

DIARY OF

WILLIAM MCCONNELL,

PRIVATE, CO. I, 15th C. V., I.,

1st BRIGADE, 3rd DIVISION,

ARMY CORPS.



ARMY

OF THE

CUMBERLAND

ALSO A BRIEF

RECORD OF AUBURN TOWNSHIP
AND TIRO, OHIO.

1899

Published by Charles McConnell,

TIRO, OHIO.

November 28—Forenoon. No drilling. We went on picket at 2:30 p. m. Our company had to go on post.

November 29—Received orders to move at 10 a. m. I went into camp and helped pack up. We started at 10 a. m. and moved about two miles to the right. Our regiment was not relieved until noon.

November 30, Sunday—Inspection of arms at 9 a. m. After inspection Trago, Cory and I went over to the 64th Ohio. Wet afternoon.

December 1—In camp. Wet and rainy. No drilling. I was detailed to help clear out the color line.

December 2—No drilling. James Guthrie and I went out of camp and got some potatoes.

December 3—Battalion drill at 9 a. m. Gen. Willich was present at drill.

December 4—Battalion drill at 9 a. m. After drill Ben Gardner, Louis Goshorn and I went out to find the camp of the 101st Ohio. Did not find it. Came back past the 64th Ohio. Dress parade at 4 p. m.

December 5—In camp all day. Snowed most of the day. No drilling or dress parade. Had orders for brigade drill.

December 6—We went on picket at 2 p. m. Heard cannonading to our left on the Murfreesboro pike. Part of our forage train was captured. I received a letter from M. H.

December 7, Sunday—On picket. Gen. Sill came round the picket lines. Were relieved about noon.

December 8—In camp. George Keller, a citizen from Auburn township, Crawford county, Ohio, came to visit us. No drilling or dress parade. Had orders to be ready to move at any time. I wrote to Melis Taggart.

December 9—We were ready to move all day. In the evening our brigade went out on a reconnoissance. Did not get back to camp until after dark. I wrote to M. H.

December 10—We were called up at 3 a. m. Had orders to move at 9 a. m. Moved our camp about one mile to the rear to better camp grounds. I wrote to Wm. Taggart.

December 11—Our brigade started at 6 a. m. Went for-

aging. Went about six miles. J. Crampton and I got a hog. Got back to camp at 3 p. m.

December 12—Got a pass and went over to the 101st Ohio and saw brother Charles. Robert Crosier, of our company, died and was buried before I got back to camp.

December 13—In camp near Nashville, Tenn. In the morning we moved our camp about one-half mile up on a hill.

Brother James and Marion Trago came to our camp and went over to the 101st Ohio.

December 14, Sunday—In the morning I wrote to Mat and Mary Lash. Had inspection of arms at 10 a. m. Were ready to move all day, did not. Afternoon I washed. C. Cory, of our company, went to hospital sick.

December 15—Our regiment went on picket at 6 a. m. Very wet afternoon and night.

December 16—We were relieved from picket at 7 a. m. Got into camp at 8 a. m. I wrote to brother John.

December 17—In camp all day. In the morning went out and discharged our muskets. Afternoon had company drill. Very cool.

December 18—Our brigade went out with a forage train. Started at 7 a. m., got back to camp at 3 p. m.

December 19—Remained in camp. About noon I was detailed to guard at Gen. Willich's headquarters.

December 20—Brigade drill at 10 a. m. I was relieved from guard duty at noon. Artillery firing in our front that night on our picket lines.

December 21, Sunday—Had company inspection of arms and knapsacks at 10 a. m. Drew our dog tents.

December 22—In camp. No drilling in the forenoon. Afternoon battalion drill. I received a letter from Barnet Sims.

December 23—I went to Nashville to see about an express box of goods that had been sent us from home. Brigade drill at 8 a. m.

December 24—The five right companies of our regiment

icket at 6 a. m. Had orders to re-double vigilance. s in camp moved out a short distance and were ick to camp again.

er 25—We were relieved from picket about 7 a. m. into camp and put up our tents. The five left went out foraging. Our whole brigade went out

The 39th Illinois had a skirmish with the enemy. er 26—We left camp near Nashville, Tenn., at 7 rched on the Huntsville Pike. Davis' and Sher- ions were in advance. Drove the enemy back miles toward Murfreesboro, Tenn. We passed olensville in the evening. Marched ten miles. afternoon and night.

er 27—We started at 7 a. m. Our division in the Rained nearly all day. Skirmishing most of the ted one-half mile beyond Triune. I went and got and beef.

er 28, Sunday—Our brigade started at 7 a. m. on sance. Went about six miles, got back about 1 p. rations.

er 29—We started at 7 a. m. and went back through d took the mud road toward Murfreesboro. We miles and halted in a corn field. Our cavalry enemy that day. Rained nearly all night. Had tents. Laid on the ground.

er 30—Very wet. Davis' division in the advance, the enemy back toward Murfreesboro. We fol- e in the rear of Davis' division late in the evening, ark our division (Johnson's), moved to the front right of Davis' division.

er 31—Battle of Stone River, Tenn. About day- enemy charged upon us in overwhelming numbers, us back from our position. I was wounded early ing and taken prisoner, and remained a prisoner ds of the enemy. Our lines were forced back e miles. The loss heavy on both sides. Our

company had three killed, eight wounded and fifteen taken prisoners.

1863.

January 1—I was in the hospital all day. Could hear heavy cannonading all day. The rebels were in charge of the hospital.

January 2—I remained in the hospital nearly all day. Afternoon I went into Capt. Douglass' room. In the evening I was paroled. Heavy cannonading in the evening.

[PAROLE.]

Headquarter ARMY OF THE MISSISSIPPI.
MURFREESBORO, 1863.

William McConnell, Army of the United States, having been taken a prisoner by the Confederates, and this day Paroled.

Whereof this is Witness, Do swear that I will not bear arms against the Confederates, or will I, in any way, aid or abet its enemies until I am regularly exchanged, under penalty of death; nor will I disclose anything that I have seen or heard in said Confederate States' Army.

Sworn to and subscribed before me January 2, 1863.

WILLIAM MCCONNELL.

McCORMICO, Captain, Ala.

January 3—Very wet day. I remained in the field hospital all day. Some of the wounded was taken to Murfreesboro. Late in the evening heavy artillery firing.

January 4—In field hospital. The confederates were around the hospital until in the afternoon. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon some of our boys came to the hospital to us. S. B. Raudabaugh, Jack Crampton and David Livenspire of my company, came to hospital to see me. I heard through them that brother James of the 64th Ohio, and brother Charles of the 101st Ohio, had passed through the battle safely.

January 5—In field hospital. In the morning Gen. Gibson and Capt. Dawson came to see us. In the evening they commenced to move some of the wounded away from the hospital.

January 6—Wet and cool. Capt. Dawson came around to hospital. I went down and stayed with Capt. Douglass. Our division moved beyond Murfreesboro. The confederates had fallen back and evacuated Murfreesboro.

January 7—Pleasant day. We sent to our regiments after our knapsacks. Remained in hospital.

January 8—In hospital. Pleasant day. Our knapsacks were brought to us. I received a few lines from my Captain. Lieut. Hills went away.

January 9—Capt. Danford and Lieut. Uptergron came to the hospital. In the afternoon I went out to the pike.

January 10—Very wet forenoon. We started from Smith's hospital about noon. Got to Nashville at 10 o'clock that night. Were taken to No. 1 Barracks.

January 11—I went down street to hunt my knapsack. After I came back they gave me a bath and put me in the upper ward. That night I wrote a letter home.

January 12—Pleasant day. I went down stairs once.

January 13—In the morning I wrote a letter to Vince Brago. I was not out of my ward all day.

January 14—In the morning brother John, citizen, came from Crawford county, Ohio, to see me. Rained all day. I was not out of my ward. In the evening brother John came back and stayed all night with me.

January 15—Snowed in the morning. Cold all day. In the evening Wm. Dickson, from DeKalb, Crawford county, Ohio, a citizen, came to the hospital to see me.

January 16—Very cold. After dinner I went down stairs. In the evening brother John came back to the hospital and stayed all night with me.

January 17—Cold and clear. Brother John started to Murfreesboro, about thirty miles, to the battlefield, and to where our army was then in camp, to see the other boys from Auburn township. In the afternoon I went down stairs.

January 18, Sunday—In the forenoon our ward was inspected by Drs. Chamberlain and Brevier. The snow melted

away. The 65th Indiana and 13th Indiana Batteries came down.

January 19—In the morning I got a pass and went to hospital No. 13 and saw Porter Weston, of the 49th Ohio, who had been wounded in the battle of December 31st.

January 20—In hospital at Nashville, Tenn. I was down stairs twice. In the evening I went down for supper.

January 21—I continued to go down stairs for my meals. In the evening I expected brother John back from Murfreesboro—he did not come.

January 22—Pleasant day. I was down stairs most all day.

January 23—In hospital. In the morning I got a Cincinnati Enquirer and read most all day. In the evening brother John came back from Murfreesboro. I received two letters.

January 24—In the morning I got a pass from Surg. Chamberlin and reported to Lieut. Fife to be sent off. Went to the court house and stayed all night. Rained that night.

January 25—Wet and cloudy. Received a letter from L. and M. Taggart.

January 26—I went through town some. In the evening I saw my Captain, A. M. Burns, and corporal Goungblood. That night the captain made out another descriptive roll.

January 27—Wet and cool. In the evening I went to hospital and stayed all night with Wm. Keller, of the 101st Ohio, who had also been wounded at Stone river.

January 28—I, with a number of other wounded ones, left Nashville, Tenn., at 8 a. m., arriving at Bowling Green, Ky., about dark. Stayed with brother Josiah and the other Auburn township boys that were in camp there awaiting orders to be sent on to their command and to Co. H, 64th Ohio.

January 29—Very pleasant. Afternoon I went to the hospital and saw John Orewiler and from there to the 11th Ohio and saw Harrison Wynn.

January 30—Pleasant day. In camp with the Auburn

ys, brother Josiah, Hiram Hopkins, Ben. Bloom, Harrison Wynn came over to see me. I went Green and got some bandages for my leg.

1—Pleasant day. We left Bowling Green, Ky., got to Louisville, Ky., at 8 p. m. The train ran off the track. I went to the soldiers' home 11 night.

1—Forenoon wet. Left Louisville at noon on for Cincinnati. Got to Cincinnati next morning.

2—Took the cars from Cincinnati at 5 a. m., arrived Columbus, Ohio, at 12 m. Went to the State and met Capt. A. C. Cummins. Went out to Camp Chase and stayed all night with the boys.

3—In the morning went to Columbus. Left about 1 p. m. and got to Shelby, Ohio, about 4 p. m. Spent all night in Shelby with David Cummins.

4—I rode out home, to Auburn township, with my horse. Arrived at home in the evening.

[The publisher of the diary of William McConnell thinks that the dates from February 4 to March 31, 1863, are correct and that the soldier was a paroled prisoner and was in the camp of paroled prisoners at Camp Chase, Ohio, for the greater part of the time, except when away on duty. I had to await orders to report to his regiment and was finally exchanged.]

—I left home for Camp Chase, Ohio. Took the train for Shelby, Ohio, at 10 a. m. and got to Columbus, Ohio,

1. In Camp Chase, near Columbus, Ohio, a paroled prisoner was waiting to be exchanged. Wrote to Vince Trago. In the morning I went to the 2nd Ohio Cavalry. Met Springer. Some of the boys left for home.

McConnell remained in Camp Chase from April 1 to May 1, 1863.]