union loss being 321 killed, 1046 wounded and 150 missing the capitulation of Fort Donelson took place yesterday the 16th the troops all jubilant over the recent victories.

Bowling Green, Ky Feb 18, 1862

Morning fair and resumed our camp duties and arranged things more comfortably in our quarters. received [sic] marching orders at noon to be in readiness at once to move at a moments [sic] notice. Companies "A and F" loading their camp and garrison equipage one car and "D and I" on another and these four companies proceeding down the railroads drawing the baggage on cars by hand whilst the other six companies marched down on the pike road. We proceeded about 6 miles at which place found a small railroad bridge burnt by the rebels in their retreat here we halted and went into camp by the side of the road in a large and beautiful meadow and soon found ourselves very comfortably located in camp. The Michigan Engineers and Mechanics coming up commenced work repairing the bridge so as to run trains across and bring up all necessary supplies for the army.

Near Bowling Green, Ky Feb 19, 1862

Very hard rain continued falling during the entire day and weather cold and very disagreeable this evening. In consequence of the rain we were obliged to remain in our tents today. the [sic] 2nd Ohio Regt returned to Bowling Green this afternoon after their camp and garrison equipage which they had left behind there.

Feb 20, 1862

This place called camp "Norton" name given in honor of Col Jesse S. Norton of our regiment. Weather rather cool although not very disagreeable. Time spent in camp as best we could with no drilling exercise of any kind whatever. We are fasting at present and must say however that it is not a voluntary or a devotional one but one of a decided military necessity and as we have had nothing but beef to eat today you may take it for granted that beef is [sic] the only thing used in the shape of food and some few are inclined to do considerable grumbling about it.

Camp Norton Feb 21, 1862

Morning beautiful and pleasant once more and feasted on fried beef and roasted corn for breakfast. On duty today as corporal of field guard and had a pleasant time whilst on duty during the day.

Feb 22, 1862

Reveille at 3 O'clock this morning and were in readiness to resumed out [sic] line of march at an early hour. During this time the rain was pouring down in torrents and we were some little delayed on this account. At 7 A.M. however we took up our line of march and came on in to Franklin the county seat of Simpson County at which place we arrived at one O'clock having gone 15 miles over horrible muddy roads caring [sic] all our knapsacks and accouterments and a large portion of the time the rain fell in perfect torrents thus making this foremost march one of the most disagreeable and fatiguing since our entrance into Bowling Green. At Franklin we took up our quarters in the basement of a church which has recently been used as a school room. Here we remained the afternoon and night glad to secure quarters so comfortable although some little dissatisfactions exists on account of the short allowances of rations. Our time the balance of the afternoon was spent in drying our clothing, blankets etc.

Feb 23, 1862

Marching orders as usual this morning. Took up our line of march and came onward following the line of the railroad as far as Mitchelville [sic] at which place the troops halted and took dinner after which resumed our march on the Nashville Pike. Just before leaving Michelville [sic] the boys of our Regt. took occasion to clean out a store belonging to a very bitter rebel and appreciated such articles as they found would from

of some benefit to them. We came on to within 33 miles of Nashville where we halted and pitched tents and remained over night. the [sic] country through which we passed was in part beautiful although a large portion of it being rather broken.

February 24, 1862

We resumed our line of march onto Nashville again at an early hour this morning and proceeded down the Nashville Pike road for some distance making several streams [illegible] were considerably swollen from the recent rains. About 10 O'clock in the forenoon we loaded our knapsacks onto the regimental transportation train wagons so as to be in the lightest possible marching order and proceeded on at as fast a rate as possible. We passed through several small villages and crossed the railroad thirteen miles North of Nashville and came within ten miles of the capitol of Tennessee where we halted by the roadside. lay [sic] out over night here without tents.

Feb 25, 1862

Out in line of march at 4 o'clock this morning and came to within two miles of Nashville where we halted a short time then marched back one mile and camped in a beautiful [illegible] on the east side of the Nashville Pile. The city of Nashville having been taken yesterday by our troops coming up the river from below the rebels making a precipitate retreat destroying the railroad bridge across the Cumberland as well as the other bridge. Both structures consequently a sever [sic] loss to the inhabitants of the city. The men all being glad to rest a few hours here after a fatiguing forced march and a short allowance of rations. the [sic] country and some distance before reaching Nashville is very beautiful. Under a high state of cultivation and fertile especially so surrounding the city of Nashville.

Feb 26, 1862

Morning fair and beautiful. the entire division remaining in camp until noon when we took up our line of march for the city, came to the river in due time, here we found quite a number of steamers laying in readiness to convoy the troops across the river at present is very high to the recent rains and both bridges being destroyed our only means of crossing is by means of boats. Also one gun boat at this place. Crossed over into the city where we halted a short time then marched out east of the city halted some time and expected to go into camp and remain over night. But about sunset received marching orders to come on about three miles where we halted by the roadside on a

small hill covered with pine shrubs And evergreen of different variations. Lay over night here without our tents or any eatables to gratify our appetites or satisfy our wants to make us comfortable with.

Feb 24, 1862

Morning beautiful. Removed farther up the hill and remained all day and another night without tents or our camp and garrison equipage. My health not so good owing to a severe cold which is the result of recent exposures. The name of this camp is that of "Camp Jackson". Just received the news of the inauguration of Jefferson Davis as President and of A. H. Stephens as Vice President of the so called Southern Confederacy on the 22nd of this month.

Camp Jackson Feb 28, 1862

Day being fair and pleasant although nights rather chilly and especially so for troops today out without shelter or an adequate amount of food. This afternoon our baggage and camp and garrison equipage arrived and we at once set about arranging our things more comfortable here in camp. Companies "F and E" going out on picket duty under the command of Capt [sic] Alban of Co "F". Some demonstrations by the rebel Genl John Morgans [sic] cavalry have been made in front of our advanced pickets.

Camp Jackson March 1, 1862

This morning we are greeted once more with a beautiful warm sunshine which is our congenial with our desires under the present circumstances. During the past night the rebel Genl. John Morgan attacked our pickets and killed Capt. Wilson of the 4th Ohio cavalry and seriously wounding an orderly sergeant of the same regiment. Our picket was drawn in a short distance after considerable firing on both sides. The different regiments were called out but nothing being accomplished of any consequence save the repulse of Morgans [sic] raid on our advance guards.

Camp Jackson March 2, 1862

Rain falling in torrents during a large portion of the day. Remained in camp all day not feeling very well from the effects of a severe cold and in consequences of which were excused from duty of any kind for the present which is quite congenial with any present

feelings. Considerable sickness in the regiment from the recent campaigning and exposures.

Camp Andrew Jackson March 3, 1862

remained in camp all day. Capt. Alban returning from picket duty rather sick although not seriously. The troops are coming in very fast and concentrating here preparatory to moving a general advance upon the enemy from here. A large number of river steamers and transports are arriving heavily loaded with army supplies of every description and in fact every branch of the service as connected with this army is at present very actively engaged both day and night in getting everything into shape to move at the earliest moment possible.

March 4, 1862

remained in camp during the entire day. No special news aside from the ordinary routine of camp life. Health getting better than it has been for several days past. The weather continuing quite changeable.

March 5, 1862

Remained in camp during the principal of the day. Weather quite changeable. Some little snow falling at different time during the day.

Camp Andrew Jackson March 6, 1862

We remained in camp all day doing but little excepting the ordinary guard duties. Capt. H. H. Albans [sic] goods which had been left behind arrived safely today in charge of his mess cook David Lanning. Some little snow on the ground and weather rather cold for our comfort in camp. My health is again good.

March 7, 1862

Weather today pleasant once more. The sun shining quite warm and agreeable. Company and regimental drill consisting the principal duties during the day. During the numerous incidents of army life one took place today whose name shall be withheld but

who had lack of sufficient ambition enough to keep his person perfectly clean. So much had he neglected his person that he became really filthy notwithstanding the orders of the company commander to wash himself and keep his person passably respectable. Finally forbear ceasing to a virtue by order of Col. Norton our regimental commander a corporals [sic] squad of four men was detailed in due form and old "Mr [sic] Greasy" was taken and marched to the brook close by where after anything but a gentle application of soap in large quantity they set about scrubbing and scouring him with mop and broom. He was lathered over white, as snow with soap and then the sturdy hands applied the broom and mop with such remarkable effect that judging from his entreaties to let him alone he undoubtly [sic] will take a special pains to wash and be respectable in appearance without the necessity of having a corporals [sic] guard to attend to the matter for him.

March 8, 1862

Company exempted from all regimental duties today to give the men a chance to do their washing and arranging company quarters more comfortable.

Sunday March 9, 1862

As usual on Sunday had company inspection and morning after which the color line was established and dress parade in the evening. Prayer meeting held [sic] in the vacated brick building situated in camp under the supervision of the Rev. M. P. Gaddis the 2nd Ohio Volunteers Infantry.

Camp Andrew Jackson March 10, 1862

Rain fell during the principal portion of the last night. Morning cool although not very disagreeable so. Company drill in the afternoon. Received news of the battle of Pea Ridge this afternoon although have not ascertained the actual result of the engagement.

March 11, 1862

Weather remarkably beautiful and warm and spring like today., company drill both this forenoon and afternoon. News of the engagement of the rebel steamers Jamestown, Yorktown and Merrimac with the federal fleet at Hampton Roads which resulted in a casualty to us. In the loss of the Cumberland and the Congress besides damaging

several other vessels. The engagement took place on the 8th inst. No special news of any consequence to record amongst our own troops in this department.

March 12, 1862

The 21st regiment out on grand picket about 8 miles from camp in a south eastern direction from this place. The weather warm and pleasant for the troops on duty.

Camp Andrew Jackson March 13, 1862

The past night was warm and early this morning had a very heavy shower. We were relieved from duty and got back to camp late in the afternoon somewhat fatigued from our march over roads quite muddy from the heavy rain this morning. News received this evening of the duel of the Ironsides at Hampton Roads on the 9th. After three hours of fighting the rebel gunboat Merrimac was towed under the protection of the batteries at Sewells Point and never renewed the contest again. The "Monitor" was uninjured. Quite a jubilant feeling exists among the troops at the success of the ironclad Monitor and preventing her from coming out to open sea as such a result necessarily would have been very disastrous to us.

March 14, 1862

Drilling in the forenoon. During the afternoon rain continued falling without cessation and all remained close in their tents. News of Genl McClellan taking command of the army of the Potomac on the 11th inst [sic] and Genl Fremont of the mountain Department and Genl Halleck of the Department of the Mississippi and also the occupation of Manassas by the Union Troops.

Camp Andrew Jackson March 15, 1862

Weather wet and disagreeable raining all the time during the past night and the principal portion of the day. On regimental guard duty today.

Sunday March 16, 1862

Day pleasant and agreeable. We received new Austrian Rifles in exchange for our old fashion musket and the entire command today being busily engaged in exchanging arms and arranging accouterments. No drilling or inspection today.

March 17, 1862

Company and Regimental drilling during the forenoon. Spent my time very busily all day in writing up Capt. Alban's muster rolls of Co "F". Weather today being fair. received [sic] marching orders this morning to be in readiness to march early in the morning.

Camp Andrew Jackson March 18, 1862

In readiness at an early hour this morning and were on the march in due time for Murfreesboro. Owing to the recent heavy rains the roads were in a almost impassable condition and the infantry for a long distance marched thru mud over ankle deep. We came on without any molestation and notwithstanding the horrible conditions of the roads we got fifteen miles from our old camp when we halted and pitched our tents and remained over night.

March 19, 1862

Resumed our march onto Murfreesboro at an early hour this morning although the rain was falling quite fast a considerable portion of the forenoon. Notwithstanding these unfavorable circumstances we moved forward as rapidly as possible and came in on the north side of Murfreesboro. This day we made seventeen miles and halted above seven miles north of Murfreesboro and lay out over night in the woods without our tents of camp equipage and considerable rain during the night.

March 20, 1862

Resumed our line of march this morning at an early hour in the midst of a drenching rain and proceeded on through to Murfreesboro at which place we arrived about noon and went into camp about one mile from town on the east bank of Stone [sic] river by the side of the Nashville and Murfreesboro road. We arrived in camp quite wet and very much fatigued from the last three days marches during which time we had scarcely a dry thread on us and it was a continuous wade through mud and water the entire distance. The afternoon spent in pitching our tents and drying our clothing. Learned the

cheering news of the capture of Newberne [sic], N.C. by Genl Burnside on the 14th inst. along with a large amount of army stores and munitions of war etc.

March 21, 1862

Weather unpleasant and this morning with some little rain and snow falling. Arranged our camp and then in company with John Shelly went down to the river about two miles and got a quality of straw and brought it back to camp for bedding purposes. Lieut. Col. Neibling and Capt. Alban crossed the river and took a rebel captain and one private prisoner who were left sick at a house to be cared for. Brought in their arms and accouterments. Our culinary department ran a little below par during the past few days and as a soldiers [sic] appetite is such a nature that no pains are spared in ministering to the gratification there of consequently acting upon this principal we sent John Scott along in charge of several men to look up something good for the innerman [sic] and upon his return in the evening he brought us a number of fine hams and chickens which he considered as contraband articles in an enemy's country and in consequences their [sic] of confiscated them and brought them to camp. A least and you can imagine the rest.

Camp Van Buren, Murfreesboro Mar 22, 1862

The weather raw and cool. Remained in camp a good portion of the day. Went along into Murfreesboro to get rations for the regiment this forenoon. In the evening Co "F" under command of Capt. Alban went out on picket about a half a mile east of town. An unusual exciting Negro prayer-meeting in some Negro quarters close by one reserve guards continued during the entire night with an unusual degree of interest among the colored people. Singing and shouting were continued without any intercession whatever and when taken into consideration the large number of them and their simple manners and songs it certainly was something of an unusual interest to one unaccustomed to see their [illegible].

Sunday Mar 23, 1862

Returned to camp early this morning and after breakfast went to the grove closed by and discharged our rifles after which returned to camp. No duties today with the exception of dress parade in the evening.

Camp Van Buren March 24, 1862

No company or regimental drilling owing to the large number of men detailed and at work rebuilding the Stone [sic] River R R bridge at this point which had been destroyed by the enemy when retreating from here. Weather continuing rather cool and changeable the greater portion of the time. A general good feeling prevails the entire army and the troops are feeling very much elated with the recent success of our arms. All feeling very hopeful and confident of the future result and our success in crushing out the rebellion.

March 25, 1862

As usual attending to the ordinary routine of camp duties with nothing of special importance to note excepting now and then a few prisoners brought in by our cavalry and they being principally members of guerrilla squads that lie in ambush and pick off our men whenever an opportunity occurs. A good many belonging to the rebel Genl. Morgans [sic] band of guerrillas.

Camp Van Buren March 26, 1862

The weather beautiful and pleasant today. The work in rebuilding the burnt bridge across Stone [sic] River is progressing very rapidly and will soon be completed. Received news of the Union victory at Winchester, Va. The Union forces commanded by Colonel Kimball and the rebel forces defeated and driven from the field with considerable loss on the 23rd of this month.

March 27, 1862

On duty in camp during the day. the [sic] weather continues warm and pleasant. Our camp is full of rumors concerning victories on the Potomac, although nothing definite aside from the victory at Winchester, Va., is as yet fully confirmed official. Genl. O. M. Mitchell commanding our division is one of those active business men, when he sets about doing anything he as a general thing follows the impulse of his active nature and makes it a special point to attend personally to anything of importance that may be entrusted to his care. in [sic] rebuilding the burnt bridges across Stone [sic] River here he is over presently personally supervising the construction and urging the men forward with all the utmost possible speed. Now giving directions, then taking hold and assisting in carrying [sic] in the long heavy timbers and putting them in place and in fact he is ever

present when duty calls to see that everything is not only properly done but with neatness and dispatch also. Among the numerous incidents that have occurred was one today while after assisting to lift some heavy timbers the General walked out on a long slippery log which lay into the river and whilst standing there giving directions and orders with an unusual degree of enthusiasm and energy, his feet slipping from under him he was precipitated heading into the river. Of course a hearty laugh at his expense arose from the numerous crowd at work all of which did but little towards [illegible] his order if it did his person. It is needless to state that General Mitchell is a universal favorite as a commander in his army.

Camp Van Buren Mar 28, 1862

Relieved from duty this morning. The weather continuing warm and pleasant this making it much more comfortable for us in camp. Received mail from home today. No special news of any kind aside from the dull monotony of camp life.

March 29, 1862

Remained in camp all day. Weather warm and beautiful. Again suffering somewhat from the effects of a cold and not feeling very well from the effects of it, Spent a portion of the time in answering letters from home.

March 30, 1862

Weather still continuing warm and pleasant and green foliage once more reminds one of pleasant spring time. Fruit trees out in full bloom and nature has again decked the forests and fields with her robe of living green. Nothing done here in camp aside from the ordinary routine of camp guard duties.

Camp Van Buren March 31, 1862

Attending to the ordinary camp duties with nothing special to note. The railroad bridges completed and trains running in from Nashville and with an abundant supply of all kinds of army stores. the [sic] weather continuing warm and pleasant. Extensive preparations being made for an advance again upon the enemy.

April 1, 1862

Not feeling very well from the effects of a cold. Weather continues fair and warm.

April 2, 1862

Weather still warm and pleasant. the paymaster made his presence welcome among us today and the troops are feeling quite merry over the prospect of getting their pay.

April 3, 1862

Morning warm and beautiful. Our regiment marched over to the court house in Murfreesboro this morning and received two months pay. returned [sic] to camp this afternoon. received [sic] orders to be in readiness to march at an early hour tomorrow morning and were busy getting ready accordingly.

April 4, 1862

Reveille at an early hour this morning and in readiness to march for Shelbyville about 25 miles south from here. As usual our march resumed this morning was again accompanied with a heavy rain during this forenoon which made roads bad and our progress rather slow and disagreeable. Halted about 2 O'clock P.M. about 14 miles from Murfreesboro and pitched tents by the roadside and remained over night. the [sic] country through which we came being under a good state of cultivation and beautiful. Went along out in company with several others to obtain forage corn etc. Found plenty on large plantation close by camp but also a determined opposition from the female occupants of the plantation and whilst the male portion of the family were all away in the rebel army the females were fully determined to defend their own homes to the utmost of their ability. As we commenced loading corn from a well stoned barn we were fiercely attacked by several females with pitched forks, brooms and hoe handles and a volley of epithets [sic] anything but complimentary to a Yankee soldier. The old lady led the van and her two younger daughters tonight up there rear and soon laid measures for executing a flank movement upon us and out generated [sic] us and certainly their loyal southern blood started to boil over with vengeance and we only way to pacify them was to take in charge under guard and start for camp with them thus kind of "Moral Swasion [sic]" had the desired effect of cooling their order for fight. So by keeping them until after we had secured our forage we saver ourselves from being totally annihilated after which they were again fully restored to their liberty.

April 5, 1862

Resumed our march at an early hour this morning and came to Shelbyville at which place we arrived about noon. Then marched about one mile and a half south of town we went into camp. I went out in charge of a squad of men into the country and obtained straw for bedding and other purposes although had rather a serious time in crossing the creek.

Shelbyville Sunday April 6, 1862

Weather warm and pleasant today. Remained in camp during the day. camp [sic] here called "Camp Harrison". A number of men detailed for secret service from the different regiments. Among the number from our Regt. is John Scott and Wils Brown from Co "F" and John Reed Porter from Co "G" as well as several others who are to penetrate into the enemies [sic] country in citizens [sic] costume by the way of Chattanooga.

Shelbyville April 7, 1862

Nothing of special note occurring in our army today. Our cavalry brought in 14 prisoners taken in capturing a rebel supply train out near Chattanooga but owing to a burnt bridge one man could not bring away the train, consequently had to destroy it and bring the men to camp. Weather warm and pleasant today.

April 8, 1862

Heavy rain fell last night and during a good portion of the forenoon. My time spent in writing up descriptive lists for Capt [sic] Alban and answering letters.

Shelbyville April 9, 1862

Reveille at 8 O'clock A M and everything in readiness to resume our march once more onto Huntsville, Alabama. the [sic] troops moving at 5 O'clock when a cold and disagreeable rain set in. Notwithstanding the inclemency of the weather and the muddy roads we came on as far as Fayetteville until about 8 O'clock P.M. Having marched 24

miles over muddy roads and wading a number of streams. camped [sic] a short distance north of the town in a large meadow.

Fayetteville April 10, 1862

Morning clear and beautiful. remained [sic] in camp at this place during a portion of the forenoon. went [sic] with teams south of the village and brought in a quantify of corn. About 12 O'clock "M" we again resumed our line of march now going as fast as possible over very rough roads. proceeded [sic] about 9 miles when myself with a number of others returned to assist in bringing up our transportation wagons. Came back across the mountains and by hand assisted in drawing up our wagons and artillery over horribly rough and muddy roads and by 10 O'clock to night [sic] before we again caught up with our command having come eleven miles this afternoon notwithstanding the great disadvantage we had to overcome.

April 11, 1862

Resumed our march at 4 O'clock A.M. and proceeded onward to Huntsville. Our cavalry arrived at the city about 8 O'clock A.M. and stationed a battery on the curve of the railroad put a shot through the engine of a train of rebel soldiers which was being sent on through to reinforce Beauregard at Shiloh - took them prisoners as well as a fine lot of supplies of ammunition and commissary. Our regiment arrived about 11 O'clock A.M. at Huntsville and Colonel Norton of our regiment was at once appointed Provost Marshall of this place. We also captured fifteen engines and a large amount of rolling stock belonging to the enemy. The total amount of rebel prisoners taken her [sic] today is some 200. We arrested several members of the 10th Kentucky Regiment for being drunk and firing several buildings near Huntsville in direct violation of orders. We came the distance 21 miles this forenoon over some poor roads and the entire command is very much fatigued. Companies "A and F" going out on picket duty soon after our arrival here whilst myself and a small squad of men were left in charge of the camp and garrison equipage and put up the tents of the company at a late hour in the night. The city of Huntsville is a very beautiful place and one possessed of considerable wealth as a great many of the southern nobility reside here. Dick Davis, Judge Same, Ex U. S. Senator Genl' Hickman and the Hon Mr [sic] Clay as well as a number of other very prominent rebel supporters are residents of this place which is amongst [sic] one of the most beautiful and healthy inland places in the south.

April 13, 1862

Weather this morning rather cool and blustery and not much among the news in camp as they all are resting and feeling very much fatigued from the effects of the hard forced marches into this place. Dispatches just received this afternoon concerning a heavy engagement between Union forces under Genl. Grant and the rebels at Shiloh and resulting in the final defeat of the enemy as they were driven to there [sic] fortifications at Corinth. The federal loss was 1641 killed 7721 wounded and 3956 missing. the [sic] rebel Genl. Johnson was killed. the [sic] union forces were on the 1st days [sic] engagement driven back to the river when the arrival of Genl Buell with heavy reinforcements turned the tide of battle in the favor on the 7th. The contest was a severe one and in all probability we suffered almost as heavy a loss as the enemy. We also were in receipt of the news of the capture of Island No 10 with 5000 prisoners, 100 siege guns, 24 pieces of artillery and 5000 stand of small arms, 2000 hedgehogs of sugar as well as a large amount of clothing, tents and ammunition. Loud cheering and bonfires throughout the different camps to night [sic] in honor of the different victories achieved by our troops. A general good feeling seems to pervade among the entire command and some feel very comfortable that this will soon terminate.

Huntsville Sunday April 13, 1862

Morning warm and pleasant. Companies "A and F" returned from picket duty this morning. Our troops still continue bringing in squads of rebel prisoners almost every hour. I attended to the orderly sergeants [sic] duties this morning. reported [sic] sick. drew [sic] rations for the men Etc. this [sic] afternoon wrote a letter to cousin Em at Ashland. Our camp here is named "Camp Taylor".

Camp Taylor April 14, 1862

Day beautiful and warm. On duty as corporal of the guard. A large number of rebel soldiers returning from the confederate army at or near Corinth and taking the oath of allegiance are returning home today. a [sic] large number went though [sic] her [sic] yesterday also.

Huntsville, Ala April 15, 1862

Weather very warm and sultry. Done writing for Capt. Alban during the principal portion of the day aside from this done but little duty.

Huntsville April 16, 1862

Company "F" came into Huntsville this morning and bivouacked in the Court House doing provost duty in the city. I being on as corporal of a squad of patrol. By request of Col. Norton I went on duty in the Provost Marshall's office as chief clerk. The office being in Genl. Hickman's building nearly opposite the court house and was kept very busy until quite late tonight in writing and making out office papers etc. A great many rebel deserters continue to come from the rebel armies at or near Corinth and take the oath of allegiance to the United States Government. The rebel feeling towards northern persons and soldiers is very bitter through this section. Today whilst one of our guards on duty in front of a store in this place was being passed by a young lady of very strong rebel [illegible] who was just coming out of the store deliberately walked up to the sentinel and spit in his face and by way of resisting the insult he deliberately knocked her down with his fist after which her father came to one office and desired to have the guard arrested but must say that he was instructed that his daughter had been served her rights for her unruly-like and insulting demeanor and the guards instructed not to take insults of such nature from the rebel citizens. that [sic] if they persist in insulting the soldier without any provocation they must abide the consequences.

Huntsville, Ala April 17, 1862

The weather warm and sultry during the day. Our duty very busy all day in the Provost Marshall's office. No special news of any consequences to note today.

April 18, 1862

Weather continuing warm and beautiful. received [sic] letter from home today also quite a number of recent papers the contents of which was eagerly sought after and soon devoured. After arduous labor in the office Colonel Norton, Mayor Walker and myself were invited to dine at two O'clock with Genl Hickman and lady and daughter. fared [sic] scrumpiously [sic] and had a very social and pleasant time. Everything they could do for our entertainment was done here by Mr [sic] Heckman and family and so we dined in the true southern style.

Huntsville April 19, 1862

Weather continuing warm and pleasant. Continued at work in the Provost office very busy until a late hour this evening. Colonel Norton being out a good position of the time the principal duties of the office all fell onto me.

Sunday April 20, 1862

Received the news of the capture of Fort Pulaski which commanded the entrance to Savannah, Ga on the 11th inst. Also the expedition of Genl O. M. Mitchell to Chattanooga succeeded in capturing 2000 prisoners at Bridgeport a short distance this side of Chattanooga on the 12th inst. Our regiment in part going along and participating. Attended to the most urgent business in the office wrote several letters and then returned to camp.

April 21, 1862

The weather being cool and rainy today. Time busily employed writing in the office all day until late into the night Our division supply train came through from Shelbyville today bringing late papers and mail as well as a large supply of commissary stores and clothing for the command. Also received news of the bombardment of the rebel forts Jackson and Phillip on the Mississippi below New Orleans which was commanded by our forces on the 18th inst. Also reported engagements in North Carolina by Genl. Burnside's [sic] troops although nothing is yet ascertained in regards [sic] to the results there.

Huntsville, Ala April 22, 1862

Continuing busily in the Provost Office until a late hour this evening. Col Norton being out all day the entire duties of the office fell upon myself and as a good many rebel deserters came into our lines I administered the oath of allegiance to them with the proper records made of the same after which as per orders from Genl. Headquarters they were allowed the freedom of the city. weather [sic] warm and pleasant today.

Camp Taylor, Huntsville, Ala. April 23, 1862

Weather warm and beautiful. Continue very busy in the Provost Office attending to the general duties of business. Our cavalry brought in some of John Morgans [sic] men as prisoners from the north recently. A general Court Martial has been commissioned and meet in the Mayors [sic] office at the Court House in this city.

Huntsville, Ala April 24, 1862

Busily engaged during the day in the office. The weather continuing warm and pleasant. Everything in camp is very quiet and nothing special occurring aside from the ordinary routine of camp duty.

Huntsville April 25, 1862

Raining during the principal portion of the day. Time spent busily occupied in the office and attended to getting hardware out of several stores here for the cavalry and the batteries of our division. No special news to note.

Huntsville April 26, 1862

Nothing special to note at present. weather [sic] fair and warm today. Time engaged in the office until late time this evening.

Sunday April 27, 1862

Warm and beautiful today. Received letters and late papers from home today. Time spent in reading during the principal portion of the day. Not much duty in the office this morning.

April 28, 1862

Day quite beautiful. Business crowding us in the office very much and kept hard at work until a late hour at night. The troops have been moving from below up to Stephenson near Bridgeport and destroyed the Tennessee River Bridge below here. The resident citizens here are feeling considerably elated the place and a general retreat before their

army, but I am happy to state they are going to be safely disappointed. Took a long walk south of Huntsville this evening and had a view of a beautiful country and had a pleasant time also.

April 29, 1862

Received orders to march at an early hour this morning from Stephenson. Colonel Norton was relieved from Provost Marshall duty and ordered to take command of his regiment. Packed up the books and papers in the office and then proceeded to the depot and there found our regiment waiting for a train to bring us on to Stephenson. About 11 O'clock A.M. got aboard a train of cars and came on to within 12 miles of this place. Here stopped and unloaded camp and garrison equipage and placing a guard over them we at once proceeded to march through. Came four miles and crossed the river on a bridge constructed of cotton bales placed in the river and fastened by long ropes chains etc. so as to hold them up. The buoying of the cotton bales being great enough to make a good bridge out of them in an emergency with but little trouble. We came to within one mile of Stephenson and remained over night by the side of the railroad.

Stephenson Ala April 30, 1862

Resumed our march at an early hour this morning which being rendered rather disagreeable by rain falling for several hours this morning. We came on crossing a small stream where the R. R. bridge had been burnt by the enemy. This stream was bridged over without much delay by means of a flat boat and a cotton bales in a short time and the troops crossed without much delay. Genl. Mitchel met us here and Captain Loomus on their return to Huntsville. yesterday [sic] they defeated the rebels at Bridgeport and took quite a number of rebel prisoners and defeated their entire command at this point driving them toward Chattanooga and disbanding their command. We came to Stephenson and soon obtained comfortable quarters in a church building back of the village at the foot of the mountains. About 600 prisoners here under guard principally taken yesterday. Although some are being brought in by our cavalry today. One of Genl Mitchels [sic] body guards killed today by some wayside murders [sic] who fired into them as they were passing along the roads towards Huntsville on their return from this expedition.

Stephenson Ala May 1, 1862

Morning clear and beautiful. Wrote a letter this morning after which went into the village and conversed quite freely with the rebel prisoners. A great of whom seem very [illegible] of success and remarkable hostile and bitter toward the U. S. Government, but few among them seem to feel rather despondent in regard to their future prospects. After dinner Capt. H. H. Alban and Mr [sic] Smith and myself went up to the top of the mountain with one [sic] rifles and enjoyed an excellent view of the surrounding country and beautiful scenery. After enjoying ourselves a short space of time and some little target practice with one of the rifles in which I came out the best we returned to camp feeling well pleased with our mountain tramp. Everything remaining quiet as usual until dusk in the evening when we received orders to return to Huntsville. We at once took up our line of march for the latter place and marched back crossing the last river where the bridge had been destroyed about 11 1/2 O'clock P.M. here a train of cars stood in readiness for us and we soon all got on board and came into Huntsville about sunrise on the morning of May 2nd.

Huntsville Ala May 2, 1862

After arriving here we took up our quarters in the old theater and soon made ourselves quite comfortable. At 2 O'clock P.M. myself and several others occupying me went on picket duty about one and a half miles S.E. from the village. the [sic] weather being warm and pleasant.

Huntsville Ala May 3, 1862

Morning warm and pleasant with some indications of rain. Came off from picket duty at 3 O'clock P.M. Received the news of Co "H" of our regiment which was guarding division train through from Nashville to this place being taken prisoners by Genl John Morgans [sic] men. Capt [sic] Ewing of Co "D" was also taken but has just got through here on parole. A number of the 2nd Ohio are also among the captured, as these guards were passing along the road in charge of the train Genl Morgan lay in ambush for them surprised them took them nearly all prisoners and destroyed the principal portion of the train. Only a few of the men getting away without being taken.

Sunday May 4, 1862

Morning clear and beautiful and all the surroundings of an agreeable and pleasant nature. Removed our quarters from the theater building to eastern part of this city and encamped in the Academy grounds the site of which is very handsome and the regiment is now located in a very beautiful camping place with all our surrounding conveniences [sic] and pleasant. We just received additional intelligence of Co "H" said to have all been taken prisoners which I am happy to learn was in part a mistake. 10 only are prisoners and 2 of the company being killed. Capt. Milo Caton of that company is missing and is either killed or prisoner as he was in command of his company when they were attacked and the train was destroyed by the enemy. Lieut. A. A. Monroe is lying very sick her [sic] with Typhoid fever and suffering from scurvy.

Camp Taylor Huntsville May 5, 1862

Heavy rains fell during last night and early this morning. Our time in camp spent quite pleasantly with but little camp duties to attend to at present. received [sic] news this evening of the evacuation of Yorktown and Jamestown and over 100 guns falling into our possession. A general good feeling in camp among the troops and some bonfires with an occasional one celebrating the went [sic] of success to our arms by freely imbibing a goodly quantity of poor commissary whiskey the result of which can be well enough imagined.

Huntsville May 6, 1862

Weather warm and pleasant. The long roll beat at midnight and the command turned out in a great hurry and formed a line of battle on short notice but as the cause of the alarm was nothing more than a small cavalry squad charge on our pickets who repulsed the rebels without any loss on our part we soon returned to camp and remained there undisturbed during the balance of the night. Afternoon in Huntsville and dress parade in the evening.

Huntsville May 7, 1862

Weather continuing warm and pleasant. But little being done here in camp aside from ordinary camp guard duties. Received news this evening of an engagement between our forces on the Potomac commanded by General Hancock and Hooker and the rebels

resulting in the defeat of the enemy and their retreat toward Richmond. the [sic] union loss in this engagement said to be about 200 killed and 700 wounded. The engagement lasting the principal portion of May 5th. Also received the report of Genl. Dunmont attacking Genl. John Morgans [sic] forces at Lebanon Tenn. on the 5th and resulting in defeating the rebels killing 66 and taking about 200 prisoners.

May 8, 1862

Pleasant weather still continuing and this being favorable to us in the rented fields at the present time. No special news to note today aside from the ordinary routine of camp duties.

Huntsville May 9, 1862

Weather continued warm and clear. No duties of any kind aside from dress parade in the evening during which was taken ill and had to step from the ranks and got some medicine from Doc Detwiler and soon felt relieved. At 10 O'clock P.M. started for Athens Alabama to guard supply trains through. Received news from the battle at West Point Va. where General Lee attacked General Franklin and Sedwick who had 20,000 men. The rebels were defeated and driven back. The union loss 300 killed and wounded. Engagement took place on the 7th inst.

Huntsville May 10, 1862

Convalescing today. Weather warm and sultry remained in camp close in quarters during the day. No duty performed by the mean left her [sic] in charge of camp and garrison equipage.

Huntsville May 11, 1862

Weather still continuing warm and rather sultry. Time spent in attending to camp duties and everything passes off smooth and pleasantly with but little news of any consequence tonight.

Huntsville May 12, 1862

The hot sultry day passed off slowly with no news of any kind to interest our restive and anxious minds until late this evening. We received the northern mail and a number of the most recent papers, and in them we note the capture of Norfolk Va. on the 10th inst. by our forces destroying the Ironclad Merrimac and capturing a number of heavy guns and a large amount of ammunition. Also on the same day a gunboat engagement on the Mississippi River near Fort Wright, our forces repulsing the enemy and capturing two vessels laden with ordnance and other army stores.

Huntsville May 13, 1862

Time spent in camp and from the effect of a cold had considerable headache during the day. Drilling the forenoon and dress parade in the evening. The general health of the regiment is good at the present time.

Huntsville May 14, 1862

Weather continuing warm and pleasant and during the past few days less amount of guard duties to perform consequently the men in camp are having east [sic] times as regards duties of any kind. Drilling about one hour in the forenoon and dress parade in the evening consequenting [sic] all the regimental duties. Received news this morning of the capture of Natchez Mississippi by Commodore Farragut on the 12th inst. capturing a large amount of ordnance and other army store.

Huntsville May 15, 1862

Still attending to the ordinary routine of camp duties with the weather warm and sultry with occasional showers.

May 16, 1862

Aside from performing the ordinary camp duties nothing special being done. The weather continuing warm as usual. Received news through rebel deserters that the party sent out into the secret service, among whom were W. W. brown [sic] and John Scott of our company were all taken prisoners beyond Chattanooga and in all

probabilities are taken some of them are killed or have been hung as Union spies. They succeeded in capturing a rebel train near Atlanta Ga. and were going to run it through to our lines at this place but were captured when near Chattanooga although some of the party are said to have escaped. We entertain the hope their fate may not be as sad as represented as the only news we have from the party is through rebel source.

Huntsville May 17, 1862

Attended to ordinary duties of camp as usual. A small shower of rain this afternoon rendered the heated and sultry atmosphere more pleasant and refreshing.

May 18, 1862

Morning fair and warm. Went out east of the city on picket guard. Myself and three others on the advanced post during the entire day and night. In the afternoon had a heavy shower of rain and time on picket guard spent quite pleasantly in company with Lieut. H. H. Monroe who is officer of the guard.

Huntsville May 19, 1862

Returned to camp about 9 O'clock A.M. from picket guards. Remained in camp during the day. Yesterday Major Strong of our regiment with 150 men went out in the direction of Fayetteville to meet our division supply train. They anticipated some little trouble with some rebel guerillas who are threating the train. Nothing heard from them since they left us.

Huntsville May 20, 1862

Day being rather pleasant and agreeable with high winds and some indications of rain. On duty to day [sic] having charge of an out post on the R. R. east of town. D. R. Bohannon, Marion F. Beals and Jackson Yates being on duty along with me on the outpost. Time spent rather agreeably whilst on duty.

Huntsville May 21, 1862

Weather tolerable fair with a fine shower of rain this forenoon. We were relieved from duty in due time and returned to camp and attended to the ordinary duties of camp during the balance of the day.

Huntsville Alabama May 26, 1862

Our time at this place since the 21st having been very agreeably and part of the time pleasantly spent in the ordinary performance of camp duties during this most pleasant month of the year with the weather very delightful and in a climate that is almost unsurpassed by none in the world. The men all in the full enjoyment of good health and excellent spirits attend to all requisite duties with ease and pleasure and evenings spent in exhilarating entertainments [sic] improvised for the occasion. Lieutenant Monroe ill but somewhat improving. This morning went with a portion of Co "F" to Fayetteville as train guards. After a sharp drive of over thirty miles over a rough road and mountainous road we reached Fayetteville late in the evening and camped in pleasant grove in the west part of the village.

Fayetteville May 27, 1862

Resumed our march at an early hour this morning and came to Shelbyville before noon and went into temporary camp and loaded with supplies of rations in the afternoon so as to be in readiness to return tomorrow morning.

Shelbyville May 28, 1862

Morning clear and pleasant. Our trains being loaded we started on our return for Huntsville at an early hour. Came as far as Fayetteville and halted over night.

May 29, 1862

Resumed our march for Huntsville at an early hour and after a very fatiguing march all day until late in the night we arrived in Huntsville with our supply train. Our regiment had been sent to Athens Alabama and our old quarters broken up we bivouacked in some old cars till morning.

Huntsville May 30, 1862

Got aboard train and came to Athens Alabama with Company "F" and here met and rejoined the 21st Regiment and went into camp in the suburbs of the village. Not feeling very well. Over exerted in our march to Huntsville on the 29 so as scarcely feel able to get about.

Athens Alabama May 31, 1862

Weather very warm and sultry. Our camp is located in the grove in the southern part of the suburbs of the village. I am scarcely able to be up and around. Am suffering with the Jaundice. Our regiment being sent out there to temporary guard this place and the line of railroad here for about ten miles. The railroad being the line about ten miles. This railroad here for about ten miles. This railroad being the line on which our supplies must be transported to us and that portion of the army south of this place and guerrilla attacks on some of our outposts are strongly threatened.

Athens Alabama Sunday June 1, 1862

Day very warm and sultry. Our encampment here named in honor of Major Strong of our regiment, called now Camp Strong. Feeling miserable from the effects of Jaundice. the greater part of the regiment being out on guard duty there is no company or regimental drilling or Sabbath morning inspection of companies.

Camp Strong Athens Alabama June 2, 1862

Day warm with a very refreshing shower this afternoon. Received several letters from home. Also wrote several.

Camp Strong June 3, 1862

Several showers of rain during the past night consequently day very pleasant. Am feeling some better. Recovering from the effects of Jaundice. received [sic] several letters from sister Elizabeth this afternoon which were welcome visitors. As letters

always are anxiously awaited from the friends at home by their comrade in arms who are fighting for the maintenance of their country and its liberties.

June 4, 1862

Very pleasant weather. Been busy all day in writing up the company muster and pay roll. Working in a room in the court house assisted by Lieutenant Abbott the leader of the band, and Henry Metoler and Capt. H. H. Alban.

Camp Strong Athens June 5, 1862

In camp during the forenoon. Day being very pleasant. Afternoon went south of camp in company with several of the boys about two miles, had a lively time by getting close on to a company of rebel cavalry. They discovered us and being at least ten to our one for prudent reasons we took to the woods and left their [sic] occupy the road. A few random shots were exchanged and some very lively racing on their part in the attempt to head us off but they could not accomplish this owing to the dense underbrush in the woods consequently after being once nearly surrounded we succeeded finally in getting near our out posts when they again come within about four hundred yards of us in the road and discharged their guns then beat a hasty retreat. We in company with the guards on the out post duty returned a sharp volley and killed one of their horses and wounded one of the men. None of us were hit or hurt in any manner. Had a very lively and exciting time about two hours. Our firing aroused men in camp and when we came in found them all under arms ready to come to the rescue. sent [sic] heavy reinforcements to the pickets this morning and everything now quite [sic] again.

Camp Strong Athens Alabama June 2, 1862

Day Spent in camp today. Weather very pleasant. The men of the regiment are nearly all on guard duty. Not over one hundred men belonging to the entire regiment are in camp balance being all either on picket duty or guarding the line of this railroad. Consequently have all we can attend to. our [sic] scouts reporting a rebel regiment out on the Florence road about eight miles from here. Presume it is a company of the same command we encountered yesterday.

Athens Alabama June 7, 1862

This pleasant Saturday made necessary arrangements and visited different parts of the surrounding at this place among other places went through their Fair Grounds and then visited the ladies Seminary and were very pleasantly entertained by the lady superintendent after which we called at Mr. Malones and had a pleasant chat before returning to camp.

Athens Alabama Sunday June 8, 1862

To day [sic] being cloudy with high winds was sent out on the DeCatur road in charge of ten men as out post guards about one mile from camp. No alarm of any kind during the day our time was spent rather pleasantly considering the circumstances and nature of our duties.

Athens June 9, 1862

Relieved from guard and returned to camp about 9 O'clock this morning. Weather very pleasant. Owing to guerrilla raid on the railroad and destroying track and bridges between us and Nashville we are compelled to subsist on very short allowance of rations which causes some little grumbling among the men.

Athens June 10, 1862

Not fully recovered from the effects of the Jaundice. Feeling somewhat indisposed. remained [sic] in camp all day. Weather very hot and sultry.

Athens Alabama June 11, 1862

Day hot and sultry. Went out on picket guard in charge of ten men and was up nearly all night. Some little excitement about an anticipated attack on this place. Out posts all strengthened and extra amount of vigilance observed. Not feeling well. Notwithstanding am out on duty more or less.

Athens Ala. June 12, 1862

Returned to camp this forenoon from off picket duty. Day hot and sultry. Received letters from home this afternoon.

Athens June 13, 1862

Day hot and sultry. Ralph C. Watson and myself out on a scout this afternoon. returned [sic] to camp late in the evening bringing in some very delicious dewberries which are found in great abundance about two miles from camp. nothing [sic] new occurring of an exciting nature today.

Athens Ala June 14, 1862

Day hot and sultry. took [sic] the train and went down to Elk river where Co "D" is doing guard duty whilst the engineers and mechanics rebuild the R. R. bridge destroyed by the enemy. returned [sic] to camp at this place late this evening.

Sunday June 15, 1862

Morning hot and sultry. Took a squad of men and went on picket duty on the same place I was on a week ago on the Huntsville road. Took dinner with the man and family on the corner cross roads. Principal part of the day spent in reading today.

Athens June 16, 1862

Returned to camp this morning. Balance of the day spent in camp. Everything being unusually quiet at present through this vicinity.

Athens June 17, 1862

Attended to the ordinary routine duties nothing new occurring to ruffle the enemies of camp life growing somewhat monotonous [sic].

Athens Ala June 18, 1862

Day being warm and sultry although a shower of rain fell last night. Went out about two miles this forenoon in company with John Shelly and Sleater of Co F and brought an abundance of dew-berries into camp. The usual result being a good supply of pies for our mess dot up in good shape and nicely baked by J. S. Keller and self. Consequently had a "mess" feast which surly [sic] had ought to overbalance the effort of short rations and half starvation.

Camp Ewing Elk River June 18, 1862

Took charge of ten men and came to this place to re-enforce Capt. Ewing in command of Co "D" at this place doing guard duty whilst the bridge is being rebuilt. Guarded supply trains through to this place this forenoon. Afternoon busily engaged in supervising the ferrying of men over one hundred loaded wagons across the river. Day being hot and our work was rather fatiguing and sent on a new detail of men about 10 o'clock this evening. Returned to quarters very tired about 11 o'clock P.M.

Elk River June 20, 1862

Morning clear and warm. Took my ten men and accompanied Lieutenant Wood and Porters [sic] detail of one hundred men to guard supply of commissary train from Elktown [sic] to this place about 7 miles distant up the river. Marched to within one mile of Elktown [sic] when we met the train and guarded it back to Elk River. A part of train going round by the Railroad tunnel. Immense quantities of commissary stores are being shipped through here to Athens, Ala. to supply Genl. Buells [sic] entire army which is now on the move up through to that place from Shiloh. Buells [sic] movements being designed to check-mate the rebel general Braggs [sic] movement around east of us demonstrating his intentions of getting the rebel army into our rear and cut off our supplies.

Elk River June 21, 1862

Guarded return supply train out on the rail-road north to beyond the tunnel and then returned to camp very much fatigued by noon. On our way back came very near being overtaken by a regiment of rebel guerillas and unconscious by made very narrow escape being cut off from the balance of the troops here. their [sic] objective being to dart in and capture the train and all the guard but the train had been sent through safely and they only captured a few of our men who had almost given out from marching and were some little distance in the rear.

Sunday June 22, 1862

Day hot and sultry. received [sic] three months pay today. Capt. H. H. Alban came down here from Athens. We this afternoon for the first time since we came her [sic] put up our tents to sleep under shelter and arranged our camp conveniences which kept us busy all day. Capt. Alban returning this evening whilst quite a heavy detail commenced ferrying the items across which will keep us at work all night.

Elk River June 23, 1862

Relieved from duty on the ferry this morning. Weather very sultry. The entire train of our division here we accompanied them as guards north as far as the R.R. tunnel being four miles and returned back to camp in the evening. Had a good shower rain about 10 o'clock P.M.

Elk River June 24, 1862

Remained in camp all day. Nothing occurring with us of any note. Weather warm.

Elk River June 25, 1862

Day warm and sultry. One division train arrived from Pulaski with commissary stores. Now unloading predatory to returning to Pulaski tomorrow morning.

Elk River June 26, 1862

Left this place this morning guarding the train. guards [sic] under the command of Lieutenant Wood. Accompanied the train beyond the R.R. tunnel and then the majority of us returned to this place. Lieut. Wood leaving us without orders went on to Pulaski. Mahlon Povenmire and self took dinner with one of the planters beyond the mountain by the name of Brown and were very hospitably entertained.

Elk River June 27, 1862

Day warm and sultry. Out in the country gathering berries in company with a number of the boys. Eli Alspach arrived her [sic] today just come from Ohio to rejoin his regiment. Went down to Athens this afternoon. Genl Buells [sic] army passing through Athens on their way to Nashville whilst Gen. Braggs [sic] command seems to be moving in the direction of Knoxville east of us. Saw cousin J. H. Bolton of the 49th Ohio Volunteers as well as a number of other acquaintances from Findlay belonging to that regiment. They

all seemed rather tired and way-worn owing to long marches recently made. Returned to this place this evening late on the train.

Elk River June 28, 1862

In camp here all day. Weather hot and sultry. Hundreds of Negroes coming into our lines expecting to get their liberation from slavery. Some begging to be taken along when we leave as it is currently reported that we are to leave soon as the bridge is completed here which will soon be finished now.

Sunday June 29, 1862

Remained in camp all day. Our division supply train here this morning from Pulaski on opposite side of the river where the [sic] remain until tomorrow morning.

Monday June 30, 1862

Superintended the ferrying of division train across the river which kept us hard at work until late in the afternoon when we received orders to rejoin our regiment at Athens. loaded [sic] our camp and garrison equipage on the cars and came to Athens late in the evening and rejoined our command. Day having been very warm.

Athens Ala July 1, 1862

We are now again with our command at this place. Weather warm but a strong pleasant breeze stirring. transportation [sic] of Buells [sic] army and commissary supplies here in large quantities. Our regiment being on guard and fatigue duty all the time without any intermission whatever. Remained in camp all day.

Athens Ala July 2, 1862

Day hot and rather oppressive. remained [sic] in camp the principal portion of this time. Men nearly all out on guard and fatigue duties.

Athens July 3, 1862

Out on the Florence road on picket guard. Scarcely able to be on duty owing to ailing similar to flue [sic]. Weather warm.

Athens Ala July 4, 1862

This morning took twenty men and unloaded a large amount of commissary stores here in depot. Worked hard until noon when we were relieved. Cousin C. S. Bolton of Genl Woods [sic] signal Corps visited me this afternoon and we went over to the Fair Grounds and saw General Nelsons [sic] division on review. Large number there to witness the review including a good many citizens from this town. Times here are very stirring the different division trains of Genl Buells [sic] entire army awaiting their time to load with commissary stores for their respective commands. Day warm and sultry.

Athens Ala July 5, 1862

Weather extremely hot and oppressive. Thermometer 104 degrees in the shade. Our men all very hard run with camp and picket guard duties and hard work both day and night in the handling of quartermaster and commissary stores. An enormous amount of army supplies handled here today. this [sic] evening I took the train and came on down the R.R. to where the 65th Ohio Vols. Infy [sic] were in [sic] camped near the R.R. junction. Arrived about 11 O'clock in the quarters of the 65th Ohio and found my old friends Tillman Funk, John Funk and Frank Wickman and others lay down and slept a few hours after midnight.

Sunday July 6, 1862

Up at an early hour this morning and found a number more of our old acquaintances here and had a brief but very interesting visit with them after which I proceeded to the camp of the 6th Ohio Independent Battery and found cousin J. H. Shuey. Visited with him till 2 O'clock P.M. when I went to General Woods [sic] Head Quarters and found C. S. Bolton in company with whom attended preaching in the camp of the 65th Ohio Vols After services were over went to the R.R. station got on the train and went to Huntsville with a private message to the commanding officer at that place. Arrived at Huntsville about 9 O'clock P.M. I delivered the papers and message and found several of our regiment here sick in the hospital. Met Jonas Lenhart of the 49th Ohio who just arrived from Findlay being on his way to rejoin his regiment. weather [sic] hot but a brisk breeze moving.

Alabama July 7, 1862

Took the train at 6 O'clock this morning and returned to Athens. Arriving her [sic] at 10 O'clock A.M. Weather warm and very dry. Vegetation suffering on account of the drought. Number of cases of sun-stroke amongst men on duty through the army. Rumors and conjectures of McClellans [sic] movements into Richmond are very much

talked about and variously commented upon by almost every one in this army and we all have been anxiously waiting to hear the news of an advance and on important movements by the army of the Potomac which may result in advantage to our cause.

Athens Ala July 8, 1862

Weather very warm. J. H. Shuey of the 6th Ohio Independent Battery came up on the train and visit me in camp today. Returning to his battery this evening. Nothing but the large amount of guard and fatigue duties performed today.

Athens Ala July 9, 1862

Day warm and heat oppressive. Various rumors of McClellans [sic] movements on to Richmond but nothing definite of any reliable nature.

Athens July 10, 1862

Day being very warm. Had a good shower this evening which is truly very refreshing to us. In camp the principal part of the day.

Athens July 11, 1862

Day very pleasant. Had another very excellent shower this morning. in [sic] camp all day. Done considerable writing for Capt [sic] H. H. Alban making out his monthly and weekly reports. Wrote a letter to brother William at home. Mr. Smith came in from the south of the river bringing some twenty refugee recruits with him. He started with over forty men to join us but a rebel cavalry regiment cut off and captured and dispersed twenty of his men. He had some very narrow escapes to get through to our lines. Mr. Smith is a tall fine looking gentleman with a good deal of force and energy and when we arrived at Huntsville he came from his home in this state Ala and enlisted in Co "F" as a private to fight for the Union cause and a short time ago got permission to go into his neighborhood and try to bring a number of Union men into our lines who have been anxiously awaiting an opportunity to do so Being compelled to hide in the mountains to keep away from being conscripted into the rebel army There is a very strong Union feeling among a great number of the people of the middle and poorer class who look upon the slave holders [sic] rebellion as very unjust and in fact without just cause and consequently dread very much being forced into the confederate army.

Athens Ala July 12, 1862

Weather very pleasant. Out some distance in the country in company with R. C. Watson and David Huffman. Brought very nice lot of berries and peaches into camp. returned [sic] to camp this evening. A number of our men being relieved from guard this pleasant evening everything is life and full of [illegible] An unusual good feeling [2 illegible words] Betting and [illegible] races the leading amusement whilst some more athletic are performing other gymnastics exercises. the [sic] past few weeks a large number of colored people have been congregated here of all ages and both sex. The music by one string band in the evening is the usual signal for a general field demonstration. The parade ground by at least one or two hundred negroes both male and female enter with the dance with all the energy and force to there [illegible] each seeming dancing his or her own [illegible] very just so they all make the same time accompanied by the music.

July 13, 1862

Remained in camp. Our guard and fatigue duties at present not as arduous as the [sic] have been. Weather rather pleasant.

Athens Ala July 14, 1862

Weather warm. Remained in camp attending to the ordinary routine duties which seems to us somewhat monotonous [sic]. Col James M. Neibling and Adjutant E. D. Beard returned from Ohio this evening bringing letters from home. received [sic] the news of the Reb Gen. Morgans [sic] taking Glasgow, Kentucky and yesterday with his command captured Lebanon, Kentucky burning a good portion of the town and robbed the bank. His men committing all manner of excess that scarcely belong to civilized warfare.

Athens Ala July 15, 1862

Had several showers today cooling the atmosphere. H. Davis came from Ohio this afternoon bring mail for me from home. received [sic] the news of the capture of Murfreesboro, Tenn. by the rebels. the [sic] Union troops forced to surrender the place with a large amount of commissary stores and army supplies. The rebels appear to be unusually active through this department and extra precautions are taken to prevent a surpass on our camp at this place.

Athens July 16, 1862

Weather sultry with frequent showers during the day we see that President Lincoln issued call on the first day of this month for 300,000 more volunteers which looks to us as though our men in official authority meant to prosecute the war with more force and in real earnest. Thus far we have been only playing war in this department and guarding our enemies [sic] property as well as returning thousands of slaves to their former

masters it does seem to me that the sooner this kind of management was stopped and every able soldier out into the ranks for active aggressive duties the better for us and sooner we should be able to put down an unholy rebellion which is wholly in the interest of the slave holder and his sconiging [sic] lash if it should succeed in effecting its independence and recognize by foreign powers. Our movements must be action and decision with unrelenting vigor prosecuted to the final end which at the present time indeed appears to be long ways in the future. McClellans [sic] repulse from near Richmond by the enemy in the later part of June in connection with at least temporary success to the enemy at various other points will severely tend to lengthen this contest very much and notwithstanding our superiority of numbers. Our long lines of defense operations to secure transportation of supplies and munitions of war necessary for aggressive operations necessities at least double the number of men that the enemy has whilst his operations are principally on the defense in his own country with scarcely any time of transportation to guard. The position at present seems to be against us but a knowledge of being in the right and with a much larger force than enemy has got we feel fully satisfied of eventually crushing out this rebellion and hope that in putting it down we may at the same time be able to fully eradicate the cause vs Slavery. If that accursed human scourge is once wholly [sic] abolished then the roof of this evil is beaten away and if once that cure is abolished and the rebellion effectially [sic] crushed I feel that then we can have lasting peace.

Athens Ala July 17, 1862

Remained in camp with but the ordinary camp cuties to perform. Day very warm. Camp filled with various rumors concerning anticipated movement. Considerable stirring among the troops but nothing definite considering the movements of the enemy in this section.

Athens July 18, 1862

In camp this forenoon. Afternoon out about two miles south into the country. Weather very warm. Returned to camp in time for Dress parade in the evening.

Athens July 19, 1862

The usual monotonous duties of camp life performed. Weather very warm. Regiment out on dress parade in the evening.

Sunday July 20, 1862

Came out on the Lucas Ferry road with six men on picket duty weather very warm
Wrote a letter and sent home with H. Davis who has been discharged on account of
sickness and starts for Findlay Ohio this evening.

Athens Ala July 21, 1862

Weather continues warm. Owing to the large number of additional men called for picket
duty we could not be relieved from guard and continues on out-post duty all day.

July 22, 1862

Continue on out-post guard. Rumors of a regiment of guerrillas down on the Tennessee
River threatening [sic] to cross now that Genl Buells [aix]forces all moved away from
here expecting our regiment. Ammunition from magazine is being loaded on cars and
hurriedly forward in the direction of Chattanooga where skirmishing is going on with
some prospects of a battle.

July 23, 1862

Weather continues warm. Remaining on picket guard on the Lucas Ferry road. Various
rumors current of the skirmish yesterday off beyond Huntsville.

July 24, 1862

On the same picket post with an addition of seven men from Co "G". Sent six men out
about two miles to reconnoiter and see if any enemy is near. Guerillas reported to be in
some force about five miles out on this road. Reconnoitering party returned to this post
this afternoon. Kept four men up on duty all night with reserve guard on their arms
expecting a dash on our pickets by the rebel guerillas. Notwithstanding all our
precautions everything passed off quietly. Weather very pleasant. Heat not so
oppressive as it has been a good part of the time.

Athens July 25, 1862

Happily we were relieved from out post this morning and returned to camp about ten
O'clock this forenoon. Weather warm and not oppressively hot.

Athens Ala July 26

Weather warm and sultry. On duty in camp superintending the relocating [sic] and cleaning up regimental quarters and having every thing put in the best possible sanitary conditions. Health of the regiment is very good. Dress parade in the evening.

Sunday July 27, 1862

Pickets were attacked on the Florence road about 4 O'clock this morning. A number of shot exchanged when the enemy withdrew. The long-roll was beat and regiment in line of battle in the shortest time possible. Marched out to the out-post where the attack was made. Remained there several hours then left a heavy re-enforcement with the guard and returned to camp. Went out in company with several of our company and bought a bushel of very excellent yellow peaches from a planter and then returned to camp. Dress parade in the evening. Just learned that the siege of Vicksburg has been abandoned for the time being by our forces.

Athens Ala July 28, 1862

Weather continues very warm and sultry remained in camp all day. But very little news and no mail received very irregularly now owing to guerillas disturbing our lines of communications with the north.

Athens Ala July 29, 1862

Day warm and sultry. In anticipation of an attack by regiment of rebel cavalry we lay on our arms all night but were happily disappointed. Had several refreshing showers this afternoon and evening. Rebel cavalry is hovering around and harassing our picket guards and scouting parties keeping us now on the alert to prevent being taken by surprise.

Athens July 30, 1862

Morning very pleasant after our showers of rain yesterday afternoon and evening. Remained in camp all day.

Athens July 31, 1862

Took twelve men and came out on the Florence road on picket guard. In the afternoon a very heavy rain storm set in and we all got wet and had anything but a pleasant time of it being up all night in a drenching rain with musket in hand guarding your countries [sic] independence far more practical than enjoyable.

Athens Ala Aug 1, 1862

Morning wet and to us who were up all night in a drenching rain storm it is certainly rather disagreeable. Were relieved and returned to camp this morning. Rain subsided and afternoon came very pleasant weather.

Athens Aug 2, 1862

In camp during the principal portion of the day weather since our rain storm very pleasant and the troops here enjoying good health and with bouvaut [sic] hopes entertained regarding our final success in putting down the rebellion.

Athens Ala Aug 3, 1862

This beautiful Sabbath morning everything surrounding us wears an unusual quiet aspect and as the greater part of the men are out on picket duty the [illegible] of Camp life is felt very forcibly and especially so by one accustomed to the privileges and influences of good society with all its accompanying advantages. But such are the evils of war and for the time being our [sic] most forgo those blessings and by the force of war restore our country to its former peace and unity.

Athens Ala Aug 4, 1862

Nothing of any consequence occurring. Attended to the ordinary of camp life. Day quite warm with a small shower in the afternoon.

Athens Ala Aug 5, 1862

Weather today was very hot with very little breeze stirring. Was sent about two miles south on the R. Road with two men to see about a small portion of the road that had been obstructed by the rebel guerillas last night. Found two rods of the track torn up which by the aid of some of the railroad hands was soon repaired and we returned to camp in the afternoon. Have a severe headache this morning from the effects of this extreme heat today.

Athens Aug 6, 1862

Was sent out on the Florence Road in charge of Fourteen men on grand guard duty. Day spent pleasantly under the circumstances. Received a letter this afternoon from sister Elizabeth written July 29th.

Athens Ala Aug 7, 1862

Day very warm and sultry. Relieved from duty on the Florence road out post and returned to camp this afternoon. Company "D" Captain Ewing Commanding returned to the regiment at this place this afternoon from Elk River. D. R. Bohannon of Co "F" who has been on guard duty out on Mr [sic] Mahlones has allowed himself to be taken prisoner by one of Mr [sic] Mahlones [sic] sons who came there with another party and paroled him. Mr [sic] Mahlones [sic] son being an officer in the rebel cavalry and it having to all appearances at least been a contrived plan of D. R. Bohannon to get paroled in this way so as to get home and get clear of military duty for sometime to come. Mr. Bohannon has been placed under arrest and charges to be preferred against him and court-martial proceedings instituted. Lieut [sic] A. A. Monroe has been placed under arrest by Col Neibling owing to some words passed between them in which Monroe made some disrespectful [sic] allusions [sic] reflecting on Neibling.

Athens Ala Aug 8, 1862

Day very warm and sultry. Removed our regimental quarters into the Court house square where we are now comfortably located received the intelligence last night of the murder of Genl Robert McCook whilst riding in an ambulance beyond Huntsville. Having been wounded in a skirmish and was on his way back when a squad of guerillas captured the ambulance and murdered him in cold blood on the 5th of this month. We also see that the secretary of war has ordered a draft of 300,000 men to be made at once which certainly looks as though they were getting in real earnest and were determined to do something decisive.

Athens Ala Aug 9, 1862

Our time spent in camp this day as usual until this afternoon. Passed out beyond the lines and bought some peaches and returned to quarters late in the evening.

Athens Sunday Aug 10, 1862

Day being very warm. attended [sic] church this forenoon. this [sic] afternoon went to the colored Methodist church. Their services certainly were peculiar to their race although it is one of their prominent characteristics to be devotional and they enter into their devotions with a great deal of energy and excitability which to us appears ridiculous to a great degree and this occasion a number of our boys caused some disturbance by laughing and making fun of them during time of service which regretted very much owing to the annoyance it produced to the congregation.

Athens Ala August 11, 1862

Weather continuing very warm. Remained in camp all the day with nothing aside of the ordinary routine of camp duties occurring with us to relieve the monotony. Oh how I frequently long of a good supply of choice reading material to devote my spare time during those long dull days in the camp.

August 12, 1862 Athens Alabama

This morning was spent out on the Florence road with a squad of ten men to reconnoiter for [sic] almost four miles beyond the picket lines and ascertain if any rebel cavalry had been prowling across the country during the past eight hours. After going and finding out all that could be ascertained we returned to camp in the afternoon. A few guerillas have been prowling around in the vicinity of the lines on this road but from information [end of entry]

Sunday August 24, 1862

Since the 12th been on duty here with the regiment but nothing of any consequences occurring with us although a part of the line our mail communications with Nashville and the north have been interrupted and we received but very little mail matter from the north. Clarkston Tenn. was surrendered by Col Mason on the 19th to an inferior force of the enemy without firing a gun [illegible] 19th is fully exposed on all sides at the cowardly surrendering to a small force without even a show of fight on the part of Col Mason. We have a great many rumors of the move in it of the enemy in our rear but of course mere camp rumors are [illegible] unreliable but there is evidently a great deal of maneuvering going on on the part of the rebel General Bragg with his command and our commanders one would think by their actions were considerably puzzled to learn what best to do to checkmate him. This morning I was sent out in charge of a picket post near the residence of Judge Tias with whom I freely conversed and who appears to be very much a gentleman and treated us very kindly whilst on duty. We received orders to hold our selves in readiness to march at a moments [sic] notice. Also received notice of the rebels taking Gallatin Tenn. and burning the railroad bridge in our rear so further impeding our communications north.

Athens Ala Aug 25, 1862

Returned to camp from picket duty the weather warm and sultry. Orders to hold ourselves constantly in readiness to march at a moments [sic] notice and the entire camp is prepared accordingly taken party in the good book who was commanded to take up his bed and walk.

Athens Ala Aug 26, 1862

Weather continuing very warm. Still laying here in suspense expecting every moment to move in the direction of Nashville. At 4 A.M. struck tents and marched to the court house square to await the train going north to Nashville. here [sic] we lay on arms in the court house square over night.

Athens Ala Aug 27, 1862

Remained in waiting for the train all day. Company "E" of our regiment and the 19th Illinois went through this evening on the train towards Nashville. The fair grounds building burnt down this evening. Remained over night here in the court house square. A band of guerrillas came up near the lines this evening firing upon our outpost. The soldiers all up in arms and the citizens are full of excitement hoping if we do not voluntary leave they will succeed in driving us out of this place.

Athens Ala Aug 28, 1862

The train that is to carry us north arrived at 8 O'clock A.M. our [sic] out-posts were called in and we got aboard the train for Nashville. We came on but a short distance north of Pulaski Tenn where we came to where the train having on board the 19th Illinois Regt and Co "E" of our Regiment was besieged by a regiment of guerrillas that lay in ambush and fired on them killing three and wounding nine and then fired and burned the bridge on each side of the train they succeeded in retarding their movements until our regiment came to the burned bridge when we stopped and ascertaining the facts in the case and left two good companies as a guard with the train and Col Neibling by a sense of [illegible] went out and to out on the enemies [sic] flank beyond where the besieged train [illegible] and with nothing more than a brisk skirmish drove the rebels from their positions and carried on the railroad back to where the rebels fired on the train here the balance of the day was spent in repairing rail road bridge and burying those killed. So we could not leave here before the morning of the 29th when both trains keeping closed within supporting distance came on as far as Columbia at which place we arrived on Saturday August 30th stopping here. But a few hours we again proceeded on towards Nashville at which place we arrived about half past 3 O'clock P.M. We were very much delayed along the road by being compelled to

stop and replace torn up track which had been destroyed by the enemy recently. After arriving here I soon met cousin J. H. Bolton of the 49th Ohio, Col Gibsons [sic] Regiments and had a very [illegible] out visit with him. We went into the camp late in the evening.

Nashville Tenn Sunday Aug 31, 1862

We pitched our tents this morning and made ready all necessary arrangements for tempory [sic] purposes. this [sic] afternoon in company with John Lamott, Henry Webster, Ralph Watson and J. S. Keller went down to the Cumberland river. The weather being warm and sultry. We are having a variety of rumors and reports about extensive engagements in Virginia but a thing reliable. there [sic] is great activity here and a large army is now consecrating at this place.

Monday Sept 1, 1862

Remained in camp during the day. News received of the Union Troops being defeated at Manassas in Virginia. Also rumored defeat of our troops under Genl Manson at Richmond Kentucky and all fear the report are too true. The general political aspect of the country looks very discouraging at the present time and no one can tell what the hidden future may bring for the yet not withstanding the gloomy visions before us as all hope the day is not far distant when the country's traitors will be laid low in defeat and the stars and stripes of a once more united country float from every dome and capitol throughout our entire nation and proclaim to the world that we are a free peoples with the word disunion forever blotted from our national record. The best blood of the brave sons of freedom flows free as the noon day shower that descends upon earth whilst weeping fathers and mothers and orphans lament the fallen who have nobly done their all for their country's good and sacrificed their lives upon the [illegible] altar of their country.

Nashville Tenn Sept 2, 1862

Visited different points of interest today. Seen cousin J. H. Bolton today and had a very pleasant time in the city in the company of him and several more our old friends returned to camp in the afternoon and had dress parade in the evening.

Nashville Sept 3, 1862

Remained in camp all day was busy making out some back muster rolls and descriptive lists for Capt [sic] H. H. Alban. Drilling by the regiment now excepting of an battalion drilling the evening.

Nashville Sept 4, 1862

Last night on guard and fatigue duty on St. Cloud Hill guarding the hill whilst the men were very busy at work building a strong fort preparatory to mounting heavy artillery. Camp duty this morning and went through the city this forenoon. Day is warm and pleasant.

Nashville Tenn Sept 5, 1862

Nothing of special occurring with us here. From the reports Genl Pope evidently has been defeated in Virginia. This making two Bull Run disasters to our forces since the war began. Also have reports of the Union troops evacuating Lexington Ky. Unusual amount of stirring among the troops here and evidently something of importance in the shape of military movements is very likely to occur very soon. We have vague reports that Genl Bragg with his army is making a circular route around to our rear evidently threatening Louisville. But this may only be conjector [sic] with us. But one thing seem certain that some strategic movements are about to take forces into collision in this department and the strong probabilities are that if an engagement does take place it will like be a heavy one.

Nashville Tenn Sept 6, 1862

Went out a few miles this forenoon into the country. Brought a few melons and returned to camp by noon. This afternoon I went on guard duty along with Companies "A and F" at the R.R. bridge across the Cumberland river in the city. Buells [sic] army are crossing all the time with a number of day rations taking the most direct route towards Louisville. One brigade after another following in fast succession. the [sic] weather is very warm and dusty here making a very disagreeable doing duty here by the bridge.

Sunday Sept 7, 1862

On guard at the R.R. bridge troops moving all night one solid column kept moving across the bridge A number of drunken Tennessee soldiers from Broulours [sic] Regiment went a house of prosition [sic] on "Sand Hill" as a general fight was freely indulged [2 illegible words] by them and some citizens in [2 illegible words]. Took a squad of men. Went and arrested the entire party of participants in the fight. Found two of Broulous [sic] men wounded and one citizen hurt. Took all the parties to the work house for safe keeping. this [sic] afternoon seen cousin C. S. Bolton of the signal Corps and Lieut [sic] John C. Matrin as they passed through going north with Buells [sic] army. We see by the latest papers that Genl McClelland has been appointed to the command of the troops defending Washington City and that the rebels are crossing in force the Potomac into Maryland.

Nashville Tenn Sept 8, 1862

Still remaining on guard at the bridge and troops continuing to cross the greater part of the day. Very warm and dusty being very disagreeable to us.

Nashville Sept 9, 1862

Relieved from guard duty returned with company to regimental quarters this forenoon. Weather continuing warm and sultry. received [sic] supply of clothing from quartermaster which came in [illegible] from the fact that the men were very much in need of it. News that Genl Geo B. McClelland took the field in command of the army of the Potomac and great things are evidently expected from him and we certainly all hope he may strike an effective blow at the enemy.

Nashville Sept 10, 1862

This morning removed our camping quarters into the city. went [sic] on duty as field guard. Day being excessively hot until late in the afternoon when severe thunder showers cooled the atmosphere and everything seem very much refreshed.

Nashville Sept 16, 1862

During the time since the tenth have been principally engaged in local garrison and general duties in and around the city. And owing to our mail communications being more or less interrupted by the enemy between us here and Louisville we hear but little of

which is going on away from our general vicinity although we hear a great many rumors concerning Buells [sic] command and the rebel forces under Genl Bragg of course we have nothing definite information but from all reports one thing is that a strong rebel force is moving in the direction of Louisville and Genl Buell [illegible]. Troops is evidently endeavoring to head him off or bring about an engagement [illegible] is interrupted and we all feel very [illegible] to hear and know what is actually being done. At present we are sustaining on half allowance of rations.

Nashville Sept 17, 1862

Went out on brigade drill and returned to camp owing to some rain and very high winds. Received quite a large amount of mail and latest papers from Louisville this afternoon. Harpers Ferry was captured with the entire garrison of about 8000 prisoners by the rebels. This with the news of the capture of Mumfordsville [sic] Ky by the rebels and 4000 of our men yesterday [2 illegible words] but cheerful to us.

Nashville Sept 18, 1862

Weather pleasant a number of us went and paid a visit to the widow of the late President James K. Polk. Were very kindly received and after presenting complements visited the different apartments of the Capitol building after which went out and saw the State Prison then returned to camp. Later as a whole had a very pleasant time this afternoon.

Nashville Sept 19, 1862

Day pleasant. In Camp all day nothing of any special consequence occurring here.

Nashville Sept 20, 1862

Weather very pleasant. Our entire brigade out on brigade drill from 9 to 11 O'clock this forenoon. Received the news of the great battle at Antietam [sic] Maryland near Sharpsburg. Both armies measuring about 100,000 men and the engagement was a very heavy one with very large loss on both sides. After the battle the rebels withdrew from the field and recrossed the Potomac river leaving us in possession of the field but without any decision [illegible]. Evidently very heavy fighting was done by the sides and rumors are afloat about other small battles at different points.

Nashville Sept 21, 1862

Weather pleasant. Out on guard in company with Lieut [sic] Wood on the road due west of the state house. See by the late papers from Louisville that Genl Rosecrans defeated the rebels at luka Mississippi after a sharp engagement. Also that Genl McCook had taken Munfordsville [sic] Ky and there seem to be more cheerful feeling amongst our men.

Friday Nashville Sept 26, 1862

Since the 21st inst. the weather has been very pleasant and have been kept very busy and on Wednesday the whole regiment out down the north side of the Cumberland river to secure forage and food for our army. We roused about 500 guerillas and drove them out into the hills taking a few prisoners and getting all their stores and camp supplies. They were not on their guard having their camp in a out-of-the-way place secreted behind the hills that skirt the river on the opposite side of a dense ravine from our approach. So after a circuit our [sic] went out came on them from the rear and took them by utter surprise and completely routed them and then returned to camp on Thursday this week with loads of hay, corn and fodder, also plenty of meal, flour and bacon. Yesterday we rested from our chase and today attended to nothing but the ordinary routine of camp duties.

Nashville Sunday Sept 28, 1862

Yesterday out [sic] a portion of the time with a detail of men working on the fortifications and heavy details of men and all the colored contrabands are kept busy day and night in perfecting defenses around this city and some heavy fortifications are in process of erection at a number of the most prominent points surrounding the city. This morning has company inspection and in the afternoon all the musicians of the regimental brass band left for Louisville Ky.

Nashville Sept 29

In camp and but little doing. Detail of 30 men from our regiment working on the fortifications at St. Cloud Hill. Weather warm and fair. Dress parade in the evening.

Nashville Sept 30, 1862

This forenoon out on battalion drill and target practice. Afternoon spent in camp where we had the President Emancipation Proclamation read to us. Which was issue by him on the 22nd inst. Also received the news of the shooting of Genl Nelson by Brig Genl Jeff C. Davis at Louisville yesterday.

Nashville Oct 1, 1862

Took up our line of march with two other regiments about one O'clock this morning crossed the Cumberland river and proceeded north about fourteen miles and attacked a regiment of guerillas about noon. After a short and sharp skirmish completely routing them killing and wounding only a few and capturing some of their horses and occupied their camp and rested several hours after which we returned to our quarters in Nashville arriving here about 10 O'clock P.M. feeling very much fatigued as the day was very hot and the road dusty.

Nashville Oct 2, 1862

Day very warm. Remained in camp all day feeling sore and very much fatigued after our long march and skirmish yesterday.

Nashville Tenn Oct 3, 1862

Remained in camp all day busily engaged in writing and making Capt. H. H. Albans reports and Muster and Pay Rolls. Nothing of any interest occurring with us.

Nashville Oct 4, 1862

On duty as sergeant of the guard. Weather being pleasant with a stirring breeze a blowing. The regiment out early this morning on a foraging expedition and returned this evening with a liberal supply of hay and fodder, but little food for the men. Our supply of eatable being very much limited the past few days an [sic] all feel very much interested in recruiting our personal wants in the shape of eatable.

Nashville Sunday Oct 5, 1862

Came off duty this morning and remained in camp most of the day. Attended Roman Catholic church this afternoon. Times appear quite monotonous and dull.

Nashville Oct 6, 1862

Remained in camp all day until 8 O'clock P.M. when the entire brigade under the command of Brig Gen Palmer was ordered to march at once to LaVergne Tenn at which place the rebel Gen Anderson was concentrating considerable of his force and accumulated supplies for the rest of the confederate forces operating against us in this section. the [sic] weather being warm and pleasant the different regiments consisting our brigade proceeded by different roads on to the place of attack. After proceeding about ten miles out we were fired into by the rebel out-posts but none seriously hurt and after feeling our way cautiously we proceeded by a circuitous routs [sic] and marched around to the rear of Lagrange whilst one regiment with a battery took the main pike leading from this city and attacked them at daylight on the 7th with both infantry and artillery and thus engaged them sharply before we got around but by hard marching we succeeded to get beyond the village and formed our line of battle across the rail road when soon after the rebels began to return and then came along the R.R. track in double quick and to their utter astonishment would run right into our lines to their great surprise found themselves prisoners of war. Our adjutant Ed Baird on his horse rode out in our front and a little to the left of the rail road saw a number of rebels beating a hasty retreat. With no other arms but his sword and revolver caused about twenty of them to surrender to him all alone in a dense cedar thicket when lo and behold all of a sudden they leveled an old musket at him made him dismount and marched him off to Murfreesboro where by force he was persuaded upon to exchange his new gaudy uniform for an old gray ragged worn out rebel suit of home spun grey and a stonely [sic] old hat minus a portion of the crown and instead of his high [2 illegible words] Monoraco [sic] boots in which he took a great deal of pride he had good reason to wear a pair of seedy looking worn out shoes that looked as though they had been the culminating point of hard times in the shoe business. And it is needless to say that about a month after taken that he was released on parole and returned to the regiment a sorry looking specimen of a regimental adjutant as far at least as dress was concerned. It was not always advisable from beneath his rank to inquire of them how many prisoners he captured at this battle of Lagrange or as to the kind of a bargain he made when he exchanged his uniform of blue for the suit of grey. His moral feelings never were cultrocated [sic] during interrogatories respecting this battle and the part he took in it. As we reached LaVergne at daylight in the morning the rebel troopers were taken by

surprise and our batteries when opened fire and the infantry sent a full volley of musketry in through the enemies [sic] camp was about the first warning they had of our approach and they were at once thrown into utter confusion and made but a very feeble resistance before they commenced their retreat. They left 30 killed and 80 wounded and 300 prisoners in our possession with all their camp and garrison equipage and 72 wagons loads of flour and bacon. We lost but 4 killed and about 15 wounded. After having secured everything we could carry with us to Nashville we set fire to Depot buildings and some vacant freight cars and destroyed everything that ought be utilized by the enemy. The rebel general Anderson was compelled to leave all his camp and garrison equipage behind and in his flight did not even take his own personal effects with him. This afternoon October 7th we returned to Nashville arriving here in the evening and feeling rather tired after our exciting little engagement. And all feel glad now for a little rest. a [sic] great many very ludicrous incidents occurred here which from the chief topic of conversation [sic] annoyed many. I felt well and must say I enjoyed this exciting little engagement very much.

Nashville Oct 10, 1862

Since our return from the battle of LaVergne on the 7th we have been in camp here attending to the ordinary routine of camp duties until this morning when the entire regiment was sent out on picket guard. A cold rain set in we found it disagreeable all day and night.

Oct 11, 1862

Regiment returned from picket this morning. weather [sic] wet and disagreeable with no news of any consequence from other portions of our army.

Nashville Oct 12, 1862

Regiment out on foraging expedition. I remained in camp having the flue [sic] which as to prevent my doing duty for a few days. weather [sic] cool and wet and disagreeable.

Nashville Tenn Oct 13, 1862

Remained in camp attending to the ordinary duties of camp. received [sic] the news of the battle of Corinth on the 3rd and 4th of this month in which engagement the rebels were defeated with a heavy loss. The Union troops being estimated at about 2400 killed, wounded and missing. Also just received the news in camp of the battle of Perryville Kentucky. Genl Buells [sic] army being attacked on the 8th inst. by the rebel Genl Jackson and Terrell and a heavy engagement ensued in which neither side appears to have gained any decisive advantage and very hard fighting continued during the entire day with heavy loss of life on both sides. During the night following the battle the rebels withdrew from the field of action leaving the field in possession of our forces. Our loss being reported at 3000 killed and wounded Genl Forest [sic] with considerable cavalry reported being near us here and no doubt may attempt to give us a battle. Very active preparations are being carried out in anticipation of an engagement here as the rebels from Kentucky may move back her [sic] by forced march and attempt to overpower us.

Nashville Oct 14, 1862

Regiment out early this morning went down to the river to Fort Zollicoffer and brought back some cannon carriages, shot, shell and left there by the rebels when they retreated from this place last spring. returned [sic] to camp by noon and this afternoon removed our camp into the city near the depot of the Chattanooga Railroad where we are now quite comfortably situated with a very large amount of duty to perform.

Nashville Oct 17, 1862

Weather very pleasant and kept busy on performing the ordinary guard duties in camp since the fourteenth inst. This morning we were sent out to guard forage train and returned this afternoon with hay and corn fodder for our teams.

Oct 18, 1862

Weather fair. In camp all day. No news of any consequences.

Nashville Sunday Oct 17, 1862

Day being very pleasant. I attended church at the M.E. church this forenoon and in the afternoon went to the Presbyterian church.

Monday Oct 21, 1862

The regiment in company with the 78th Penna Volunteers got out at One O'clock this morning and accompanied by two pieces of artillery proceeded to cross the river and attack a rebel guerilla force near the Anderson Family after daylight. They fled to a place on White river. We pursued them closely and had a sharp little skirmish with them killing 5 and taking 15 prisoners among them being a noted guerilla, Colonel Stratton. We lost but one killed and two wounded and returned to camp in the evening feeling tired after our chase.

Oct 21, 1862

Day pleasant with an excellent breeze. Remained in camp all day resting from the effects of our forced march.

Nashville Tenn Oct 25, 1862

Done duty in camp in this place since the 21st with but little news or excitement of any kind save the varied duties of camp life and a great variety of vague rumors regarding engagements etc. This morning on duty as guard with our quarters in a church in the city whilst the balance of our regiment are guarding a forage train out into the country after supply of forage for our teams. Day cool and blustery with a little snow on the ground this morning.

Sunday Oct 26, 1862

Morning rather cool with a little snow on the ground. Attended church this forenoon and had a good and effective discourse from the Presbyterian Minister here in the city. We received news of the defeat of the rebel Genl Forest [sic] near Gallatin Tenn.

Nashville Tenn Oct 27, 1862

Dry cool with chilly high winds. In camp all day with nothing of any consequence occurring.

Nashville Tenn Oct 28. 1862

Our on Regimental inspection this forenoon and made necessary arrangements and the regiment went out on picket guard early in the evening. Day warm and pleasant but the nights cool and frosty.

Oct 29, 1862

Remained out on picket duty on the Ganna White pike road all day. Nothing of any consequence occurring whilst on duty her [sic] all day and night. the [sic] weather being pleasant October weather and we all feel well and in good spirits although obliged to perform a great amount of guard and fatigue duty both day and night.

Nashville Oct 30, 1862

Morning clear and fair. Were relieved from picket guard at 7 O'clock and returned to camp after which we remained there balance of the day. Genl. Rosecrans today took command of the Army of the Cumberland.

Nashville Oct 31, 1862

Remained in camp all day attending to the ordinary routine duties of camp life. Out through the city this afternoon. Day being clear and pleasant.

Nashville Nov 1, 1862

Remained in camp. Had the articles of war read to the command and got ready for regimental inspection tomorrow.

Sunday Nov 2, 1862

Day clear and pleasant. Out on inspection this forenoon after which a number of us went to attend Mass at the Roman Catholic Church. The large audience room being crowded their ceremonies were not concluded until late in the afternoon before we returned to camp. In the evening came out with the regiment on picket guard. Jacob S. Keller [illegible] orderly sergeant has frequently the blues and is the subject of some

good jokes which we never held back when the opportunity offers the men all enjoy short and some one most necessary be a subject for them to prediction.

Nashville Nov 3, 1862

Out on out post No 13 doing picket duty. Weather clear and pleasant. Time on guard being rather irksome. No reading matter [illegible] old Harper Magazine of May 1859 and owing to the scarcity of readable matter we are glad that this to divert my spare moments with.

Nov 4, 1862

Returned to camp from our picket at an early hour and remained in quarters during the balance of the day. War [sic] with a sharp frost at night.

Nashville Nov 5, 1862

The rebels opened fire upon us this morning and artillery fire continued during the day. The rebels continued shelling our fortifications at 3 O'clock this morning and continued there [sic] fire until this afternoon when one division went out and attacked them about 300 of the enemy killed and wounded and a number of prisoners taken. They were repulsed in the but little loss on our part.

Nashville Nov 6, 1862

Day pleasant and a great deal of activity displayed in al [sic] the military departments. Genl Rosecrans with a portion of the Army of the Cumberland has arrived on the opposite side of the river this afternoon and are insured that the entire command of Genl Rosecrans will now soon be here again. We feel much relieved and not so much concerned now about our being compelled to surrender this post to the enemy.

Nashville Nov 7, 1862

Weather being pleasant went this morning out to St. Cloud Hill and through our fortress on it built by us and known as Fort Negley. Rosecrans [sic] army is now here and have

seen a number of my acquaintances who participated in the battle of Perryville in Kentucky. They have had a long forced march through to Louisville and back again to this place in pursuit of the enemy and they all look much fatigued from hard marching.

Nashville Tenn Sat Nov 15, 1862

Weather cool and occasional snow flakes [sic] fill the air. Since the 7th inst. been in camp attending to the ordinary routine of camp duties. The army on Grand River by Genl Rosecrans the other day in when we all have great confidence and expect him to accomplish some decision or victory with this army which is now strong and in good condition. I have been over to see my friends in the 49th Ohio Regiment commanded by Col Gibson and a number of them have been over here visiting. Among those here were cousins J. H. Bolton and Cyprus S. Bolton of the U.S. Signal Corps. We have been for several days in receipt of the news of Genl McClelland be relieved of the command of the army of the Potomac and Genl Burnside put in his place. There seems to be a good deal of commitments both for and against this by the papers and Military authority in regards to the removal of Genl Buell and Geo. B. McClelland from the respective commands but in as much as both of those prominent Generals with good and effective armies have made utter failures to accomplish anything. I for one with a great many others feel as though some one ought to be put in their place that will accomplish some better and more decisive results. There has evidently been some great mismanagement on the part of both of those promodient [sic] officials. Today the regiment went out on picket guard and our time is occupied on duty on the extreme out posts at this place.

Nashville Nov 16, 1862

Cool disagreeable rain set in last night and made it very disagreeable for us on guard. Returned to camp this morning. Rain continued more or less during the day. Received a letter from home and one from my esteemed school mate Christian Wolf all of which were pursued with the greatest of pleasure now we expect our mail now more regular and communications north are cleared.

Nashville Tenn Nov 19, 1862

Weather the past three days cool with more of less rain. Kept busy most of the time on guard duties. Just returned from picket duty this forenoon. Heavy rain falling thru the evening again.

Nov 20, 1862

Returned from picket guard this afternoon. As we have been on duty on out post almost constantly for some time past in cold rain are glad to get back to our tents. Quite a number of recruits have joined us from Findlay and arrived here today. Coming there are Geo. Poe, H. H. Grable, Cyrus Stoker who joined my mess. About one hundred in all join our regt [sic] thus stocking it full to its maximum.

Nashville Nov 21, 1862

Remained in camp during the day with details on fatigue duty working on the different fortifications of the place. No movement of our any consequence although very active [illegible] are rapidly being made.

Nashville Nov 22, 1862

Day being pleasant went out through the city in company with Jas. Mitchel and had a pleasant time. Returned to camp this afternoon. Evening had regimental drill and dress parade.

Nashville Sunday Nov 23, 1862

Day clear and pleasant. Went out with the regiment on picket guard and had a pleasant time of it considering the kind of duty performed.

Monday Nov 24, 1862

Weather clear and pleasant with while first evening the ground. Returned to camp at about 10 O'clock this forenoon. Remained in camp the balance of the day.

Nov 25, 1862

Day pleasant went down to the other side of the city on duty connected with the Commissary Department returned by noon and wrote several letters in the afternoon. Our mail now being received daily. Cold and blustery weather this evening.

Camp Hamilton Dec 25, 1862

Since the 25th day of November my journal has been in part lost but owing to our moving out of Nashville about three miles to this place the entire army of Genl. Rosecrans has been thoroughly reorganized and got ready for some important movement and as the enemy has been reported to be in strong force at Murfreesboro and this Christmas day we have just received orders to march by day light tomorrow morning all in confusion and excitement and everyone getting ready for the march. Last week we were out and engaged a guerilla band in which several of our regiment were slightly wounded and several rebels killed. Our time the past two weeks since removing from the city and here on the Franklin Pike has been occupied in regimental and brigade drill both forenoon and afternoon. Our men all appear to be under good discipline and now with marching orders to advance upon the enemy we are all anxiously waiting the result of our expected engagement.

Camp Hamilton Dec 25, 1862

Morning pleasant with rain threatening. We left camp at an early hour and took up our line of march out on the Franklin road and proceeded about 6 miles when a heavy rain set in which retarded us very much. About 10 O'clock this forenoon our advance columns [rest of entry cut off and illegible]

Murfreesboro Campaign Dec 27, 1862

Up by the break of day and after several hours of ineffectually attempting to dry ourselves by camp fires we partook of our coffee and hard tack and resumed the march toward Murfreesboro on the Nolinsville [sic] road. With our blankets and overcoats wet and loaded down heavy making our progress slow and very fatiguing through very muddy and almost impassable roads. After going out several miles we halted by the road side to permit other troops to pass to the front among the number being the 49th Ohio Vols. And now about 10 O'clock A.M. Heavy cannonading commenced in our front and our division commanded by Genl. James S. Negley countermarched back to Nolinsville [sic] and there across the by-roads and through the woods and fields to the main road leading from Nashville to Murfreesboro. Rain again pouring down in perfect torrents we deployed as skirmishers and proceeded forward slow and cautiously meeting with but feeble resistance from the enemy's skirmishers at several points. Streams and rioulets [sic] being swollen so we were wet wading through mud we were compelled to wade water from [line cut off and illegible] VanCleave's [sic] division also

quite a number of other friends belonging to different commands. Our supply train came up [illegible text] we feel much relieved again.

Monday Dec 29, 1862

The day being pleasant. We this morning again resumed the offensive and commenced our march toward Murfreesboro. After proceeding about one and a half miles forward found rebel cavalry force drawn up in line and our brigade deployed as skirmishers charged upon them and with the aid of a number of volleys of artillery from our battery, drove them back in great confusion. Here we had a lively skirmish and a number of volleys of musketry exchanged at long range. We had three of our regiment wounded and succeeded in taking a number of the enemy prisoner. The day was clear and weather pleasant we made slow but steady progress and by sunset in the evening had driven the enemy into their works in front of Murfreesboro and now there is continuous skirmishing going on along our front extending several miles from right to left with considerable artillery fire in our immediate front. We bivouacked for the night in front of the rebel works about one mile from them and a brisk skirmish fire was kept up all night. About 10 O'clock it again commenced to rain and continued all night. We built fires of cedar rails and logs and by standing close around the fire we managed to keep from getting wet through our clothing. Our position is on the center fronting the enemy on the road leading from Nashville to Murfreesboro laying in line of battle during the night close by the road on the right of it.

Tuesday Dec 30, 1862

Reveille sounded before daylight and our camp and up and ready for action. Skirmishing by the dawn of the day became sharp and soon artillery opened from our batteries the enemy sending shot and shell across through our lines but not very effectively as they over shot us most of the time. Genl Negley with our division was ordered forward to the right through a narrow strip of cedars to a small field beyond here the skirmish was kept up briskly all day with more or less rain falling at intervals. The enemy did not come out of their works in force to give battle consequently a general engagement was not brought on. Our brigade commanded by Col. Miller losing [sic] 39 men today on the skirmish line in killed and wounded. This evening our regiment went to the front on picket line and more or less picket firing all night.

Battle of Stone [sic] River Dec 31, 1862

This morning we were relieved from picket duty before daylight by another regiment and we went to the rear about a fourth of a mile and made our breakfast upon warm coffee and army biscuit which we had scarcely finished when it was evident the Genl. McCook commanding our extreme right was being driven back by the enemy. The continuous roar of musketry and more deafening sound of artillery gradually moving nearer and nearer told us but too plainly that the conflict had commenced in terrible earnest and in a few moments we all would be engaged. Genl. Phil Sheridan's division joined us on our Right and now he was already using both artillery and infantry to the full extent of his strength and he now could be seen [sic] riding to and fro along the line of his division urging his men to their utmost who were bravely contesting every inch of ground but McCook had been driven back by allowing himself to be surprised by daylight in the morning the gallant Phil Sheridan was now being out flanked and was compelled to reform his line soon to fire both to the right and front and was after a sharp and severe contest compelled to move further back and reform his lines. Now the enemy is in our front moved out of their works and began to move onto us and as we were at once hurried by double quick into the small open field in front of and to the left of the Chicago Board of Trade Battery which had been playing upon the enemy with considerable effect and we had scarcely got into position when they charged us but after a sharp and determined struggle they were repulsed in our front. They soon reformed their columns and made another desperate charge and the battle here now was terribly sharp and severe. The battery firing over a portion of the 74 Ohio Vol. commanded by the brave fighting preacher Col. Mooely and even Co "A" of our regiment. A portion of the time using "double grape and canister" mowing them down in perfect swathes whilst the infantry was suffering severely but thus far our division held its own. In there [sic] midst of the din [sic] of battle Co. J. M. Neibling would be seen along the line giving orders to the different companies [illegible] orders and urging them on in the fight, cheering the men with his orders to repulse the attack at all hazards and his commands were obeyed so far as it was within the power of the human soldiers to do so. The rebel columns charging us here were composed of the "Rock City Guards" and was a [2 illegible words] but here at this spot they [illegible] organization were almost annihilated, but notwithstanding our unflinching determination to hold this part of our line. Genl Sheridan was out flanked and compelled to fall back which soon gave the enemy a crossfire on us from our right and we were compelled to withdraw and reform our line of battle in the edge of the cedar thicket in our rear. Here we had scarcely got into position when the enemy were again upon us and the first charge they made we again sent them back but they reformed and again made another desperate charge and owing to being now again outflanked on our right and under a severe cross fire we had to withdraw. My comrade John Shelly and self did not hear the order to "About face" and march to the rear, were

so busily engaged in loading and firing that we unconscious of our surroundings until we were ordered to surrender by a rebel officer, but both of us delivered a hurried shot at them and ran at the top of our speed through a volley of musket fire and succeeded in getting to our regiment with no marks or wounds, but our clothing was in different place pierced with musket balls. Our regiment reformed in line on the other side of the rail road and with several other batteries of artillery which we here supported succeeded in driving the enemy back and holding our center. In the evening just before sunset they made a heavy charge on our center with a determination to break through but here we had about 20 guns with strong infantry support and they were compelled to fall back after suffering terribly from our fire. In the midst of this last charge this evening Genl Rosecrans had several of our Brass Bands brought up to the line and strike up a number of National airs, such as the "Red White and Blue", and the Star Spangled Banner" and the effect was as if by magic our defeat this day turned into victory. The rebel columns were mowed down almost in entire columns and they were compelled to retire inside their earth works when cheers and shouts of joy filled the air along our entire line. Thus closed the 31st day of January [sic] 1862.

The terrible battle undecided and as it were hanging in the balance of the fates of war had to be concluded yet in the future whilst all around us lay strewn the dead and wounded whilst we who were left were too tired to give the help and relief that was needed. The sun had now set, his refulgent rays no longer shown upon mans [sic] inhumanity to man and we lay ourselves down upon the damp cold ground in line of battle and slept the hours of night away with dreams of home peace and happiness, which now to us alas is only a dream. The moans of the wounded and dying with now and then a few shots by our pickets during the night gave us that particular feeling and realization of sleeping on the field of battle in the midst of comrades scattered here and there who now "sleep the sleep that knows no making" and have sacrificed their lives upon the altar of their Country.

Battle of Stone [sic] River Jan 1, 1863

Reveille sounded before the break of day and our regiment went into line in front of our batteries which were all massed here in the center bearing the enemy, and as the dawn of the day approached our skirmish line soon became hotly engaged and it was evident that the enemy was about to make another desperate effort to break through our center at this point. A large cotton field lay before us across which rebel columns had to charge upon us. We had yet to wait lone [sic] before we could see them move out of their works with columns closed en massed and banners flying coming toward us. We now had about 60 pieces of artillery massed at this point in front of which lay when all of a

sudden they drove our skirmish line and guns opened up on them. They made a desperate charge but the heavy fire of musketry and the terrible destructive fire of artillery every gun of which was omitting [sic] fire and destruction into their already decimated ranks soon compelled them to falter [illegible] and there being [illegible] longer notwithstanding to return to the shelter of their earthworks. Here after a short cessation of the heavy firing now everything appeared to be quiet, but only for a very brief span of time, when again made another effort to charge upon us with a determination to succeed that was nothing short of desperation but alas many of them came never to return again this time they were repulsed by the artillery almost exclusively, and their columns came forward the shot, shell, grape and canister appeared to mow them by companies, and once more they were compelled to abandon their great object of breaking the center of our army and routing us. This being New Years [sic] day and if ever the First of January was celebrated with the firing of guns it was here today when the very earth shook from the combined thunder of 60 pieces of artillery in repelling the enemies of our American Liberty. They were defeated here this forenoon and late in the afternoon they made some demonstrations on our right and were ordered about a mile to our right and rear but they only made a faint [sic] and drew back. We formed in line and remained here close by the Murfreesboro Nashville Pike all evening and during the night of January 1st and had an opportunity to make some tea and coffee and dine on crackers. The rebel Genl. Wheeler with a large cavalry force got around to our rear about 6 miles and captured and burned a large number of our commissary and supply wagons, among those destroyed were a number belonging to our Regiment and I lost my portfolio, journal and clothing etc.

Battle of Stone [sic] River Jan 2, 1863

The command up before daylight and everything in readiness to meet any emergency that might occur. Very sharp skirmishing commenced along our entire line at an early hour this morning with an occasional shot from artillery which at times sounded like a general engagement, but this only proved to be a faint [sic] as the forenoon by [illegible] was occupied in maneuvering and endeavoring to get advantageous positions and checkmates any engagement the enemy might make, as from all appearances they undoubtedly intended making an attack in force on some point of our line with the object of breaking through. All forenoon a very brisk fire was kept up along the principal position of our lines which at times sounded almost as though a general engagement was progressing. But this formed a mere faint [sic] on their part. Our [illegible] first day of the engagement Genl. VanCleve crossed the river below on our left with his entire division and was drawn up in line of battle. On the other side thus far being only opposed by skirmishers force of the enemy and that in front of him now for some time had, been very quiet. Directly after noon we received orders to march double quick to

our left in the rear of Genl VanCleves [sic] division, with the river between us, as a support of him, and before we got into position we were vigorously attacked and Van Cleves [sic] division being taken by surprise was being driven through the river in the utmost confusion. We here had formed in line and lay down until the retreating columns of Van Cleve [sic] had passed over us and the rebel color bearer had got into the river, crossing we when we were ordered to advance into the river bank and fire whilst laying in this critical situation and our troops being down pell mell [sic] over us to the rear a number of our regiment were killed and wounded whilst laying helplessly on the ground awaiting for all our men to get away from our front so we could fire. Among those who were killed at this spot was Wm. R. Thomas my old friend and schoolmate, shot through the head and instantly killed. Soon as we were ordered to advance and fire we rushed up into the bank of the river and the heavy columns of the rebels were on the top of us and some of them almost through the river into us we delivered a number of very effective volleys in quick succession and then charged through the river up the banks and drove them steadily before us. Their battery of six guns on the other bank which was playing upon us with terrible effect we charged upon and took. The officers refused to surrender and was bayoneted by Richard Hines of Co "A". We took and turned their full battery upon them and drove the enemy across a large cotton field into the woods when night coming on pursuit had to be abandoned. On this portion of the battlefield where Negleys [sic] division drove back the enemy back fourteen hundred killed and wounded were counted and a number of rebel colors were taken and quite a large number of prisoners. The contest here was sharp but did not last very long. The enemy being repulsed at every point along the entire line today. This being a pleasant mid winter day. Aside from the perils of the deadly battle in which we were active participants the charge upon the enemy this afternoon through an [sic] across Stone [sic] River. The water being almost icy cold and had to be waded knee depth up to our waists, was the most disagreeable part we had to perform. Here we lost a number of men, some were shot and wounded in wading through the river and for the want of [illegible] were drowned. Others again fell whilst charging up the bank and taking the rebel battery where the contest raged with unmitigated [sic] fury until they were driven back and all action ceased by the close of the day. In the evening after dark we recrossed the river and went into camp on the other shore for the night without tent or shelter we partook of a scanty morsel and lay down but about 11 O'clock at night it commenced to rain and continued all night. We got up and stood [illegible] with our blankets and rubbers over our shoulders but the rain fell in torrents a large portion of the time we were thoroughly drenched before getting dry from going through the river during the fight. During the night a sharp skirmish fire commenced along our center and spreading that portion of our line the engagement appeared to become very sharp. Our men drove the enemy back and before morning everything started to be quiet with but now and then a few shots exchanged by our pickets.

Stone [sic] River Battlefield Jan 3, 1863

Considerable rain falling today making the roads very heavy and almost impassable whilst the cold rain is very trying and hard on all of us here in the field. Some skirmishing going on and our men have taken possession of a portion of the enemies [sic] works and this afternoon rumors of their retreat are current throughout our command, which little later proves to be true. They are now in full retreat and our cavalry is sent after them but with what result we know not. As we were ordered to be in line ready to march at a moments [sic] notice this morning as may meet them soon again in another engagement. Our men busy gathering the dead and burying as best they could and endeavoring to care for the wounded. Saw the bodies of a great many of my comrades [sic] and schoolmates today who fell during this engagement. The three brothers viz. David Stokes, Cyrus Stokes and Darius Stokes all fell. The first two were killed and the last named severely wounded. R. C. Watson and John Shelly were also severely wounded all of the above named belonged to my mess and formally school mates of mine in Ohio. This afternoon as I passed over a portion of the battle field with a squad of men in search for the killed and wounded many strange sights would meet the eye. Where both friend and foe had fallen lay side by side wrapped one in blue and the other in grey and sleeping the sleep of death. The destructive evidence of a fierce contest were plainly visible over every inch of ground here. An entire battery the enemy had run out to bear upon us lay with guns dismounted and all its horses dead with their riders beside them on the ground. Hundreds of horses dead and dying lay strewn for a distance of about two miles along our lines of action, and in every direction we could see men bearing away their dead or wounded comrades, the former to a place of burial and the later to the different field hospitals for such treatment as could be given on a battlefield. Close by and on the right hand side of the railroad as we go toward Murfreesboro are several hundred dead heroes who fell in the conflict laying on the cold wet earth in line with their blankets around them for their [illegible] whilst a number of men are busily engaged in digging a long trench in which they are to be placed side by side and buried. On the field of Stone [sic] River Battle look when you may and go where you will the "Harvest of Death" is plainly pictured before you and as I look upon the places where we fought and see the destruction and carnage wrought here I feel surprised to realize that even a single one of us were able to come out alive. Both the rebels and union wounded are receiving all the care at our hands that is possible to bestow under such circumstances with the limited amount of means at our disposal. Our loss in this engagement is estimated at about 1700 killed and 6425 wounded and 3550 missing. The missing being mostly prisoners of war taken on the first Day of the engagement when Genl. McCooks [sic] division was being driven back by the enemy.

Sunday Jan 4, 1863

This morning the clouds passed away and the bright rays of sun shine once more lend a more cheerful aspect to us here on the battlefield in the midst of the work of carnage and destruction. We marched forward way down towards Murfreesboro on the Pike and halted by the side of the cotton fields through which the enemy charged upon us on the first day of January and were repulsed. The rebel dead lay thick in many places whilst details of our men were busy gathering and burying as well as they could. Halted but a short time here when we marched across the river and lay in camp until Monday morning on the river bank next to the city.

Monday Jan 5, 1863

Up at an early hour this morning assisted on the repairing the bridge so the troops could cross over the river and there we marched into Murfreesboro and were the first infantry troops to take possession of the dessolate [sic] looking city. The majority of the buildings were evacuated during the battle al [sic] of the largest buildings were filled with rebel wounded and such of our wounded that fell during the first days [sic] engagement into the enemies [sic] hands. The day being clear and pleasant we really began to feel as though new life was being imparted to us after going through such a long wet and destructive an engagement and we now began to look after the interest of the wounded and enlisted all the care we could under the circumstances. In the afternoon we marched out about one mile from town and went into camp on the Murfreesboro Pike. I soon wrote a few lines to send to Father about the battle and went out on picket guard in the night. Our tents and a great deal of our camp and garrison equipage was destroyed along with the wagons by the rebel Genl. Wheeler during the battle so we are getting along with all kinds of improvised temperory [sic] arrangements for shelter and such tents as we succeeded in capturing from the enemy.

Murfreesboro January 6, 1863

Rain commenced falling early this morning and the day was very disagreeable one. Came off picket guard and reported immediately at Col Millers [sic] Head Quarters and was very busy there all day making copy of his official report of the part taken by our brigade in the Stone [sic] River Battle. Was kept very busy waiting all day until 11

O'clock P.M. when I got through and returned to camp. Rain ceased and had sharp heavy frost during the night.

Murfreesboro Tenn January 7, 1863

Weather cold and rough with some little snow falling a part of the time. We went out and brought in a number of tents left by the rebels out about a mile from here and they came very good to us. I feel considerably worn out from the effects of recent exposure and battle, but with rest and care will be all right again in a few days. Received mail from home and now have communications north again so we will very likely be able to learn what has been going other parts since we have been short of communications during and since the fight.

Murfreesboro Tenn. Jan 31, 1863

My journal having been destroyed I have lost the data and items of a portion of our doings since January 7th but will simply say her [sic] that we have been here on duty in the various details of camp life. Out on foraging expeditions. Small skirmishes with the enemies [sic] cavalry. The weather has been cool, with frequent heavy rains and streams high and not fordable with teams and army transportation. We were visited by a number of citizens and friends from Findlay, Ohio recently among whom were C. A. Crominger, Mr [sic] Biggs, H. Wheeler and Squire Davis all of whom feel a deep and patriotic interest in our success and welfare. I have been busy the greater part of the time the past month attending to the duties of Ordnance Sergeant and private secretary of Col. J. M. Neibling. Mr. Neiblings [sic] official accounts and vouchers have been grossly neglected and kept in a very loose manner it will require much labor and a good deal of time to get his accounts with the Government all straightened up in proper form as required by army regulations. We were out foraging in the direction of McMinville [sic] and encountered a small detachment of the rebel cavalry and had quite a lively little skirmish. We were quite unexpectedly with a sharp volley from the rebels, when instantly returned fire and pursued them about two miles capturing about a dozen. We had a very lively and spirited skirmish with but two of our men slightly wounded during the fracas. We returned home to camp late in the evening feeling very tired having marched over twenty miles and secured about twenty loads of corn, fodder, feed and provisions of considerable value to us.

Murfreesboro Monday Feb 16, 1863

Since the above over two weeks have elapsed since which time had a great deal of rain with but few pleasant days. But little been done aside from the ordinary routine of camp duties, guard etc. My time is fully occupied by writing and making out back reports at Head Quarters.

Feb 17, 1863

Raining all last night and the forenoon. Issued ammunition to Company commanders this afternoon and balance of the time busy at the desk writing and making up back reports.

Murfreesboro Feb 18, 1863

Continuance of rain during the past night and the principal part of the day. The paymaster here and we were paid off which is one source of congratulations to us. The appearance [sic] of an army paymaster in a regiment is always welcome. Greenbacks as the government money is commonly called are eagerly sought after and much coveted by all.

Feb 19, 1863

Rain ceased falling this morning a strong wind came up, very rough and cold. Some of the tents in the regiment blew down. In camp all day with nothing new of special importance to us.

Feb 20, 1863

This morning we are for once permitted to enjoy beautiful sunshine and clear weather. I went over to VanCleves [sic] division and visited the friends and relatives in the 49th Ohio Regiment. Saw Samuel Bolton, Philip Roland and a number of other acquaintances and enjoyed a pleasant social visit after which I returned to camp about 2 O'clock P.M.

Feb 21, 1863

Morning cloudy and by noon rain falling steadily again and continued during the entire day. In the afternoon I took teams and went to Division Head Quarters and drew 400 Enfield Rifles for a portion of our regiment. Most of the companies of the 21st Regiment are out guarding a foraging expedition and in all probability will not return before tomorrow.

Feb 22, 1863

Morning cloudy with rain falling which soon blew away and pleasant sunshine during the balance of the day. I went along with a reconnoitering party detailed this morning. Our detail consisted of one hundred men under the command of Major A. McMahan going south about ten miles we were confronted by a detachment of Morgans [sic] Cavalry. We exchanged a number of shots at long range with them with but little result and no one was hurt when we were ordered to advance on them under cover of a dense woods on our right whilst about twenty men remained on the road and kept up a gradual fire on them. After about one hour delay in getting around on the right we succeeded in getting into position within about two hundred yards of the enemy on his left flank and sent a well directed volley of musketry into their command quickly followed by several more which soon threw them into a confusion and they beat a hasty retreat. We captured six prisoners, several killed and twelve wounded fell into our hands. We had a exciting little skirmish here and as good fortune favored us this time we did get through without a single man wounded. After turning the rebel deal [sic] and wounded over to several citizens residing close by, we returned in the night back to our camp. Getting back about midnight all feeling very tired after a long march and excitement incident there to.

Monday Feb 23 1863

Morning fair and pleasant. I took several teams and turned over our old arms and equipment to the Division Ordnance Officer, and issued our new Enfield Rifles to the Company Commanders of our regiment. Kept very busy all day with the exchange of arms and ammunition and by hard work got through with it late in the evening.

Tuesday Feb 24, 1863

Morning clear and pleasant. Finished the transfer of arms and complete invoices of same. By noon weather changed to rain which continued to fall the balance of the day. Our Regiment went out on a two days scout towards McMinnville which is about 30

miles from here. The rain making it very hard for the men. I remained in camp and this once did not accompany the regiment.

Feb 25, 1863

One continuous steady rain falling all last night and all day. I remained in my tent all day and I must confess that time passed slowly and very monotonous. Regiment out yet on their expedition in the direction of McMinnsville [sic].

Feb 26, 1863

Very disagreeable weather. Raining most all forenoon and nothing of any consequence occurring or doing in camp. The regiment returned to camp to day after a very wet and tedious tramp which accomplished very little.

Feb 27, 1863

Remained in camp the greater part of the day. Weather cloudy and blustery high winds prevailing most of the time. In the afternoon I went over to Murfreesboro and called on Lieut. Martin and C. S. Bolton of the Signal Corps. Returned to the regiment this evening.

Feb 28, 1863

Remained in camp all day busily engaged writing in the adjutants [sic] office. Winds very high today.

Sunday March 1, 1863

Colonel J. M. Neibling and Lieut. A. A. Monroe returned to us from Findlay, Ohio this afternoon bringing mail and late news from home and friends.

Monday March 2, 1863

At work all day making out new Monthly Ordnance reports as well as issuing some arms and ammunition to the different companies of our regiment. The weather today being more pleasant and agreeable than for some time past.

March 3, 1863

The weather today clear and pleasant with sharp frost this morning. I was busy all the forenoon in transferring condemned ordnance over to the Division Ordnance Officer. In the afternoon attend the General Muster of the Army here at Murfreesboro.

March 4, 1863

Day cool and cloudy with high winds during the day. Was busy making out my Ordnance returns and receipts for the same. Furnishing blank ordnance returns and invoices and receipts to the different Company Commanders etc. A good many of our regiment are out on picket duty. A number of my old acquaintances belonging to the 99th Ohio Vols. came over and made a very pleasant visit, among the number were Samuel Bolton, Philip Roland and we had a enjoyable time during their stay. We are having numerous conflicting reports now about the contemplated forward movements soon upon the enemy, and there is every preparation being made towards the same. We all feel that the army here will soon be on the march again engage our opposing army and drive him still further south or defeat him.

March 5, 1863

Today a cold disagreeable March rain continued from morning until night. I remained in my tent busily engaged in writing most of the time. Nothing being done in camp outside aside from the performing the necessary duties. Also the same can be said for Mach 6th and 7th. Continuous rain for three days.

Sunday March 8, 1863

Rain ceased falling last night and today very high winds prevail. Reaching our Regiment was the Rev John French from Findlay, Ohio the address was good but the speaker felt very much embarrassed in speaking to a regiment of soldiers, which to him was something new.

March 9, 1863

Weather a little more favorable and the general aspect of things in camp is more cheerful. There is nothing new of any consequence transpiring aside from the ordinary of camp duties, and I must confess that I frequently feel very tired of the common "humdrum" life of a soldier in camp away from the more refining influences of civil life such as we here in America so happily enjoyed for years before this slave holders [sic] rebellion was forced upon us.

March 10, 1863

We are in receipt of the news of the defeat of a brigade of Union troops under Col. Coburn near Franklin, Tennessee by the rebel Genl Van Dorn with a superior force. Our troops loosing [sic] heavily in this engagement both in killed, wounded and prisoners. We are also informed of the fight near Unionville, Tenn. by Genl Minty who captured a rebel regiments [sic] camp and garrison, with sixty prisoners, also their entire supply train including horses, wagons, provisions Etc. Current rumors again in camp this evening concerning our anticipated movement on the enemy soon, but of course nothing official.

March 11, 1863

Weather again very unfavorable. Rain pouring down in torrents most of the day. The regiment ordered out on a three days scout in the direction of McMinnville, Tenn. and camp this evening looks deserted and lonesome.

Murfreesboro Tenn. March 12, 1863

We are once more favored this morning with bright sunshine and a pleasant day. I sent \$630.00 with Mr. John Bishop to Mrs. J. M. Neibling at Findlay, Ohio also wrote Mrs. Neibling a letter and forwarded certain private papers of Col. Neibling, along with letter to his wife. The Colonel being absent with the regiment on a three days expedition.

March 13, 1863

Cool cloudy weather. I sent provisions out to the regiment this afternoon, and wrote article to the Hancock Jeffersonian this afternoon and in the evening at brigade Head quarters on official business a short time.

Murfreesboro March 14, 1863

Weather clear and pleasant today. I went into Murfreesboro this afternoon and visited some of the sick and wounded there and then over into the 99th Regt. and Cyrus and Samuel Bolton, Philip Roland and other acquaintances and had an enjoyable visit. The boys all are in the best of health and goo [sic] spirits. The regiment returned to camp this evening from the reconnoitering expedition. Nothing of any importance having transpired with them in this trip. The Rev. John French from Findlay, Ohio who has been with us for some time started home this evening.

[memo-W. Independence U.B. United Brethren Church]

Murfreesboro Sunday March 15, 1863

Morning beautiful. Company inspection by the regiment. Nothing new of any consequence with us in camp. Officers and men all feeling well Health of the troops is excellent.

Monday March 16, 1863

Weather warm and enjoyable. Busy all day in Col Neiblings [sic] office writing and making out his Ordnance returns which he has very much neglected from the first. Battalion drill in the afternoon. Major McMahan returned with the men from a scouting expedition this afternoon.

March 17, 1863

Warm and pleasant weather which is very agreeable to soldiers in the field. I remained in camp most of the day. Went into Murfreesboro this afternoon on business connected with the division ordnance Office. Col Neibling left for Nashville this afternoon. Col McCook called at our Headquarters and made us a short visit. Mart Rude from Findlay, Ohio arrived here, evidently he left to avoid the draft into the service.

March 18, 1863

Warm and pleasant weather continues. Remained in Camp all day. The general condition of our troops is excellent and the men in good spirits anxiously awaiting the long looked for forward movement. There is nothing new in camp and only the ordinary routine of camp life.

March 19, 1863

Day very pleasant and warm. Col Neibling returned to the regiment this afternoon. Nothing new of any importance transpiring.

Murfreesboro Tenn March 27, 1863

Having omitted journal during the past seven days. I now very briefly summarize up to date. Since the 19th our time in camp spent very pleasantly with but a limited amount of duty to perform, and the weather on the whole has been warm and pleasant with no skirmishing or fighting. Everything being very quiet with the large Army of Genl. Rosecrans in excellent condition. We frequently wonder why there is no forward movement made and [illegible] this delay. To day [sic] we changed our camp and moved down on the east side of the Bradyville Pike and our regiment is very busy in perfecting our new camp grounds and making things comfortable as possible as it now looks as though we were very likely to remain here yet for some time.

March 28, 1863

Men busy in perfecting our new quarters. Cool rain this morning and very high winds all day long. No news of any consequence and everything quiet with us.

[memo: END-skip to Sept 19 and 20, 1863 Battle of Chickamauga]

CHICKAMAUGA

In the field in Georgia Saturday Sept 19, 1863

This morning we took up our line of march at an early hour on our way towards Chattanooga and the rebel General Bragg with his troops moving by roads paralleled with us towards the same objective point. Viz. Chattanooga with now and then a few shots exchanged between our advance skirmish line and the enemy on our right and front. About noon we formed in line of battle and confronted the enemy who was in

strong force and showed strong signs of giving us battle and in fact from the sharp firing and going on every appearance indicated a general engagement pending. But this was not the real object here and the enemy's force soon were moving toward Chattanooga and we were checkmating his movements if possible, and soon were also rapidly moving parallel road on the enemies [sic] left towards the same objective point. The weather was very warm and the roads dry and dusty thus making our hurried and forced marching very fatiguing to the men. About middle of the afternoon we marched into the engagement which had now again taken place and resumed more formable appearances and supported the second division of the 14th Corps and through under a sharp fire we did not participate in a very close engagement for the time being. The enemy being repulsed we again moved forward on by the large springs near Chickamauga creek and in the evening went in under a sharp fire and held the enemy at bay our regiment leaving several killed and wounded. Colonel McMahan had his horse shot from under him and I at once supplied him with another. We lay here all night in line of battle and could distinctly hear the enemy marching and countermarching and distinctly understood the commands given by their officers. We all now anxiously awaiting the great battle which seemed now to have been opened by morning would be renewed with a determination boarding an [sic] desperation on the part of the enemy to drive us out of Georgia. We lay in line of battle with frequent exchange of shots between our pickets who were in close proximity with those of the enemy until 4 O'clock in the morning when the command was in readiness.

CHICKAMAUGA BATTLEFIELD SUNDAY September 20, 1863

The entire command under arms at break of day in anxious anticipation of what the result might be in as much that we fully realized an approaching crisis in the impending battle. The early part of the morning was occupied principally by both armies moving and countermoving [sic] for position with some sharp volleys along at different points of the lines when about 8 O'clock we moved back to our left arrived on open field into the woods and formed our line of battle o [sic] the top of a steep hill which was a continuous part of Missionary Ridge and different of ascent for the artillery. Our line formed on the top of this hill facing a slight depression in the same where the enemy would endeavored to bring up their artillery. Whilst moving into line at this point we could distinctly see the troops engage the enemy on our right and front and in the distance a heavy force moving toward us. Our regiment being armed with Colts revolving rifles we were placed in this position on the top of this hill, Horse Shoe Ridge on Snodgrass hill, on account of our ability to offer more effective resistance. And I personally supplied the entire regiment with seventy rounds of ammunition to each man, in addition to the 25 rounds we had in hand, making 95 rounds to each man. We received orders to hold this

point at all regards. We had scarcely completed the formation of our lines with the 31st Ohio Regt. Joining us on our left when the rebel General Longstreets [sic] Corps just fresh from their victories in Virginia was seen moving into us in our front in columns, by division closed enmasse [sic]. We had hurriedly threw down a few logs and timbers and rails in our front and lay down behind them for such protection as they afforded and awaited the enemy's attack. We had but a few moments to wait when the enemy made a charge in force with the intention and expectation of forcing us from our commanding position, But our fore from the repeating rifles was well directed with a terribly destructive affect. Notwithstanding they charged up the hill to the very muzzle of our guns in excellent order. They were hurled back by the withering fire of our men with a great loss. There now was a temporary lull in our front during which time the enemy hurriedly reforming preparatory to a second charge upon us whilst along the line to our left the steady roar of musketry too plainly told us that the battle was now raging with fury along our entire front. We now again received another charge from the enemy more furious and with more determination and desperation than the first. But the terrible fire from our rifles caused them to halt when they had again reached the top of the hill. An [sic] then would melt away as if it were like snow. And as they were again repulsed we followed them down the hill where the dead and wounded lay so thick one could scarcely get through without stepping on them. In this repulse we captured a few prisoners and sent them to the rear and again formed our line of battle in it formers position on the top of the hill and only a few shots from the skirmish line of the enemy and our own, were exchanged during the temporary lull of the battle in our front. On our right Genl Steadmans [sic] brigade had moved into position and was being hotly pressed by the enemy. And on the left of us the roar of musketry extended along the entire line. Genl Steadman with his brigade on our right was vigorous defending the pas [sic] through the hills when the enemy was making a desperate attack in force to effect a dislodgment of our troops and pass through the gap and breaks our lines. The contest here was fierce and determined but Genl. Steadman succeeded in holding the superior numbers of the enemy at bay and prevented them from posing through the gap. We could also see down along the line on our left and front at a distance in the open field portion of our 14 army Corps stubbornly contesting every inch of ground. Whilst the enemy with superior numbers made a charge after charge upon them. The deafening roar of musketry was like on [sic] continuous wall of thunder. From along the entire front on our right to the distance on the left and at time almost deafening. Now again faint and almost quiet at some point while at another near by one continuous roar of musketry was heard. And at intervals undulating along the entire line in reverberations like into a mighty and terrific thunder intermingled with the heavy boom of artillery. The bursting of shells with both shot and shells crashing through our lines from the rebel batteries and cutting trees and limbs which falling seriously hurt several of our regiment. Now the desultry [sic] firing in one front again increased and foretell too plainly they

were again to charge upon us at the same time the enemies [sic] columns advancing upon us. And more the roar of musketry and the boom of artillery in our front become deafening and the charge is upon us they move upon us in heavy columns. On they came up the hill. We hold our fire until they are again close upon us. When the rapid firing from our repeating rifles at short range is terribly destructive and again they waiver a moment when their columns begin to wither away and soon disappear. We still hold our position although many of our brave and noble comrades [sic] lie scattered along the line on the top of Missionary Ridge who fell in this terrible conflict Genl Walker commanded the 81st Ohio Regt joined us on our left was forced back by overwhelming numbers, succeeded in rallying his men and again retook his position. His color bearer fell but at once Gen Walker grasped the colors of his command and calling his men to follow him he succeeded in rejoining his position and forced the enemy back. We now were running short of ammunition and I with several other hurriedly passed along the line and gathered all the ammunition from the dead and wounded that could be found on their person and distributing it among the survivors in line of battle with which to resist the next charge from the enemy. I hurriedly rode back in the valley in search of the ordinance train but one wagon load of Enfield Rifle cartridges which I had brought up and it was at once picked up almost instantaneously by the command. Although it was not suited to the Colts Revolving Rifles we used. A goo [sic] many of our guns bursting in using it. The enemy again charged upon us and with a determination [sic] equal to their previous efforts but were again repulsed with terrible slaughter.

The day now being well advanced and the survivors of our Regiment tired, hungry, and thirsty and weary after repulsing charge after charge of a vastly superior force in joint of numbers. Anxiously awaited the final result. Genl Steadman had withdrawn his command from the gap in our right. Other troops had been withdrawn, but we still on top of Horseshoe Ridge and the enemy closed in on our front. Where we received and [sic] order to charge them and drive them back. Without any ammunition and nothing but the cold bayonet the mere [sic] handful of men left in line promptly obeyed orders and charged the enemy down then back a short distance and then retired. We were to be supported in this movement, but no support was given us and it nothing more or less than the cold iron of the tired soldiers and their determinate bravery that enabled us to do what we did and not loose [sic] every man in the regiment. The sun was now setting and the smoke of battle settling down like a dense cloud we could see but indistinctly only a short distance and troops were moving in the valley in our rear. It was a matter of uncertainty to us what troops they were when a sergeant from Co "D" went down to see but failed to return. Next Capt [sic] Alban went down and he also failed to return and report. When the column marched up towards and ordered us to surrender and now for the first time we were appraised of the fact that it was the enemy who had come through the gap vacated by Genl Steadman and were in our rear, and had taken the sergeant

and Capt [sic] Alban prisoners of war and demanded our surrender. Major McMahan then in command of our regiment promptly refused to surrender and ordered the men to charge the enemy in our rear and such as got through alive without either being wounded or taken prisoner, charged through the rebel lines. Major McMahan was jerked from his horse and taken prisoner as well as a large number of our officers and men were either killed wounded or taken prisoner. I was on horse back and when charged through their lines threw myself flat on my horse and with spurs into the flanks of the old war horse "Jim" rushed through this line of battle without getting hurt. My horse got slightly wounded in the neck and I had one hole shot through the top of my hat. Another ball passed through my coat, uncomfortably close calls, but fortunately for me. They neither killed or wounded.

This was the last of the fighting on Sunday evening September 20, 1863 of the eventful battle of "Chickamauga". No other fighting and no firing was heard after this time along the line. All our troops had been thru the drawn before, and the 21st Ohio was the last regiment to leave this bloody field after dark in the evening. I gathered such members of the regiment together as we could which by the way was but a mear [sic] squad and followed the crowd back towards Roseville. However stopping a short time for a little rest. I took sergeant Milhuff and went back to where we had been fighting with the intention of assisting some of our wounded away it being after 8 O'clock P.M. and we seen camp fires burning and soldiers clad in blue we walked in amongst them, but seen to our surprise that they were the enemy's camp everything her [sic] was in confusion as they had suffered severely during the fight and or were very busy and preparing something to eat, we quietly walked around [illegible] as we could appear, and without saying a word to any one got out side their lines as soon as possible. We seen the woods and dry grass and leaves burning and quite a number of the dead and wounded must have been burned in certain localities, here in the woods. We returned and joined the remendents [sic] of our regiment and marched back to Rosseville [sic] where about 12 O'clock we lay down utterly worn out and exhausted after passing through the fiery ordeal of the day. The small number left of our regiment as they gathered around the camp fire here is as good near midnight, sat in silence by the glance of their dim lights. The veteran heroes of many battles whose doubtless courage saved the army on the field of Chickamauga.

21st Ohio Volunteer Infantry Buried at Stones River National Cemetery

[Note: The information transcribed below is from a table with the following headings: RANK; NAME; COMPANY; GRAVE NO.: D. of D.; On the rolls as. The information will be transcribed in line form with semi-colons between the columns.]

PVT; David D. Alspach; H; F-2452; 07-02-63; [blank]

PVT; Henry Bordner; D; E-2084; 03-31-62; Bordener
 PVT; Levi Brisin; H; E-1896; 01-18-63; Brisbin
 PVT; Johnson Crawford; H; G-2875; 05-08-63; [blank]
 PVT; S. Dealke; C; B-927; 03-24-64; Not on the rolls
 PVT; Elisha Fair; K; O-6037; 05-07-63; Not Fain
 PVT; Charles Ferguson; B; O-6113; 07-27-63; [blank]
 PVT; Truman Ferry; E; C-1164; 04-18-63; Not Freem
 PVT; Jacob Hook; A; B-930; 07-10-62; [blank]
 PVT; Soloman Hoy; E; E-1833; 01-01-63; 01-12-63
 PVT; Clay C. Martin; B; E-1891; 01-23-63; [blank]
 PVT; James H. Mays; F; F-2438; 02-12-63; [blank]
 PVT; David Miller; G; G-2662; 02-28-63; [blank]
 PVT; Francis Mosley; K; M-4869; 07-06-63; Not Moesly
 PVT; Fergus McClellan; H; M-5188; 05-26-63; [blank]
 PVT; Joseph Orwig; B; H-2979; 01-21-63; [blank]
 PVT; Frederick Saltsbaugh; G; K-4574; 01-25-64; Sultzbaugh
 PVT; John Shelby; F; E-1806; 01-26-63; Shelly
 PVT; Absolom S. Shoemaker; I; B-929; 06-07-62; [blank]
 PVT; Elmore Shoemaker; F; E-2031; 02-06-63; [blank]
 PVT; John J. Slater; F; G-2716; 01-21-63; [blank]
 PVT; George Smith; H; G-2694; 02-26-63; [blank]
 PVT; George V. Smith; H; K-4404; 02-16-63; [blank]
 CPL; Nathaniel Smith; E; F-2268; 01-20-63; [blank]
 PVT; Timothy Sweet; I; O-6091; 06-17-63; [blank]
 PVT; William Taylor; H; E-2157; 01-02-63; [blank]
 PVT; William R. Thomas; G; E-1768; 01-02-63; [blank]
 PVT; Michael Wisegiver; G; M-5196; 01-02-63; Not Wisegine

List of 21st Ohio Volunteer Infantry KIA at Stones River

[Note: This information will be transcribed the same as the last table without the column for the grave number.]

SGT; Lewis Diebly; A; 12-31-62; Deuble
 PVT; Daniel Swartz; A; 12-31-62; [blank]
 PVT; William Bradford; A; 12-31-62; [blank]
 PVT Absalom E. Kleckner; A; 12-31-62; [blank]
 CPL; Seneca Hodge; C; 12-31-62; [blank]
 CPL; William L. Trask; D; 12-31-62 [blank]
 PVT; Wilson S. Musser; E; 12-31-62; [blank]
 PVT; Edson G. Reed; F; 12-31-62; [blank]
 PVT; Solomon Sconden; F; 12-31-62; Seouden
 PVT; John C. Wilkison; F; 12-31-62; [blank]
 PVT; Cyrus H. Stokes; F; 12-31-62; Stoker
 PVT; Jonas Heminger; G; 12-31-62; [blank]
 PVT; Lewis Wallace; G; 12-31-62; [blank]
 SGT; Silas McDonald; H; 12-31-62; [blank]

PVT; John H. Kromer; H; 12-31-62; [blank]
PVT; Nicholas Vogle; H; 12-31-62; [blank]
CPL; Alenson J. Veon; I; 12-31-62; [blank]
CPL; Maxwell C. Reynolds; I; 12-31-62 [blank]
PVT; Elias S. Jackson; I; 12-31-62 [blank]
SGT; David N. Loomis; K; 12-31-62; [blank]
PVT; Samuel Burk; K; 12-31-62; [blank]
CPL; John Myers; K; 12-31-62; [blank]
PVT; Frank C. Arnold; B; 12-31-62; [blank]
PVT; Will Dauternan; C; 01-01-63; Dauterman Dauternean
PVT; Harvey Heusted; H; 01-02-63; Heustead

List of 21st O.V.I. Died of Wounds and Buried at Stones River National Cemetery
[Note: This table does not include the grave numbers.]

1LT; Enoch B. Wiley; C; 06-05-63; [Note: Not confirmed as to which date of death is correct.] 01-05-63
SGT; Erastus Beggs; A; 01-02-63; Biggs
PVT; David P. Stokes; F; 01-01-63; Stoker
PVT; Joshua Swayer; F; 02-12-63; [blank]
PVT; Robert W. Shoemaker; G; 02-03-63; [blank]
SGT; Robert H. Caldwell; I; 02-08-63; [blank]
PVT; James Reynolds; I; 06-14-63; [blank]
PVT; Joseph Twining; A; 01-25-63; [blank]
PVT; William Yates; F; 04-10-63; [blank]

List of 21st O.V.I. Died of Wounds and Buried elsewhere

[Note: This information does not include grave numbers but the last column denotes where they are buried.]

CPL; Albert Hasner; A; 02-10-6; Nashville, TN
PVT; Sherman Bushnell; K; 04-09-63; Cincinnati, OH
PVT; James Pember; K; 03-11-63; Covington, KY
PVT; Levi Boucher; A; 01-25-63; Nashville, TN

List of 21st O.V.I. Died of Disease and in Cemetery

[Note: This list does not have a Company column.]

PVT; Jacob W. Wyer; 2-63; [blank]
PVT; Samuel C Grier; 13-63; Grear Greer
PVT; James Boggs; 1-63; [blank]
PVT; Freeman Ellswort; 5-63; [blank]
PVT; Freeman N. Stump; 0-62; [blank]
PVT; Henry Borsdort; 2-63; Barsdorf

PVT; John Adams; 1-63; [blank]
PVT; Gilbert Radaba[cut off]; 0-63; [blank]
PVT; George Helms; 5-63; [blank]
PVT; William Vantilbu; 9-63; [blank]
PVT; Elijah Barnd; 8-63; [blank]
PVT; John Hartmar; 3-63; [blank]
1LT; Amos E. Wood; 4-63; [blank]

PVT; William Spriggs; 1-63; Cause of death unknown but buried

Letter to Colonel McMahan September 12, 1889

[stamped at the top]
FARMS,
OIL AND GAS LANDS,
BUSINESS
AND
Residence Properties,
FOR SALE.

[typed at the top of letter head]:
J. H. Bolton's
Old Reliable
Real Estate and Fire Insurance Agency.
313 S. Main St.,
Findlay, Ohio Sept 12th 1889

Dear Colonel

Your favor of the 11th just at hand and will briefly state that the post office address of Capt [sic] J. L. Keller is "Jeneria, Hancock Co Ohio where he resides on a farm and we seldom succeed in interesting him in any of the old veterans. In regard to Co. "D". Lieut [sic] Christian B. Sholty belonged to "D" from some time in Feby. "6 [page cut off] if I mistake not, and was with the company until mustered out. he [sic] resides near McComb Ohio on a farm and I believe he could furnish you valuable information regarding the members of Co "D".

The old french [sic] sergeant Celestine Cochran of "D" is living on a farm near "Pandora", Putnam Co. Ohio and as he was one of the old stand by veterans of that Co. I have good reasons to believe that a line addressed to him would prove an advantage to you in securing information relative to members of that Company.

Wishing you success in your historical enterprise

I remain Yours Respectfully,
J H Bolton

Envelope for September 12, 1889 Letter

If not called for in 10 days, return to
J. H. BOLTON,
Real Estate, Insurance and
LOAN AGENT.
FINDLAY, OHIO.

Col. A. M. McMahon
East Toledo Ohio

Letter from J. H. Bolton to Colonel McMahon dated September 7, 1889

[stamped at the top]
FARMS,
OIL AND GAS LANDS,
BUSINESS
AND
Residence Properties,
FOR SALE.

[typed at the top of letter head]:
J. H. Bolton's
Old Reliable
Real Estate and Fire Insurance Agency.
313 S. Main St.,
Findlay, Ohio. Sept 7th 1889

Col McMahon
Dear Sir

I sometime ago sent Serg Willie your list of names with request to furnish such information as was desired; but up to the present time I have not heard from him. Consequently I got the information contained in the answer to your queries on the enclosed sheet, from Robert Timmerman, who was a member of Co "B" and a veteran, was with us clear through all the campaigns and I believe the information is very near correct.

The answers to your queries are those of Mr [sic] Timmerman. I noted them after the respective names on the sheet you sent me which I return here with for your convenience.

Yours Respectfully
J. H. Bolton

Letter from J. H. Bolton to Colonel A. McMahon dated May 30, 1889

Findlay Ohio May 30-1889

Col A. M. McMahon

Dear Sir

Please accept thanks for "Daily Commercial" containing your article in reply to certain errors contained in last Saturdays [sic] Commercial Gazette written by Genl Boynton and quoting Lieut [sic] Vance quite freely. Mr [sic] Vance was in my office at a late hour yesterday evening and informed of your correction and expressed himself as being highly pleased in having the responsibility placed where it properly belongs.

It looks now as if history would eventually give the credit for the heroic defence [sic] of that historic hill on that eventful sunday [sic] afternoon Sep 20/1863 to the regiment that above all others held the key to the position and defended the same with a valor and heroism scarcely equaled in the annals of history. Permit me here to say your article is well put in the right time and place and goes far towards correcting the false claims of others to the honors achieved by the old veterans of the 21st Ohio on the historic field of Chicamauga [sic].

With many regards

I remain Yours

J. H. Bolton

Envelope for May 30, 1889 Letter

If not called for in 10 days, return to

J. H. BOLTON,

Real Estate, Insurance and

LOAN AGENT.

FINDLAY, OHIO.

[2 cent stamp in right upper corner of envelope]

[stamp: FINDLAY MAY 30 11 AM 1889 O.]

Col A. M. McMahon

East Toledo

Ohio

Letter from J. H. Bolton to Colonel A. McMahon dated July 10, 1889

[stamped at the top]

FARMS,

OIL AND GAS LANDS,

BUSINESS
AND
Residence Properties,
FOR SALE.

[typed at top of letter head]:

J. H. Bolton's
Old Reliable
Real Estate and Fire Insurance Agency.
313 S. Main St.,
Findlay, Ohio July 10th 1889

Col A. M. McMahon

Dear Sir

Your favor of the 8th has just been received and in reply will briefly say that I will endeavor to see a member of the member of Co. B and get all the information I can regarding the different parties named in your list.

Sergeant Phillip Willich at present resides in Bluffton Allen Co. Ohio and will also send him a copy of your list and request him to give us all the information he can, and soon as the same is received will send it to you.

I wish to add a few words here in reply to your former letter written some time ago. that [sic] there certainly is a greater effort on the part of Gen Boynton and others to get to the top of Snod Grass Hill since the battle on that eventful Sunday, than Gen Longstreet made when he attacked us and I know that I shall never question the fighting qualities of Longstreet's command but if Gen Boynton keeps on he will be on top of the hill. Gen Longstreet made a devil of a mistake in not securing Boynton's services, long before the battle took place, because he undoubtedly would have "quilled" us out of our position and took the place.

I will further say that when the time comes that you see fit to open up your historical battery, about one good "broad side" volley will knock out their frail false bottomed craft and leave them afloat in the mid ocean of their delusive phantoms without a rudder to steer them ashore.

But right here I am reminded of the remark in your former letter about the shot gun and pen both being rather dangerous weapons and think it more prudent to take heed and not say too much.

Trusting this may find you well I remain as ever
Yours Respectfully
J. H. Bolton

Envelope for July 10, 1889 Letter
If not called for in 10 days, return to
J. H. BOLTON,
Real Estate, Insurance and
LOAN AGENT.
FINDLAY, OHIO.

[2 cent post office stamp in upper right hand corner of envelope]
[stamp: FINDLAY JUL 10 11 AM 1889 O.]

Col A. M. McMahon
East Toledo Ohio

Letter from J. H. Bolton to Colonel A. McMahon dated August 14, 1888

Findlay Ohio Aug 12th 1888
Col A. M. McMahon
Toledo O.

Your esteemed favor came to hand some time ago [sic] requesting me to state you what I know about the 26th Tennessee (rebel) Regiments [sic] Colors captured by our troops at the Battle of Stone [sic] River.

Pressing business engagements and more or less absence from home prevented me from sending you a prompt reply, consequently your letter remained unanswered, but I will now relate to you briefly my recollections although the lapse of over a quarter of a century may have left its mark upon my memory as regards distance etc but the statement I here send you regarding the capture of the flag is a true one in every respect.

On the second day of January 1863 after we had crossed the river and were driving [sic] the rebels up the hill through the woods under a heavy fire, [illegible] a moment before our regiment (21st O.V.I.) captured the rebel battery, whilst advanceing [sic] we were passing over large numbers of dead and wounded of both federal and confederate and about a hundred yards as near as I can recollect to right of the rebel battery captured by our regiment and only a short distance in the woods before we entered the open field (corn field) is as near as I can describe the location where while we were advanceing [sic] under a brisk fire I saw laying on the ground before me a dead rebel with a flag by his side. I picked up the flag and saw it belonged to the 26th Tennessee Reg and intended to bring it with me, but at once comprehended, that it was impossible to use my arms and carry the flag with me so I hurriedly threw down by the side of the dead rebel where I had found it, and proceeded along with the Re[cut off] until we came to a halt out in the open field where I returned to get the flag. but when I got there it had been taken away by some one [sic] else. there [sic] is no question but the color bearer fell from a shot fired by some one of our own regiment but who fired that shot will undoubtedly never be known. I will here add that I honestly believe that no one person

in particular is entitled to the credit of captureing [sic] that flag, but one thing is certain that the credit for the capture of it belongs to the 21st Regiment Ohio Vol. Infy Trusting the above narrative regarding my observations and knowledge of the capture of this flag may be of some advantage to you in your history I remain

Yours Truly
J. H. Bolton

Envelope for the August 14, 1888 letter

[2 cent post office stamp in upper right hand corner of envelope]

[handwritten on the side]
Capture of flag by J. H. Bolton

[addressed to]
Col A. M. McMahan
East Toledo Ohio