

# **The Civil War Diaries**



**of  
William John Clarkson**

**December 20, 1860 to February 26, 1863**

*((The following is a transcription of the first of William John Clarkson's Civil War diaries, beginning with the secession of South Carolina from the Union. He kept these journals in small pocket notebooks, and after the war, he copied all of the first book and part of a second into a larger Day Book.*

*Where words are illegible, the symbol --- has been substituted. Where words seem partially, but not entirely legible, the symbol (?) follows them. Where words are misspelled, they are followed by the symbol (sic), "same in copy". From time to time, the names of towns are misspelled. They appear in these transcriptions as he wrote them.*

*Any notes added for clarity appear within double parentheses.*

*The diary begins with the following: ))*

**South Carolina secedes from the United States. December 20<sup>th</sup>, 1860.**

The same night attended wedding at Mr. S. G. (?) Graham's. J.P. Gamble to Miss Martha J. (?) Graham quite a concourse of persons present.

From this time various are the changes and as duty calls upon all to perform a part in the great drama of life. I for one am willing to do my part. Volunteer company made up in this neighborhood the same (day?) Known as "Wee Tee Volunteers", I being elected second lieutenant of said company - Dr. R.

M. Gourdin Captain. Our services to be offered to the Governor. Company meets at "Wee Tee Bridge. All of us join (?) hands etc. Drill on Saturdays.

*April 13<sup>th</sup>, 1861:*

Fort Sumter taken from Yankees by our forces. Our company still here - preparing for camp.

*July 23<sup>rd</sup> 1861:*

Left with company for Camp Marion near Georgetown - marched to SamPit and camped for night. This is something quite new in the history of my life.

*Wednesday morning, 24<sup>th</sup> July:*

Marched into camp 2 miles from Georgetown to join with part of the 10<sup>th</sup> Light South Carolina Volunteers commanded by Colonel A. M. Manigault. Now commences my military career.

Have been here about two weeks performing various duties incident to camp life. All the companies called on to volunteer for twelve months in Confederate service. Ours backing out and was disbanded, but many of us joined other companies. My brother N. B. And self attached ourselves to Captain P. C. J. Weston's Company A. We, however, came home for a few days then returned.

Nothing of importance transpires now and the summer fades (?) Off without anything to notice save the continuous drills and "double ----" to the tune of "Pop Goes the Weasel"; frequently marched to Georgetown nearby to display the fine qualities of our regiment,

the move. Find it very dusty and warm but proceed slowly. Saw Billy Cooper and others. Passed 32 mile house. Stopped after marching about ---- miles and camped for the night feeling very tired and sore. A little rain tonight.

*Wednesday, April 2, 1862*

This morning again finds us wending our way to Mt. Pleasant. Nothing has happened so far of any importance. About 3:00 p.m. a few of us fall out of ranks and stop at Mr. Wheddons where we are treated with much hospitality and we partake heartily of his good things after which we overtake the regiment when we find them in camp for the night. Saw Miss Joe (Mrs. Feraby). Marched about 15 miles today.

*Thursday, April 3, 1862*

Up and ready for the completion of our long march being now about 15 miles from the point of our destination. Passed a long and large line of earthworks six miles from Mt. Pleasant. Little rain. Marched into the village about 3:00 p.m., pitched tents and walked about the town. Very pleasant place indeed. Nothing else today of interest has transpired so I lay down to rest on a hill or green in the village of Mt. Pleasant.

### **Mt. Pleasant, South Carolina**

*Thursday (Friday), April 4, 1862*

Bowen arrives this morning by N.E.R.R., he being at home on sick furlough when we left South Island. Moved our camp to a grave yard more in the center of the town. Quite a pleasant place for bivouacing (?). Visited Dr.

D.R. Williams and Mrs. C. Salms. The latter has been very kind, having sent us several times a few delicacies. Dr. W. has also manifest his old friendship by sending me his paper (daily). Nothing of interest has transpired since our arrival save an occasional visit to Mr. Lew's (store).

*Sunday, April 6, 1862*

Attended Episcopal Church this morning after inspection (which is a regular Sunday work). Afternoon went to M.E. Church capers (?). On inspection this morning, the Col. reproved some of the men for their misconduct.

*Wednesday, April 9, 1862*

Over to city together with a few others. Rain all the morning and nothing very inviting in the city. It is truly a mass of ruins. Purchased cherry pipe. Went up in St. Michael's steeple with F.L.M. Returned to camp on 3:00 p.m. boat. General Riply reviewed our regiment a day or two ago and expressed himself approvingly of the same.

*Friday, April 11, 1862*

Received orders to leave this place and proceed to the Army of the West (Corinth). 4:00 p.m. left on steamboats, landed at warf (?) near N.E.R.R. After being detained some time, marched through city to S.C.R.R. (receiving the applause of the fair). Here we are crowded into box cars and about 12:00 at night steamed for Augusta, Georgia.

**Daylight, about 30 miles from Charleston.**

*Saturday, April 12, 1862*

Very much amused at H.D.L. last night. Arrived at Augusta about 4:00 p.m., changed cars and about dark start for Atlanta.

*Sunday, April 13, 1862*

Daylight. Find myself in Atlanta. Rain. Walked about and found an old acquaintance (Mr. Wiley) at Trout House. Left for Chattanooga, 12:00. Run up to Dalton and stopped.

*Monday, April 14, 1862*

Took breakfast at Dalton. Liked the place very much. Orders to return and take another route, the enemy being in our way. 8:15 a.m., took back track for Atlanta, but on stopping at Marietta was turned back by General Donelson (?), who was in command of troops going on to Corinth. So at 4:00 p.m. we turned back for Chattanooga the second time.

*Tuesday, April 15, 1862*

(On RR in Georgia). Daylight again finds us at Dalton. We again receive orders to return to Atlanta and take the road by way of West Point for Montgomery. So we left Dalton at 8:15 a.m. stopping at all the principal places on the route to Atlanta at which place we arrived at 4:00 p.m. To a few shops, purchased cakes and other eatables and brandy and wine and here we changed engines and from some cause not known to myself, the Col. and a portion of regiment are left (our company among the number). In consequence of the same, another train is

now ordered to take us on, throwing the whole regiment now on one train. We now proceed and at the second station overtake our train and get onboard the same and go on as far as Newman. Here we are detained in consequence of a train ahead (of Tennessee troops) running off and causing a general smash of cars and killing one man and injuring some 20 others. Quite a serious accident and truly distressing to behold. Remained here all night. Slept on platform of depot. The breakdown is about 3 ½ miles beyond this place and many of us walked to see the same and back.

**Newman, Georgia**

*Wednesday, April 16, 1862*

This morning, walk about town and tried to get breakfast but failed. Left here 9:00 a.m., nothing of interest on the road. Arrive at West Point (a small town on the Chattahoochie River and half way between Atlanta and Montgomery). 1:00 p.m., pitched tents on the bank of river, which is quite a pleasant place. After resting a little, walk about to a house and procured milk and find people very kind and friendly.

**West Point**

*Thursday, April 17, 1862*

Cars arrive this morning with Major Shaw and Lt. White with a few of our men who were left on our leaving South Carolina. Received letter from Liz. Walked all over town, liked the place very much. The ladies are very kind and request the Col. to have dress parade. So, this evening, 5:30, the

regiment appears on the grounds amidst the fair daughters of Georgia. The performance of the regiment was not very good, yet it seemed to please and give satisfaction to those who requested to see us in line.

### West Point, Georgia and Alabama

*Friday, April 18, 1862*

Left Dr. G. with Sam McClary, who is sick here. This morning, up 2:30. Take things to cars and ready for another start. But being detained, I with several of my young friends go off in search of breakfast, which we get and return to cars at depot. Left 8:30 a.m. for Montgomery. Passed many very pretty places, "Lagrange" and many others. See some foot soldiers on road at different points. Arrived at Montgomery, 2:30 p.m. Stacked arms at depot and a few of us walked up into town or, rather, the city (it being the capital of Alabama must certainly entitle it to that appellation). To restaurant and eat dinner. Quite a fine looking town. I understand that there are 800 Yankee prisoners quartered here. 4:00 p.m. we all march through town to boat on river. Here we rest about two hours, awaiting the loading of the fine steamer St. Nicholas on which we are to be transported to Mobile. While here on the bank of the river, waiting the departure on time of departure of boat, two young and beautiful ladies, the Misses Powell (Addie and Mollie), sent me a beautiful bouquet with their best wishes for our success and safe return home. 10:45, we all get aboard and are soon steaming down the Alabama River. There are onboard this boat about 1,000 persons besides regiment

and horses and camp equipage, but the boat is very commodious. Yet we find it very difficult to get a place sufficiently large and cool to sleep. Sleep on guards of boat.

*Saturday, April 19, 1862*

Morning finds us gliding swiftly down the Alabama River, nearly 200 miles below Montgomery. The scenery is truly grand and picturesque, the river winding its way between great banks at places and rocky precipices. Pass the town of Selma and others. Night now approaches and oh how lovely, but find it rather disagreeable as regards sleeping. Arrive at Mobile, 1:30 tonight, thus passes the most delightful part of our travels, so far at least. I feel myself entirely at a loss to describe the same, so will not attempt it.

### Mobile, Alabama

*Sunday, April 20, 1862*

We are now resting quietly alongside one of the warfes (sic), but I become impatient so Billy Gamble and self evade the guards, leave the boat and proceed up in town, it still being night, only about 4:00 a.m. Yet the fine lights are brightly illuminated. We walk about, find our way to an eating house, get a fine cup of coffee and cake. Return to boat, find all quiet. Rain now and bids fair to be a disagreeable day. About 9:00 a.m., regiment marched out and uptown to a large warehouse shed, where we camp for the present. Many of us get leave of absence and walk uptown. Dinner at restaurant, walked over the city. Quite a fine place. Many houses and public places attracted my

attention. The post office is the finest I ever saw and many other houses, both public and private, the Bienville Park is also a place of much interest. Visited the Battle House, the finest hotel in the city. After visiting these places, returned to my quarters. After procuring supper, my friends Durant Li--- and self went to M.E. Church. Heard Rev. Mr. McFerrin text 1<sup>st</sup> Timothy, 2<sup>nd</sup> chapter, 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> verse, which was quite a fine discourse. Returned to our quarters and soon retire in quite a filthy place for the night. It has been very disagreeable all day, cold, rainy, etc.

*Monday, April 21, 1862*

To restaurant and get coffee. Left order for --- regiment. Inspection on Commerce Street. Orders to leave here at 4:00 p.m. for Corinth on the M&A RR. Uptown purchased pants, \$7.50; shoes, \$11.00; cap, \$3.50. Very busy. Soon expect to see the enemy. Our regiment is truly in a state of confusion but I trust everything will work for our and our country's good. Three days rations to be cooked to take with us. Four companies of us to cars. Get on and ready to start, but no likelihood of getting off tonight. While here in car, saw the Southern Republic (the boat) pass on her way up the river. Heard the caliope playing very distinctly very fine music. 7:00 p.m. and still ---- Col. and conductor cannot agree, so we will not leave tonight. Myself and others uptown get supper and ten of us sleep at restaurant Laurence and did not like the accommodations very much.

**Mobile**

*Tuesday, April 22, 1862*

This morning arrives at 5:00. Get breakfast at restaurant and up to cars ready for another start. Left for Corinth, distance 328½ miles. 7:30 a.m. stopped at many places today and proceed slowly. Nothing of interest today. At some places we pass, many ladies appear with bisquits (sic). Stop a few minutes at Enterprise. Get cup of coffee. For 9:00 for same. Another night on cars, so here goes for a stop.

*Wednesday, April 23, 1862*

6:00 a.m. Find ourselves at Shuqualak, detained here some time waiting for wood. Get good breakfast at Mr. Anderson's for many a South Carolinian. Returned to cars. Find we will not leave before 1:00 p.m., so Li---, H--- and self walk out to a Mrs. Bates ½ mile from cars to get buttermilk and a good dinner, of which we partake heartily (no charge). Come back to town to Mr. Tyson's and take another dinner. On leaving this house, we receive the hearty good wishes of the ladies, hoping that the God of Battles would be with us and that we may all return safely to our families. Mrs. T gave me a hymn book. 1:00 p.m., the drum beats and we all collect and we will soon be on our way again. Left Shuqualak, 1:30 p.m., but proceed very slowly. Pass through some very fine farming land, the best I ever saw. Large tracts ---- and in high state of cultivation. Fine country for farming, but no good water. Stop sometime at branch road to Columbus, awaiting the different charges, and there appear to be many South Carolinians in this

country. ---- (name of town?) 219 miles from Mobile, another night on cars. Bowen little sick. I curl up between the seats and soon to sleep. Thus ends our trip with its adventures from Mobile to Corinth, quite a tedious and tiresome trip.

### Corinth, Mississippi

*Thursday, April 24, 1862*

Arrived here 5:30 this morning, quite a war-like looking place. Nearly every house a hospital, and many wounded, as well as healthy soldiers. We all look and feel worn out from effects of continuous travel, having been on the road 13 days. But we are at last at the end of our present route, and hope to rest a little. See a very fine mare, said to be General Beauregard's. This is decidedly the filthiest place I ever saw. Truly hope we will soon be moved to a more pleasant and agreeable locality. Nothing can be had to eat for love nor money. In cars all day awaiting orders. About 4:30 p.m., moved out and formed our camp about 1½ miles from depot. Attached to General Donaldson's (sic) brigade. Pitched tents. Get cup of coffee, 10:30 p.m. Feel very tired and sleepy. To bed and sleep, 11:00 p.m. Clear and pleasant.

((This is a reference to Confederate General Donelson.))

*Friday, April 25, 1862*

Up, 8:30 a.m. Rainy and very disagreeable. Am now realizing the hardships of camp life. Nothing to eat and a continuous rain, but such is life. I know it is but my duty, so I will

endeavor to put up with all the inconveniences and hardships, and trust to my Heavenly Father for His support. Nothing of importance today, only various reports in camp in regard to our moving and the nearness of the enemy. Dried clothes by fire and to sleep, 9:30 p.m. Looks like ----.

*Saturday, April 26, 1862*

Up, 5:30 a.m. Clear and pleasant. Looked around at the breastworks that surround this place, which appears quite formidable. The sun shines out with reviving influence. Tracts (religious) i.e. look to Thee this morning ----. I had bread for dinner. This is what I call hard fare. Dress parade, 4:00 p.m. Did very badly. Saw Eighth Tennessee regiment on dress parade, but their performance was very fair. After supper, walked to 20<sup>th</sup> Louisiana regiment. Heard a little of the fight at Shilo(h) from some of the men that participated. Returned regiment. Meet at ---- and ----. Had prayers, which was very good and applicable. Oh that God may cause His favor to shine upon us. To bed or, rather, to sleep, 9:30 p.m. Clear and pleasant.

### Corinth, Mississippi

*Sunday, April 27, 1862*

Up, 5:30 a.m. Clear and pleasant again. Partake of hard bread and bitter coffee. But I must not be unwilling to submit. But hope for things soon to be better and peace restored. Inspection this morning. Heriot (one of my mess mates) detailed at General Bragg's headquarters. The Sabbath is truly a day of rest. May it indeed be one tomorrow and may I do nothing to ---- that I may have

reason to regret hereafter. Mr. C---- has service today in open air. Get better rations today: molasses, coffee, sugar, rice and meat. A few more of our men arrive this evening. Hear that New Orleans has surrendered. Took nap. Saw one regiment on dress parade.

*Monday, April 28, 1862*

Don't feel very well this morning after eating what we call breakfast. Went down to creek. For the first time attempted to wash his clothes, but made very poor out of it, after which Beekers and self in creek and washed ourselves. Feel better. Tried to eat dinner but could not go it. Sleep from 1:00 to 5:00. Dress parade ----. There are various reports as to the fall of New Orleans. Bowen sick again, and many others. It did look clear, but fear it will rain before morning.

*Tuesday, April 29, 1862*

Up 5:30 a.m. Rainy and disagreeable. Bowen still sick. Various reports about camp. Wrote to Liz. Hear that the enemy is quite near, having driven in our pickets, but I believe very little I hear. 1:00 p.m. struck tents in order to move about 1½ miles more in center of army. Wagons come for us, 3:00. Move now in General ---- brigade, Withers division. Dark we are again fixed on a high hill, quite a romantic place, and wagon stalled in mud. Rain, rain, again and again.

*Wednesday, April 30, 1862*

Up, 5:30 a.m. Rain. Helped to make a little coffee. An attack looked for every day. I hope we will be prepared to give the rascals a warm reception. Orders to cook three days

rations and various little orders, etc. Today officers mustered us in again for----, etc. Fine dinner: hard bread and molasses. No danger of gout. ---- 28<sup>th</sup> Alabama regiment on dress parade performed very poorly. Captain Pool to have program daily. ---- Hope the Lord will help us.

**Corinth, Mississippi**

*Thursday, May 1, 1862*

Up, 5:30 a.m. to answer roll call as usual, but returned to tent and take another nap, after which I get up (now 7:00 a.m.), eat breakfast. Quite a pleasant morning for Corinth. Over to Alabama regiment and procured rice. Stopped at 19<sup>th</sup> South Carolina regiment, saw Sumter men, but knew none. Orders to march at 4:00 tomorrow morning, but leave our knapsacks (picket duty, I suppose). We will now, no doubt, soon see the long looked for enemy and come together, perhaps. If so, may God protect and shield us from danger. All is excitement in camp. Cooking and preparing. Help make and cook biscuits which are very good. Do better cooking than washing. After ---- Mr. C---- (chaplain) has prayer. To bed, 10:30 p.m.

*Friday, May 2, 1862*

Up, 3:00 a.m. Ready for the march. 5:30, we are on the road for somewhere and time alone will disclose to what point we are now destined. Col. Manigault, acting Brigadier General, and in command of the brigade. Stopped to rest about 2½ or 3 miles from Corinth. Find the roads very bad. 10:30, arrived at the white house where we stop,

which is the General's headquarters. Our regiment taken to an old gin house and form line in a thicket. Can hear the Yankee around very plainly. Under arms all day. About 2:00, Companies A and B taken out as a protection to a cavalry company which is to strike the enemy. We, Companies A and B, remain under cover of woods near old field til dark. Great excitement all the time expecting the Yank every moment. After dark we return to gin house and soon asleep, the ground for our bed and the starry heavens for our covering.

*Saturday, May 3, 1862*

Called up at 3:00 a.m. expecting enemy every moment. Our cavalry, it is said, fired on them last evening. Little rain this morning. Still under arms. 11:00, we retire in cause ---- of the enemy's approach. Retreat one mile and make another stand on a beautiful hill. Fine view of the enemy should come. Meet a few more of our men from South Carolina. Feel very tired, head ache. 5:00 p.m., a considerable firing heard, somewhat in the direction of Corinth, a little to our right. No doubt a small fight is going on and perhaps somebody is hurt. Fixed for sleep and soon lay my weary limbs on ground with gun in arms. Sleep in woods on wet ground.

*Sunday, May 4, 1862*

Up, 4:00 a.m. Cloudy and like for rain. The firing is still distinctly heard and we are looking for an attack. 7:00, ordered to give back so we, the brigade, in course turn toward Corinth. Companies A and B thrown out to protect our columns so we have a

very disagreeable time having to take the woods near all the way. 12:00, stopped and wait for orders. In rain ---- we remain in sight of Corinth til 4:00. We then move on through mud and rain. Truly this is an awful time. Arrive at tents very tired and worried. 5:30, this has been a severe time on me. Dr. "G" and Sam Mc here took cup of rye coffee and ate stale biscuits. Feel badly but hope to get a good night's rest. So ends the busy ---- of the Sabbath. To sleep in wet clothes and on damp ground but in ----

((Note: drip marks on pages indicating he was rained on as he wrote this.))

*Monday, May 5, 1862*

Up, 6:30 a.m. Raining, very disagreeable. No likelihood of anything to eat this morning. Clothes still wet. Everything quiet about camp. 11:00, just received orders to cook rations, ready to march again at 1:00. Quite a stir in our camp. Hurry and at 1:00 we march out to breastworks here to do guard duty, but find the same quite light, having only two hours duty to do. While on post, Le---- and self bought the remnant of a negroes (sic) dinner and ate very heartily of the same having butter and biscuits. Hear of a man killing himself, shot through the heart. Another night on the ground. To sleep, 8:30 p.m.

*Tuesday, May 6, 1862*

Up, 2:30 a.m. Feel very cold. Made fire and to sleep again. Up, 6:30 a.m. Clear and pleasant. Ate the remainders of provisions. Drank cup of molasses and water. This kind of duty is not very pleasant. Have all day and

nothing to eat. Our company on guard again. Worried very much by our officers this evening. --- We are at last relieved so we march back to our camp. 8:30, get some supper and to bed finally, very much fatigued. Clear and pleasant.

*Wednesday May 7, 1862*

Up 7 o'clock. Clear and pleasant. A few more of our men arrive at breakfast. Heard from home through letter to Dr. "G". Still many reports current in camp but nothing of importance. Struck tents and cleaned up. On detailed duty Ordnance Department. Saw General Chalmers at headquarters. To dinner and back to work. To Corinth along with wagon. Stopped at General Trapiers (?) quarters and on to quartermasters. Greased and packed guns. To Post Office. Read letter from sister to Bowen. Returned to camp, put up cartridges. Worked hard all day. After roll call Mr. Capers (?) had prayers. To bed 9 o'clock.

*Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>*

Up 5:30. Clear and pleasant. Ate breakfast took walk, read paper which I bought at Corinth yesterday. See that Huntsville has been recaptured by us. Also read General Beauregard's address to the soldiers. Wrote to Mr. John Ligeunt (?). D.L. Cooper arrived and looks well. Cooked fritters and ate the same. Election for field officers today. Companies being reorganized and the government holding or retaining in service all those who have already served 12 months. The same I look upon as being a very unjust law. 4 o'clock, we all fall in and march out to face the Yankees, who are advancing

rapidly on us. To entrenchments, heavy firing. Our company thrown out as skirmishers on the road towards Shiloh, up the road about one and a half miles, but the vilans (sic) retreat. Some of our men has been fortunate enough to fire on them. Killed a major, see his horse and own coat. We return to our breastworks which we reach about 12 o'clock at night, tired and hungry. Sent some of the men to camp for provisions.

#### **Battle at Farmington, Mississippi**

*Friday, May 9<sup>th</sup>*

After a few hours sleep on the cold ground, we are called up 4:30. Feel is but for no purpose. Took another nap leaning against a tree. 7 am, we are taken back to camp for rations. 9 o'clock, we are again on the road with but little to eat. Move towards Farmington (?), a large portion of the army with us. --- about four miles then fall back 1 mile. 1 o'clock, our forces open a rapid fire on the enemy. We again advance about 2 miles, form line of battle, march through woods at double quick. The firing is now rapid. Soon, we are in an open field in full view of all that is going on. Fire calms faster than I thought. Our regiment not immediately engaged but expect to be. Very many lines of troops are in the field, and it is all quite new to me and very fatiguing. 3 o'clock, the firing ceases and we fall back after having driven the Yankees about 2 miles. Passing back through field and woods see four dead Yankees. Awful fight. Also many horses have been killed. This has been quite a grand, but truly awful sight to me.

Fortunately for us, we were only ---- on and not engaged in the bloody strife. Saw many knapsacks and other trophies that the enemy had left on their retreat. 4 o'clock, we are on the road for camp. Very much fatigued and find it very disagreeable from the dust, there being such a crowd. I understand that this small affair is considered a victory on our part. One thing I do know, we succeeded in driving the Yankees back and no doubt with serious loss to them. Passed General Beauregard and staff. 5:30 or 6, arrive at camp being very tired, having been out now nearly 30 hours with very little rest and nothing to eat. But thank God I am spared to see the end of this and hope He will soon bless us with peace. To bed, very tired.

*Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup>*

Up 7 o'clock, clear and pleasant. Feel much better than I expected after having undergone so much fatigue lately. Still feel tired. Ate breakfast and took another nap. Can't get enough sleep. Ate peas for dinner. To sleep again. There has been 150 of our regiment sent out for picket duty. Sorry for them but am very glad that I am not into it. Ate supper and took a good wash. Put on clean clothes. Feel much better and to bed 9 o'clock. Clear and pleasant.

*Sunday, May 11<sup>th</sup>*

Up 5:30, clear and pleasant. Ate breakfast. Orders to strike tents, another move. 7 o'clock, all ready to move. 8 o'clock, marched off about three-quarters of a mile and stopped at a most awful, filthy place and no water, yet here we pitched our tents on an old cavalry campground. Some of the tents

being put immediately on the old sinks. Hard and hot work and filthy, too. All fixed at last. Wrote to sister, ate peas and rice. Saw General Beauregard and staff ride by. Ate supper. False report to leave. To bed. Some cooking rations.

*Monday, May 12<sup>th</sup>*

Feel so badly this morning, did not get up. On sick list. Wrote a few lines more to Sister. In tent all day. Orders to leave at 6 o'clock this evening, but I am too unwell to go. 6 o'clock, a small portion of company marched off in command of Captain Haselden. Feel badly. To sleep but very restless.

*Tuesday, May 13<sup>th</sup>*

Up 6 o'clock, still feel badly. Lieut. R— and the rest of the company moved off this morning. Hope I will soon be able to join them. Trust that God will protect them all from danger. Feel better. Having some things cooked so I can go to the company this evening. Received letter from Sister. Thank God they are all well at home. Out to entrenchments and joined the company, but we were soon relieved so we returned to camp. Very dusty and dry and very little water to drink. Will soon be without any. Took cup of sassafrass tea for supper. Mr. Capers (?) had prayer and a few good remarks.

*Wednesday, May 14<sup>th</sup>*

Up 5:30, clear and very dry. On detailed squad to Corinth to work. Turned about very often, so much so that I hardly know what to do. At last, a lieutenant (thinking himself

somebody) took us to railroad to load cars with old guns. Very warm and disagreeable work. This morning in Corinth, bought ten dollars worth of stamps (?) and four ginger cakes. Worked all day. 6o'clock, we are discharged. Stopped at hospital, got letter for Dr. G. Sentinel stops me and after a little talk, etc, get off and make my way for camp. Major Shaw returns from picket, having one prisoner and lost one man. Water is becoming scarce, hard to get any. To bed.

*Thursday, May 15<sup>th</sup>*

Up 5 o'clock, clear and pleasant. Hash for breakfast. On detail duty again, but pay Cooper two dollars to go in my place. Write to Sister; find it very warm today; over to a Georgia regiment and drank a quantity of beer at eleven cents a cup. Had bread cooked by their baker. Out to entrenchments this evening and back (quite unwell (?)). The dust is very great. Supper ---- tea. Understand that our pickets have taken 200 prisoners and sent them in, but I don't know how to believe it. Enjoy my pipe and to bed 9 o'clock. Clear and pleasant.

*Friday, May 11<sup>th</sup>*

Up 5, not very well so on sick list, which is not very pleasant. Company off this morning on picket duty. I, being sick, remain in camp, which is very disagreeable being compelled to loiter about tent all day. Reports still go the rounds. Some ---- peace and some that the war will continue, but my trust is in God and hope He will be us through all the changes of this mortal life. Helped to make some ginger cake, drank more beer at ten cents a cup.

*Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup>*

Up 6 o'clock, feel better but am not well yet. Over again to Georgia regiment and drank beer 10 cents a pint (?). Received two letters for Bowen. Remaining at camp while the company is out on duty is very disagreeable to me. It may be pleasant to some who are disposed to avoid the dangers and hardships, but I prefer being at my post if possible. Late this evening, some of our boys return, Bowen with them (sick). Report heavy skirmishing but no one hurt. Sickness is prevailing in camp to an alarming extent owing to the want of good water, I suppose, more than anything else. To bed 8:30. Cloudy and likelihood for a ---- rain. Hope so.

*Sunday, May 18<sup>th</sup>*

Up 5:30, cloudy and likely for rain. Captain Bresler (?) and Lieutenant Ronquir (?) came in. They look broken down. About 2 o'clock the company comes in with a full and glowing account of their engagement with the enemy. Quite a heavy skirmish. Must have been very fatiguing to our boys, having been exposed since Friday morning, but they all return in safety. God has truly been merciful to us, therefore we should praise Him. Took two pills today. Feel better. No rain yet. Mr. Capers (?) had prayers tonight.

*Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup>*

Up 5, no rain yet. Our surgeon orders no one to report on sick list with diarrhea and colds. He is certainly becoming very harsh in his treatment. Over to Georgia regiment and drank again of the delightful camp beverage, beer, and had bread cooked. A continual stir

in camp. 5 o'clock, out to entrenchments. Very dusty. Orders read by sergeant which are intended to encourage the troops to deeds of daring and for which any soldier is to be rewarded, with what I wonder. Company returns to camp and to bed 9 o'clock. Wake up tonight very sick (run often).

*Tuesday, May 20<sup>th</sup>*

Quite a refreshing rain last night. Very sick this morning, very much debilitated, fever and diarrhea. 10 o'clock, Dr. Cain comes to see me, prescribes pills, feel very weak. Fine rain this morning. Saw negroes commence a well yesterday by boring (the only means employed in this country) for our regiment, which is much in need of same. Very cloudy, heavy thunder and rain. Company out for the night. I with hot fever all night in bed. Up and out once and was so weak and I fell down, and it was with some difficulty that I got back to my tent. Thus passes a night of distress to me.

*Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>*

Cloudy and cool, feel very weak. Dr. again prescribes pills. What a wonderful remedy, good for all the maladies to which the human body is subject. About 4 or 5 o'clock company comes in, stack arms and remain but a short time when they, with the whole army, go out to meet the enemy. Regret very much that I am not able to go with them. Hope the good Lord will protect and bring them back safely. Wrote to Sister by old D—who is to leave for S.C. tomorrow.

*Thursday, May 22<sup>nd</sup>*

Heard heavy firing during the night. Clear and calm this morning. No doubt, the two armies are in close proximity and probably a fight will soon be the result. I still feel very feeble and no physic, save the all healing, never failing Pills. 3 o'clock, the army returns. No fighting yet. Company reports heavy skirmishing. The Yankees are not ready yet to meet our boys. Bowen received letter from T. Chines (?). Hiccough annoy me very much. Mustard plaster on chest tonight.

*Friday, May 23<sup>rd</sup>*

Feel very badly, expect to be sent off in order to recover, but in consequence of rain am detained for today in ---- tent, the same being very disagreeable. Bowen received letter from Liz, all well at home for which I feel truly thankful. Oh, may we soon ---- and our country once more enjoy peace. Hiccough continues, have had it two days.

*Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>*

Very cool, feel better this morning, but far from being well. Hear heavy skirmishing still. 12 o'clock, I, together with some others of the regiment am hoisted into wagons and off for Corinth to take cars for some hospital. Get aboard cars on Memphis Railroad and at 2 o'clock we leave Corinth for Grand Junction. Feel too badly to notice anything on board except the disagreeable stench in cars. Arrive at Grand Junction 5 o'clock, feeling very badly. There are some here who possess ---- for refreshments. Have ---- sent us. Dark. The most of the men have been taken to a wayside hospital. Myself and two

or three others stop at hotel but no room So, we sleep on floor in parlor.

### Grand Junction, Tennessee

*Sunday, May 25<sup>th</sup>*

Feel very weak but thank God I am as well as I am. Many others here who are very sick. Adam Landon is the sickest of my crowd, and I feel very sorry for him. After eating breakfast at the Percy Hotel, take A.B. James (?) to hospital, get medicine for self, take a dose and feel better. Layed on platform till 1 o'clock, then to hotel and got dinner. Price \$1.25 for breakfast and same for dinner, but the fare is not very inviting. Oh the sick that here. It is truly distressing to ----. Returned to depot on platform and wait the departure of cars for Goodman, where we are bound. 6 o'clock, on board train on Mississippi Central Railroad and soon bid adieu to Grand Junction and its fine hotel. Very sick til after midnight. On cars all night.

### Goodman Hospital, Mississippi

*Monday, May 26<sup>th</sup>*

After a very fatiguing night's travel, arrive here at daylight, find the hospital to be a very inferior one. 8 o'clock, get a boy to take me to a private house (Smith's) where I get a very good breakfast. Yet, I relish very little but the friends here. Have been so ---- in providing chicken, milk, etc. that I am compelled to eat some. Return to hospital and take a nap. Get pills, drank chicken soup. Boy (Abram) waits on me well. Took short walk this evening. Returned and wrote to Bowen. Vomited, truly feel badly. Had

feet bathed and to bed. But, oh this hospital, the first for me.

*Tuesday, May 27<sup>th</sup>*

Still feel badly but thank God I am much better than many others. The thought of staying at this hospital makes me worse. To see young men professing to be doctors, practicing on our soldiers. I noticed this morning two of these professional characters come in and exam a poor sick man. One said to the other, "What shall we call this (the disease)?" One said, "Intermittant." The other said, "No, I think it is remittant fever." Thus, I was perfectly convinced that neither knew what was the matter, but the never failing remedy was resorted to, and a prescription of pills. And I expect pills from some of these quacks who profess to be medical men in order to shun the danger of the field, will kill many of our good men. Took a little chicken soup for dinner, layed down on bunc.. The ward master (quite a nice man) came to me and said he had a way for me to go in country which I eagerly accepted. So J.P., June (?) Bailey and self take passage in Mr. Harman's wagon, his son being teamster, and proceed eight miles. Very rough ride but anything to get clear of the hospital. Arrive at Mr. Harman's where we will stop little after dark. Perfect strangers, but find them very fine, plain good people, and I believe we are welcome by the same. Get supper of which i can eat but little, feeling as I do. Soon retire, having a large and comfortable room to our selves. Rev. Mr. Harmans Attalla County (?), Mississippi

*Wednesday, May 28<sup>th</sup>*

Nothing of consequence transpires now for some days. My health progresses slowly. Visit long and eat but little. Poultice to bowels. Had long talk with Mr. Harman. He is a Protestant preacher and appears to be a fine old man formerly from south Georgia (or South Carolina?).

*29<sup>th</sup>*

Take 10 — calomil

*Saturday, May 31<sup>st</sup>*

Enjoyed family prayer tonight. Took warm bath which was very good. To bed and feel much better from the same.

*Sunday*

All the family to church but I feel so badly I remain in house. There is always someone here.

*June 2*

Mr. Patsie, one of brother soldiers who is staying here went to Goodman today but brings but little news. It is very assuring to see the neighbors collect here and to hear the news and hear them talk. Egg nog. Rain. A Dr. Hemmingway here today.

*June 3rd*

Wrote to Sister and H.D. Li----. Rode horseback to Atallaville (?) about two miles. Find ---- and Post Office and mailed letters. Bought three pairs socks at 50 cents apiece. Returned. Feel better. In orchard which is fine.

*June 4*

Fixed Mr. H's watch. Got tobacco from county seat by Mr. Ball.

*June 5<sup>th</sup>*

News of victory in Virginia. Feel badly.

*June 6<sup>th</sup>*

Having two pair shoes made at four dollars a pair. Little fever (?) today, I think. Taking ---  
- ---- and ---- tea.

*June 7<sup>th</sup>*

I put on pair new shoes. In room with Fred, Mr. H's son, who has measles. ---- again this an ---- tea.

*Sunday, June 8<sup>th</sup>*

Up. Clear and pleasant. Bid family goodie (sic) and we all start in wagon for Goodman. Mr. Ball and ---- with us. Have basket of eatables. Get to Goodman 11 o'clock. Wait all day to see the doctor. Read letters from Bowen, L. ----, and E.P.J. Three of us return in wagon to Mr. Harman's. James goes on to regiment. Saw Adam ----, he is very sick. Get back to Mr. H's after dark. Feel badly. We are to report on Friday.

*June 9<sup>th</sup>*

Played checkers

*10<sup>th</sup>*

Took walk with Miss Sophie (?).

*11<sup>th</sup>*

Various reports as to the army's whereabouts. Report is that Mississippi is given up to the Yankees.

*June 12<sup>th</sup>*

Up 4 o'clock. Haversack full. Bid the Harmans goodbie (sic). They I can never forget for their kindness. Hope God will help and reward them. 5:15, left in wagon for Goodman. Arrive 8:15. Find A.M.J. very ill. Poor fellow died 11 o'clock. Left here 5 for Canton on cars. Get there 7 o'clock. Took supper at hotel and sleep in cars.

**Canton, Mississippi**

*Friday, June 13<sup>th</sup>*

Rise this morning after taking a comfortable sleep in car (passing for coach) last night. Feel much better. To hotel, washed, took breakfast, walked about town. Saw one of our men who is here at hospital. He is very anxious to go on to the company but the authorities here will not let him off. 8 o'clock AM, we leave on cars for "Jackson," (Capt. "Friller" having nominal charge of squad from Goodman hospital). Arrive at Jackson 10 o'clock AM. Walked about town. Very dry and dusty. No water to be had. I offered 25 cents for one glass and could not get it. This is the great Capitol of Mississippi, but war has brought much distress and want to the same. There are many fine buildings here. The state house occupies a very prominent position on quite an elevated hill with a gradual decent (descent) to railroad, about one mile. Bought ---- ginger, beer, milk, etc. Lay all day about in dirt, as there is no clean spot to be found. Dreadful time and very hot. Saw at a shop where pistols are being made, very common. Tried to get off on passenger train, but being common soldiers could not. Took supper at

hotel, \$1.50. Then, return to railroad station (?) and wait til 10:30 PM, then we are all crowded into box cars and leave for Meridian.

*Saturday, June 14<sup>th</sup>*

After spending a disagreeable night on cars, arrive here (Meridian) 7 o'clock AM. Looked about but can find nothing to eat. Up to a house and laid on grass in yard. Find it cool and pleasant. Ate dinner at Railroad hotel. Quite a one-horse establishment. Paid \$1.00. Returned to railroad but will not get off till night. Find it very tiresome laying about these one horse depots and there is quite a crowd of convalescent soldiers here. 10 o'clock PM, we all again in box cars and off now on Mobile and Ohio Railroad. Travel all night in filthy cars.

*Sunday, June 15<sup>th</sup>*

Still on the road. Detained in consequence of water giving out. Run back. Feel badly. Very warm, dreadful time for me. Had a car smashed but no one hurt. Had to leave it from this evening. This is truly a shameful way of treating a soldier who has left his home and made every sacrifice for the good of his country. On cars again all night. Feeling very badly from fatigue and having been sick and then subject to so many inconveniences. Arrive at Tupelo some time this morning before day.

**Tupelo, Mississippi**

*Monday, June 16<sup>th</sup>*

After disembarking from cars about daylight and after being stopped by various sentinels

camp and it is very pleasant after having so hard a time this spring.

*Tuesday, June 24<sup>th</sup>*

Feel badly. Cooked greens (?) and rice, but not well enough to enjoy them. Very good dinner. No drill today and nothing of importance save the many camp reports that continue to go the rounds.

*Wednesday, June 25<sup>th</sup>*

Still continue on sick report. I am very tired of it but am not well enough to do duty. Cooked and ate dinner. Little like rain. Bowen still sick. Supper and to bed. Clear and warm.

*Thursday, June 26<sup>th</sup>*

Feel much better, bid farewell to sick list and our quack doctor. Bowen still feeble. After dinner, to creek for water and was made to mark time by sentinel for throwing water in creek. Something new to me. Out on drill this afternoon. General Withers reviews the brigade. Very warm. Almost overcome from the heat and dust. Returned very much fatigued. Heard from home through Dr. G's letter. All well, thank God. Water very scarce in consequence of dry weather. Orders to guard the well. Allow 2 and 3 buckets of water to the ----. Hard time again in ---- ----.

*Friday, June 27<sup>th</sup>*

Bowen and others sent off to hospital. Hope he may be able to get home. Rain this evening. Very refreshing. Dress parade in quite a new way. Regiment forming a square.

Talked, etc. and to bed. Very pleasant and nothing disturbs our quiet.

*Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>*

Ate breakfast, Le— and Durant cooking. Anxiously looking for letters from home but none today. Surgeons examining and discharging the sick who are not fit for duty. New clothes given out to regiment today. Color butternut ---- jackets and pants light-colored, ---- with black and gray caps. Dress parade. Regiment looks well in the new costumes.

*Sunday, June 29<sup>th</sup>*

Washed and put on clean clothes. Find to my astonishment and dismay, lice in my undershirt. Oh the filth, the filth. Inspection. All appear in new uniforms. No ----, so wrote to Sister. Hear of victory in Virginia. Hope it is so. Very warm. So ends another Sabbath.

*Monday, June 30<sup>th</sup>*

On guard this morning but clean gun and appearance exempts me. Sergeant L., Riboux (?) and Saul Emanuel arrive. Very warm. Mustered by Huger for pay and inspected. Orders to cook two days rations. Quite busy cooking. We all look for a long march. ---- up to Colonel's quarters. Orders of victory read from Virginia and informed to desist cooking rations. No march. Great rejoicing tonight.

((This is a reference to Gen. Robert E. Lee's initial victories in the East, with the Army of Northern Virginia. He had just taken command of that Confederate army.))

*Tuesday, July 1<sup>st</sup>*

Cloudy but pleasant. Le---, Sloan and self to Tupelo. Rain a little. Bought some tobacco to sell. Awful place. Back to camp. Received letter from Bowen, and he, from home. All well. After dinner, wrote to Bowen. Had little rain today. Cool and pleasant. Sold some tobacco.

*Wednesday, July 2<sup>nd</sup>*

Cool and pleasant. Get my gun and give her a thorough cleaning. Quite warm. Heard from Bowen through a man from hospital. News of great victory in Virginia, much talk about it. Bought beer. There is some move ahead for this army is being rapidly moved from this place, but to what point I have not been able to learn. Cool and pleasant.

*Thursday, July 3<sup>rd</sup>*

Clear and pleasant. Detailed to go with Joe Johnson in wagon to Visana (a small town on railroad about eight or ten miles from here) for guns. Bought ---- oven ---- 5 dollars for the two. On our return, stopped at house and got buttermilk and cake, bought apples and onions. Back to camp and ate dinner. Helped to put up cartridges, so did not drill. Wrote to Sister by F. Michaux, who is discharged and leaves for home tomorrow.

*Friday, July 4<sup>th</sup>*

Several of our men discharged and start for home. Le---- and self to Tupelo, introduced to Le---'s friend Harris from Charleston. He returns with us to camp and takes dinner of stewed apples, and read letter from Sister to Bowen (old ----). Drill. Very warm. Feel rather badly.

*Saturday, July 5<sup>th</sup>*

Clear and pleasant. Put black lining on jacket. Received letter from Mr. Harman and Miss Sophie, also two from home that was sent to Athallaville consequently. They wise old ones. Cannon being fired through the army today in honor of late victories in Virginia. Report of march which I look for. Amused this evening at Dennis and McMuckin who tried to fight. Dennis caught Mc in the rear and struck him on the head with canteen, which brought a little blood, the sight of which scared him so much that he sung out, "Let me go" and they made friends. Took a good wash tonight. Cooper detailed to Brigade Commander's department. To bed. Clear.

*Sunday, July 6<sup>th</sup>*

Clear and pleasant. On guard. Did not meet with luck enough to get off. Everything busy preparing for a march. Very warm. Orders to march tomorrow morning at 4 o'clock. Up all night till 2:30, then relieved from guard, then to tent and sleep a little and fixed up for the fategiving (?) march which I dread. Start a letter on meal bags at commissary.

*Monday, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 1862*

Up all night. Relieved from guard 2:30 am, ate breakfast and ready to move. All ready and we march off at 8 am, pass through tupelo and proceed about five or six miles and was so fatigued and worn had to fall out of ranks to get water. Stopped at a house (several of us) where we get some nice buttermilk which we enjoy very much. The most of the company has left ranks. It is so very hot and the dust is awful. And they way

is rough, being up and down hills. We are now on the way to Saltillo on the railroad. We proceed slowly, rest often. Find it oppressingly warm today. It is truly being "rubbed in" to us now. Get to camp at last about 8 pm after being on the road since 5 this morning. Read letter from Bowen. To sleep on ground feeling very tired, having marched about 18 miles. Could have come it in about 12, but according to military rule, must take the longest way.

### Saltillo, Mississippi

*Tuesday, July 8<sup>th</sup>*

Up this morning but feel very sore and tired. Wrote to Bowen. He is now at Gainesville, Alabama. Find an abundant supply of water here, fine spring. Very warm and nothing to do.

*Wednesday, July 9<sup>th</sup>*

Read letter from Sister. Pull up ---- and made seat at our tent. Over to see Cooper, helped to cook his dinner and ate quite a hearty meal of peas and rice. Very warm today. Report that France and England have recognized our independence, and that peace will soon be the result. I hope it all true. Dress parade this evening and came off the field at double quick. The dust almost suffocating, but these are things that the soldier has to encounter.

((Despite the rumors he heard, France and England never recognized the Confederacy.))

*Thursday, July 10<sup>th</sup>*

Peace news seems to flourish. In (?) well

twenty minutes, being on the detachment for that purpose today. Find it very warm work. Rain. After dinner, in well again. Find digging wells hard work. Dress parade. Nothing to eat.

*Friday, July 11<sup>th</sup>*

Sweep streets. Wrote to Sister. Company on fatigue duty preparing another camp ground. Hard and hot work. Ate dinner and moved to new camp. Worked hard all day. Fixed up nicely. There is still very encouraging news, but I am quite a disbeliever. Have seen and heard too much to believe all I hear now. No dress parade. Clear and hot.

*Saturday, July 12<sup>th</sup>*

Nothing much to do this morning. After dinner, worked hard cleaning up streets and behind tents. Hear that W.J. Gamble is worse, he being at hospital, having been wounded at Corinth in a skirmish two days before the evacuation. J.F. Beckman was also wounded there. Both sent to hospital. Dress parade.

*Sunday, July 13<sup>th</sup>*

Clear and warm. Inspection. Thomas Lane arrives. 5 o'clock, heard Mr. Capers preach quite a fine sermon.

*Monday, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1862*

On guard this morning. Inspected by Adjutant C.L. Walker. Consequently I was exempt, so I returned to my quarters (?). Le--- and self took walk in country. Bought some apples. Have dumpling. Fine dinner. Bought sheep \$10. Dress parade. Very warm.

*Tuesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>*

Enjoy our sheep meat for breakfast this morning. Sent a quarter of same to Colonel Pressley, saved the skin to sleep on. Ate quite a hearty dinner. Took a nap. Considerable blow and rain. Dress parade. Stewed apples. Rain a little and to bed.

*Wednesday, July 16<sup>th</sup>*

Over to Georgia ---- and procured bread in exchange for flour. (dd) (this dd) I can't remember what caused me to place it in my little pocket book, but it refers to some event of the day) Cloudy and like rain. 1 o'clock, quite a blow and rain. 5 o'clock, battalion drill formed up in four ranks. Returned to camp, made a place in tent to sleep on. Very warm. No supper. Rain all night.

*Thursday, July 17<sup>th</sup>*

Cloudy and unsettled. Rain today. Bought bread for \$1.00. Finished one loaf. Feel badly, but drill. Very warm. Saw two young ladies. No supper. To bed.

*Friday, July 18<sup>th</sup>*

Clear and warm. Expect soon to go out on review, but the order is countermanded. Wrote to Liz. Drill 5 o'clock. Very warm. No news. Ate stewed apples for my supper and then retire.

*Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>*

Clear and pleasant. Required to sweep streets. Out on review, Generals Bragg, Polk, Hardee and Wilkins being the reviewing officers. Suffer very much from heat, the lines being formed in an old field where the noon day sun has its full power on

our poor heads. Return to camp about 12 o'clock, very much fatigued. Washed off some of the dust and to bed.

*Sunday, July 20<sup>th</sup>*

Cooked biscuits for breakfast. Inspection this morning as usual. Received letter from Sister. All well. Wrote to Miss Sophie Harman. To preaching this evening, though ladies present. Looks quite unnatural to see ladies in camp. Thus passed another Sabbath.

*Monday, July 21<sup>st</sup>*

Cleaned gun. Dr. G, Le---, and self to Saltillo. Took dinner at hotel for \$4.00. Poor fare and truly a poor place. Had shoes repaired and back to camp. Leave of absence to visit country in morning and up to General Wilkins whose it signed. Back, eat supper and to bed.

*Tuesday, July 22<sup>nd</sup>*

Up quite early this morning and Dr. Graham, Le--- and self out in country, in search of eatables. Stopped at all the houses on the road. After several failures, get some milk and bread for our breakfast, after which we proceed. Stopped a short time at a Dr. West's, then on to a Mr. Kohlheim's (Colam). Here we enjoy some fine peaches and invited to stay to dinner, which we do. Quite a fine dinner, and we partake of the same with grateful hearts. Get our haversacks full of peaches, and then return for camp at 2 o'clock. Walk very fast, arrive at camp just in time for drill. Very tired, having walked about 12 miles through the hot sun, but I go through the drill and content myself with having a good dinner.

*Wednesday, July 23<sup>d</sup>, 1862*

Rain last night and continues cloudy. Busy cleaning pots, washing rice, greens for dinner. Had quite a good and palatable dinner. ---- drill. Over to ---- Company and --- taken tonight.

*Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>*

Twelve months today since I entered the service as a volunteer. Report says we leave soon for Chattanooga. McC and Le---- and self to Saltillo. Bought apples and corn. Telegraphed to W.J. Gamble, returned to camp. Bowen arrives looking quite hearty, he having been absent for some time, being sick. But now appears to enjoy good health. Fine dinner for camp. Drill. Very warm. Enjoy preserves and other good things. Bowen brought with him. Fine times for soldiers.

*Friday, July 25<sup>th</sup>*

Busy cooking greens, rice and fine apple dumpling. All of which I enjoy very much, but feel rather disagreeable from eating too much. Drill and double quick.

*Saturday, July 26<sup>th</sup>*

Rain before day. Had coffee for breakfast. Paid off today, but no change. Settled with N.B.C. and others in full. Fixed up belts (?), polished bayonet. Two days rations to be cooked. Dress parade. Will leave here soon I expect. Dreamt of swimming last night. To bed.

*Sunday, July 27<sup>th</sup>*

over to 24<sup>th</sup> Alabama Regiment. Introduced to a Captain Langdon. Back to camp. Preaching this evening. Ladies present again.

*Monday, July 28<sup>th</sup>*

Dreamed of peace and going on home. Hope it may soon come to pass, but as I have no faith in dreams, I can place no confidence in the same. Bought barrel cider and am selling it out but drink a good share myself. Lost \$1.00 at a raffle. Drill this evening, the old colonel officiating. Cloudy and warm.

*Tuesday, July 29<sup>th</sup>*

Not very clear yet pleasant. Nothing transpires today. Afternoon rain, no drill, to bed early. But around at 12 o'clock am ordered to fall in as the Yankees are reported to be fast approaching. After some little delay and confusion, we are under arms and out, but it turns out to be a false alarm, so we return to bed. But the confusion was great for old soldiers.

*Wednesday, July 30<sup>th</sup>*

Rain this morning. All quiet. No Yankees yet. Alexander and Howard under arrest for not being present last night when the allarm was given. Expect to learn ---- soon. After dinner, rains. 3 o'clock, struck tents and we all march to Saltillo through rain, cly and mud. Stop for the night at railroad. Very disagreeable and wet. Walked about and soon all curl up for a night's sleep. Bowen and self crawled under tin finally in space of about three by two feet. Quite a tight squeeze. but soon to sleep. Hope this will be

Here ends the Mississippi Campaign, but suppose we will soon commence another that will be equally as ----, if not harder.

*Thursday, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 1862*

Up very early. Cars arrive to take us. 7:45, two trains leave. We along with the first. The whole army is being moved. Find it very warm and tiresome and truly disagreeable. Our seats in cars being in the saloon, have the full benefit of the fumes of the privy. ---- is now being carried out by the Honorable Lieutenant Colonel White. No one allowed to leave the cars even for water, but tonight I violate said orders and get out on top of the cars to sleep. All night. Nothing of importance today, only very warm.

*Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup>*

Now on the Birm. and O. Railroad en route for Mobile. Bought watermelon and peaches. Not yet allowed to get water. Arrive at Mobile 3:30 pm. Marched immediately through town to steamer "Senator" under guard (that is, the regiment). Worked hard till dark loading boat. None of us allowed to leave. Purchased a few eatables on warf (sic). All hands aboard and off to Montgomery about 11 o'clock pm. To sleep on deck. Fine breeze and clear.

### Steamer Senator, Alabama River

*Saturday, August 2<sup>nd</sup>*

Rested very well last night and am now being propelled up the Alabama River at a rapid rate. Quite a crowd on said boat, having the regiment and horse, etc. Enjoy a fine watermelon which I paid \$2.00 for. This is

very pleasant traveling after being crowded away in cars. 5:30 pm, on guard. Rain. Find it anything but pleasant doing guard duty on the boat.

*Sunday, August 3<sup>rd</sup>*

Had but little time to sleep last night being on guard. The river is quite low; run aground often. Stop a short time at Selma to get water. Saw Wm. (?) and Ed Porter. Selma is quite a pretty place. All return again to boat and off for Montgomery. Relieved from guard. 6 o'clock, nothing to eat and disagreeable accomodations for sleep.

*Monday, August 4<sup>th</sup>*

Feel fresh this morning, but nothing to eat but fat meat. Arrive at Montgomery 9:30 am. Helped to unload a few things but soon found my way up into town. Bought melons, pies, etc. and back to boat just in time to fall in with company. Marched round near railroad and camped. Very warm. Had such a load that I nearly gave out, but I made out to come through. Took a fine bath in Alabama River and put on clean clothes. Feel much better. Little rain. Ate a good meal. Run the gauntlet three times to ----. Fine times. Ate melons. Ate supper in town and back to bed.

### Camp near Montgomery

*Tuesday, August 5<sup>th</sup>*

Up 3 o'clock and ready for another start for West Point. All aboard cars and off for the above place at 6 o'clock am. Have fine times now on the road, passing many ladies and receiving their good wishes for our success. Get many peaches, melons, etc. doing very