

The Civil War Diary of James Frederick Krafft

of the 117th Illinois Infantry Volunteers

covering the Period Wednesday, February 3, 1864

through Tuesday, May 16, 1865

Transcribed by

Dean Blackmar Krafft

December 2001

Overview

This is a transcription and page images from the Civil War diaries of James Frederick Krafft. James F. Krafft was born November 25, 1839 in Belleville, St. Clair Co., Illinois. He was the son of Theodore Julius Krafft, who had emigrated from the German Rheinpfalz to Illinois in 1832, and Mary Elizabeth Mitchell, granddaughter of Rev. Edward Mitchell, a Revolutionary War veteran. T.J. Krafft was one of a large group of educated Germans who settled in St. Clair County, Illinois. They were known as the "Latin peasants" because of their classical education. T.J. Krafft was a merchant, a lawyer, and the first mayor of the city of Belleville in 1850.

James F. Krafft was 22 years old when he enlisted in the 117th Illinois Infantry in August, 1862. He was initially appointed a Sergeant in Company H, later promoted to Sergeant Major, and eventually (on Nov. 21, 1864) to Lieutenant and Adjutant for the Regiment. The diaries cover the period February 3, 1864 to May 16, 1865.

After the war, he married Louisa Frances Flanagan on June 12, 1866 in Belleville. They had two children, Frederick Theodore Krafft and Edwin James Krafft. James F. Krafft died on February 4, 1920.

Most of the diary entries are quite legible, although there are a few where the transcription was difficult. I have surrounded uncertain transcriptions and editorial comments with square brackets [like this].

Summary Histories of the 117th Illinois Infantry

Adjutant General's Report

The One Hundred and Seventeenth Infantry Illinois Volunteers was organized at Camp Butler, Ill., in September, 1862 by Colonel Risdon M. Moore, and was mustered in

September 19, by Captain Washington, United States Army. Moved from Camp Butler, November 11, and arrived at Memphis, Tenn., on the 17th. Remained on duty at Memphis until July 5, 1863, when it was sent to reinforce Helena, Ark., and returned. December 25, it was sent after Forrest, in Western Tennessee, losing 3 men killed in a skirmish at Lafayette, Tenn. December 29, 1863, moved to Vicksburg in Third Brigade, Third Division, Sixteenth Army Corps. Was engaged in the Meridian Campaign. On 5th February, was engaged in a skirmish, losing 2 killed and 5 wounded. Returned to Vicksburg, March 4. On the 10th of March, embarked for Red River expedition. Assisted in the capture of Fort DeRussey, March 14, 1864. Engaged in the battle of Pleasant Hill, April 9. Moved to Grand Ecore, 11th. On 14th, was sent to relief of the gunboats and transports, at Campta, La., and was engaged at Cloutierville and Cane River; at Bayou Rapids, May 2; at Governor Moore's plantation and Bayou Roberts, May 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, and 11. Continued on return march to Mississippi River, on 14th, skirmishing daily. In battle of Yellow Bayou, May 18, and arrived at Mississippi on 20th, and at Vicksburg on 27th. Took part in driving Marmaduke from Chicot Lake and Columbia, Ark., and arrived at Memphis, June 10, 1864.

Marched to the relief of Sturgis on June 14th, and, on 23d, commenced the Tupelo Campaign. Was engaged at Tupelo July 14th, and at Old Town Creek, 15th. Commenced Oxford Campaign August 5th. Was engaged at Hurricane Creek, 18th, 19th, and 20th, and returned to Memphis on 10th.

Arrived at Jefferson Barracks September 19th. Was engaged October 1st at Franklin. Moved via Jefferson City, Sedalia, Lexington, Independence and Harrisonville, and returned to St. Louis, November 19th.

Moved to Nashville, Tenn., and took position in the works. December 1, 1864. Was engaged in the battle of Nashville, December 15th, and turned them upon the retreating enemy. Reached Clifton, January 4th, 1865. Embarked at Eastport for New Orleans, arriving January 17. embarked at Chalmette March 7, and moved to Dauphine Island. Moved to Fish River with the Sixteenth Corps., Major A.J. Smith commanding. Engaged at Spanish Fort, from March 27 till April 2, and at Fort Blakely until the 9th, taking part in its capture.

Marched for Montgomery April 12, and thence to Camp Butler, Ill., where the Regiment was mustered out August 5, 1865, by Captain James A. Hall, United States Army.

Distance traveled by Rail, miles778

Distance traveled by water.....6,191

Distance marched, miles2,307

The Regiment has been engaged in 6 battles and 33 skirmishes.

Dyer's Regimental History: 117th Illinois Infantry

Source is "A Compendium of the War of the Rebellion" by Frederick H. Dyer (as transcribed by Susan Tortorelli for the Illinois USGenWeb Project).

Organized at Camp Butler, Ill., and mustered in September 19, 1862. Moved to Memphis, Tenn., November 11-17, 1862. Attached to Reserve Brigade, District of Memphis, Tenn., 13th Army Corps (Old), Department of the Tennessee, to January, 1863. District of Memphis, 16th Army Corps, to March, 1863. 1st Brigade, 5th Division, District of

Memphis, 16th Army Corps, to January, 1864. 3rd Brigade, 3rd Division, 16th Army Corps, to December, 1864. 3rd Brigade, 2nd Division, Detachment Army of the Tennessee, Dept. of the Cumberland, to February, 1865. 2nd Brigade, 2nd Division, 16th Army Corps (New), Military Division West Mississippi, to August, 1865.

SERVICE - Duty at Memphis, Tenn., till July 5, 1863. Affairs near Memphis June 17-18, 1863 (Detachment). Moved to Helena, Ark., July 5, and return to Memphis. Duty there till December 29, 1863. Expedition after Forest December 24-31. 1863 (Detachment). Grierson's Bridge and near Moscow and LaFayette December 27. Ordered to Vicksburg, Miss. Meridian Campaign February 3 - March 2, 1864. Clinton February 5. Meridian February 9-13. Red River Campaign March 10 - May 22. Fort DeRussy March 14. Occupation of Alexandria March 16. Battle of Pleasant Hill April 9. About Cloutiersville April 22-24. At Alexandria April 26 - May 13. Governor Moor's Plantation and Bayou Roberts May 3-7 and 11. Retreat to Morganza May 13-20. Mensurn May 16. Yellow Bayou May 18. Moved to Vicksburg, Miss.; thence to Memphis, Tenn., May 21 - June 10. Action at Lake Chicot, Ark., June 6. March to relief of Gen. Sturgis June 14-16. Near LaFayette June 23. Smith's Expedition to Tupelo, Miss., July 5-21. Camargo's Cross Roads, near Harrisburg, July 13. Harrisburg, near Tupelo, July 14-15. Old Town (or Tishamingo) Creek July 15. Smith's Expedition to Oxford, Miss., August 1-30. Hurricane Creek August 13-14. Abbeville August 23. Moved to Jefferson Barracks, Mo., and in pursuit of Price through Missouri September to November. Action at Franklin, Mo., October 1. Moved from St. Louis to Nashville, Tenn., November 21 - December 1. Battle of Nashville December 15-16. Pursuit of Hood to the Tennessee River December 17-28. Moved to Clifton, Tenn., and Eastport, Miss., and duty there till February, 1865. Moved to New Orleans, La., February 6-17. Campaign against Mobile and its defenses March 17 - April 12. Siege of Spanish Fort and Fort Blakely March 26 - April 8. Assault and capture of Fort Blakely April 9. Occupation of Mobile April 12. March to Montgomery April 13-25, and duty there till August.

Mustered out August 5, 1865.

Regiment lost during service 11 Enlisted men killed and mortally wounded and 4 Officers and 115 Enlisted men by disease. Total 130.

Transcription

Wednesday, February 3: Ordered to take the line of march. Started at 8 o'clock. Our column the 16th army corps took the road leading to Messinger's Ford on the Big Black. Country very hilly. Weather beautiful. Marched about 19 miles & camped in the Big Black Bottom. The number of troops belonging to the 16th corps & with the expedition are about 10,000.

Thursday, 4: Crossed the Big Black over a pontoon bridge at Messinger's Ford. About noon the 1st Brig. Of our Div. Being in advance commenced skirmishing with the rebels. The rebels withdrew when the brigade advanced in line of battle to support their skirmishers. We had 2 men wounded. Heavy cannonading heard on our right. The rebels are resisting the advance of the 17th army corps, which is advancing on another road.

Friday, 5: This morning our regiment was in advance. Cos. H, E, & J were thrown forward as skirmishers commenced skirmishing with the rebels at about 9 o'clock. The rebels retreated as we advanced in line of battle. At noon arrived at Clinton. The 52nd Ind. Relieved our skirmishers & took the advance. The casualties in our reg. were 1 man killed & 6 wounded. In the 52 Ind. 2 men killed & 4 wounded. Went into camp about 4 miles from Jackson.

Saturday, February 6: Remained in camp today. Rest quite acceptable. Last evening the cavalry brigade, attached to Gen'l McPherson's column captured one brass field piece & about 20 prisoners & entered & occupied Jackson. Today the 17th Army Corps entered & passed through Jackson taking the advance. We follow tomorrow.

Sunday, 7: Broke camp early in the morning & took up the line of march in the direction of Jackson. Remained in the city several hours & improved the time in writing home & riding around in the city. Much of the business part of the city destroyed. Crossed Pearl River on pontoons belonging to the rebel forces, which they had no time to remove. Made about 16 miles.

Monday, 8: This morning we arrived at the town of Brandon. Are delayed several hours in the town. I obtain a copy of the Carrier's address of the Brandon Republican. Quite and interesting and amusing document. See no rebels during the day and go into camp after a march of about 12 miles.

Tuesday, February 9: Nothing worthy of note happened today. The rebels keep retreating before our advance. About 4 o'clock PM our army corps passed the 17th which had gone into camp near Morton. Owing to bad roads & having to go in advance of the 17th army corps we do not encamp before 11 O'clock at night. Marched about 20 miles.

Wednesday, 10: This morning the 16th takes the advance. Passed through the town of Hillsboro. Our advance cavalry had a skirmish with the rebels. One dead rebel left on the road side. Only succeed in making about 8 miles having to lay down a corduroy through the swamp. Camp in a dense pine forest.

Thursday, 11: Today we passed through one continued pine forest & are almost suffocated with the smoke from the burning woods. Go into camp on a high hill within 9 miles of Decatur. Marched about 15 miles during the day. Receive orders to march at 6 in the morning & to leave the sick and foot sore with the train.

Friday, February 12: Started early & making a rapid march arrived at Decatur at about 10 O'clock A.M. Our supply train was fired into near the down by rebel cavalry. About 30 mules killed or disabled & several drivers wounded. Town ordered to be burned which order is effectively carried out. Go into camp after a march of about 14 miles. Weather beautiful reminding one of Indian summer.

Saturday, 13: Reveille at an early hour, but march delayed until about 12 o'clock. Roads much obstructed by the rebels who felled trees across them. Bridges all torn up or burned by the rebels. Camp on grounds which the rebels had selected for their resting place but were driven out by our advance cavalry. Made about 12 miles. Expect a fight tomorrow, before entering Meridian.

Sunday, 14: Made a rapid march expecting momentarily to hear the thundering of cannon announcing the opening conflict. Delayed several hours to re-build the bridge over Chunkey Creek. Saw some cotton-bale breastworks on a hill. About 3 o'clock P.M. cannons are heard in advance & the fire of musketry. Our brigade pushed forward on the double-quick. The rebels skedaddled & we entered Meridian at 4 O'clock P.M. with drums beating & banners waving. Went in to camp about 3 miles east of town.

Monday, February 15: Rested today. A rainy day. First rain since leaving Vicksburg. Meridian is a small railroad town, containing a few dwelling houses, several depots & store houses & a manufactory of arms & an arsenal. Gen'l Polk comd'g Dept. of Miss had his Hd. Qts. At this place.

Tuesday, 16: Started early & marched about 6 miles. Regiment is employed in tearing up & destroying the Jackson & Selma R.Rd. east of Meridian. Heard considerable cannonading north of us. Supposed that Gen. Veatch's division was skirmishing with the rebels. Towards evening went into camp near Marion the county seat of Lauderdale Co. An old, dilapidated town.

Wednesday, 17: Remained in camp today. Heard that a large force of rebels was coming to attack us. Several regiments of our division sent out to destroy railroad. Several prisoners brought in today. Rations short. Much complaint among the men on that score. Weather chilly.

Thursday, 18: Remained in status quo. Expected to receive orders to move but none came. Supposed the Gen'l Comd'g to be waiting to hear from the forces under Gen'l Smith. Foraging party sent out from our brigade. Got some bacon & honey but no bread stuff. The cavalry had a skirmish with the rebs. Captured a Major, a corporal & a private.

Friday, 19: Stationary today. Nothing new or exciting. Many surmises as to where we are going & when we are to start. Towards evening definite orders arrived. Troops to return to the Mississippi river to embark in another equally important expedition. The 16th Corps to return to Hillsboro by way of Union & the 17th Corps by way of Decatur.

Saturday, 20: Started on our return march. Gen'l Sherman accompanies our column (the 16th Corps). Passed through Marion and New Marion on the Mobile & Ohio R.Rd. New Marion was burned. Rations very scarce – men living principally on parched corn. Contrabands of all ages commence to come in, determined to accompany us to Vicksburg. Went into camp after having marched about 18 miles.

Sunday, February 21: Today made a march of about 20 miles. A hard march. Great demand for hard tack & meat. At night men hailed the arrival of a train with supplies. These wagons were sent (from our supply train which was returning by way of Decatur) across & joined our column at a place called Union.

Monday, 22: Today our regiment led the division. Started about 6 o'clock & went into camp about 3 o'clock P.M. having made a march of about 16 miles. One Lieut & 2 men of the 119th Ills. Captured while out foraging. The cavalry brigade under Col. Winslow took a different route by way of Philadelphia, are to rejoin us at Canton. At night received orders to allow no more foraging.

Tuesday, 23: Our regiment rear guard today. Delayed considerably by bad roads. Our regiment fired a few shots at rebels who were following us. Went into camp near Hillsboro. Day's march about 14 miles. Rejoined the 17th Corps. Came up with our supply train, from which we had been separated since the morning of the 12th.

Wednesday, February 24: Today the Negroes & camp followers were allowed to forage under the superintendence of the Q.M's. The rebel cavalry captured & shot one Negro, took a member of the 178th N.Y. prisoner & attacked Gen. Sherman's body guard. The infantry coming up the rebels retired. Went into camp at about 4 P.M. on a fine large plantation – 17 miles farther on our way.

Thursday, 25: Started & marched about 5 miles when we were compelled to wait some 4 or 5 miles to allow the Pioneer Corps to construct a pontoon bridge over Pearl river. Started again bridge gave way after the 1st Reg. of our brigade (the 52 Ind.) had crossed. Tonight the troops camped along the road. The Pioneer corps employed nearly all night in repairing the bridge. Day's march not over 8 miles.

Friday, 26: Early in the morning the balance of our brigade crossed Pearl river & halted on the west bank of the river, for the rest of the division to cross & pass on. About sunset entered the beautiful town of Canton. The country around the finest we have yet seen in Miss. Passed through Canton & went into camp about 2 miles north west of the town. Made during the day about 16 miles.

Saturday, February 27: No move today. Expect to march in the direction of Yazoo City. Supply train reported to be on their way out from Black River to join us. Gen'l Sherman with a regiment of cavalry as escort, left for Vicksburg.

Sunday, 28: In camp. Regiment sent out to tear up railroad. Rebel cavalry attacked one of our foraging trains. Captured 5 or 6 wagons. Our regiment had 2 men among those taken prisoners. Seven veteran regiments left for Vicksburg, taking with them a train containing all the sick & those unable to travel, as well as the contraband train. Col. Moore succeeded to the command of the 3rd brig. vice Col. Wolfe who left for home with his regiment the 52 Ind. It having re-enlisted.

Monday, 29: Yesterday I mailed letters for home the first since leaving Vicksburg. In status quo today. Sharp cannonading heard in the east. Supply train arrived from the Big Black. Lt. Col. Merriam & Lts Wood & Wallis arrived with the train. Orders received to be ready to march at daylight in the morning.

Tuesday, March 1: An awful morning. Rain pouring down in torrents. Hard marching through the mud & water. Passed through the town of Livingston. Marched during the day about 17 miles & went into camp about 5 o'clock P.M. Men much wearied & many of them foot sore.

Wednesday, 2: Marched today about 8 miles. Delayed some 5 or 6 hours having to build a bridge over a large creek which was considerably swollen by the heavy rain of the day before. Heavy cannonading in our rear. Two brigades of rebel cavalry charged upon Gen. McPherson's column but were driven back with heavy loss.

Thursday, 3: Today our regiment brought up the rear of our corps. Passed through Brownsville & crossed the Big Black at about 8 O'clock at night. Marched about 20 miles. Camped on the west bank of the Big Black. All captured stock & able-bodied male Negroes not employed as servants by officers turned over to the military authorities.

Friday, March 4: Had a late start. Arrived in the rear of Vicksburg about sunset and encamped on the same grounds occupied by us previous to setting out on the expedition. Received a large mail. I received three letters from home.

Saturday, 5: Remained in camp today. Wrote home. Preparing for the next expedition. Many rumors & reports as to where we will go. Some think that we will return to Memphis; others that we will go down the river & take part in an expedition against Mobile, but the majority are of the opinion that our division will take part in the Red River Expedition.

Sunday, 6: In camp today. Spent most of the day in making out monthly returns.

Monday, March 7: This morning rode into Vicksburg. Received orders to be ready to go aboard transports tomorrow morning at 6. At Night, wrote to Father.

Tuesday, 8: Orders to go aboard transports countermanded, the transportation not being ready. About noon received orders to march into the city and encamp on the levee just south of the city. Miserable place to bivouac.

Wednesday, 9: Today our division went aboard transports. Ste. Thos. E. Tutt assigned to our regiment & Brigade Hd. Qts; Ste. Liberty to the 49th Ills & Ste. Emerald to the 178th N. York. Received two letters from home. At night wrote to Mother. Destination of the expedition now known to be Red River – Gen'l Veatch's division went up river to Memphis.

Thursday, March 10: Expedition ordered to start at 3 O'clock P.M. About 5 P.M. signal gun was fired for the transports to get up steam & about sunset 5 whistles from the Clarabell gave the signal for the fleet to get under way. Fleet composed of 19 transports carrying about 10,000 troops. Several gunboats accompany the fleet.

Friday, 11: Passed Natchez about 7 O'clock this morning & Fort Adams about 1 O'clock P.M. About an hour after the transports arrived off the mouth of Red River.

Transports were moored to the west bank & troops allowed to go ashore. The fleet of gunboats designed to accompany the transports up Red River are anchored out in the stream.

Saturday, 12: Expedition ordered to start up Red River at 9 o'clock A.M. The gunboat fleet composed of 19 gunboats passed on in advance – the transports got under way about noon. Passed up the northern mouth of Red River & about 3 P.M. entered the Atchafalaya river & steamed down the latter stream as far as a place called Simmsport. The fleet was tied up to the west bank for the night. Many surmises – why we left the Red River & what our destination.

Sunday, March 13: About 7 o'clock A.M. Gen'l Smith sent out a brigade on a reconnaissance. The brigade returned about 3 P.M. when orders were given for the troops to disembark – each regiment to take 20 boxes of ammunition & 7 days rations. The troops took up the line of march about 8 o'clock at night. Passed through an abandoned fort, apparently just evacuated by the rebels. Went into camp about 2 o'clock A.M. having marched about 10 miles.

Monday, 14: Started on the march about 5½ o'clock A.M. A brigade of rebels reported to be rapidly retreating before our advance. Passed through the towns of Mansura, Cocoville and Marksville. Inhabitants reported Fort Derussy evacuated. Arrived before the Fort at 4 P.M. having made a march of 24 miles since morning. The rebels opened upon us from the main fort with 2. 24 pdrs. & 1. 6 pdr. & from the water battery with a rifled gun. Fort was taken by assault. Our loss 9 killed & 42 wounded – Rebel loss 2 killed – 7 wounded & about 300 prisoners.

Tuesday, 15: We captured in the main fort & water battery 8 siege guns & 2 field pieces & a supply of commissary stores. The fleet arrived at the fort about 10 A.M. – having returned to Red River & come up the latter stream. The gunboats were delayed by a raft & other obstructions & did not arrive in time to take part in the action at the fort on yesterday. The forces re-embarked about noon & towards evening we were under way going up Red River.

Wednesday, March 16: The fleet arrived at Alexandria at about 2 o'clock P.M. Contrary to our expectations found no rebels – but many evidences that they left in great haste. Heard that a brigade of rebels passed through the town yesterday. The troops disembarked & went into camp near the river & below the town.

Thursday, 17: Remained in camp. Received orders to be ready to re-embark at a moment's notice. A party sent up the river brought in three pieces of field artillery which had been abandoned by the rebels. It was the intention of the rebels to take these guns aboard their transports – but our gunboats coming up, they were obliged to shove out without them.

Friday, 18: About 5 O'clock P.M. the transports which were left at Fort Derussy arrived up. The troops aboard reported that in blowing up the magazine of the fort, 1 lieut. & 3 men were killed and several wounded.

Saturday, March 19 – Tuesday, 22: [No entries]

Wednesday, March 23: Still in Alexandria. This morning several transports came up river bringing a brigade of Corps d'Afrique. 261 prisoners brought in today & 4 pieces of

artillery, taken by Gen. Mower of the 1st Div. on the night of the 20th. Wrote to Walter.

Thursday, 24: Rainy weather. Gen. Banks & staff arrived on Ste. Black Hawk direct from New Orleans. Probabilities now are that there will soon be a move some way either up or down the river.

Friday, March 25: Weather clear & pleasant. Ste. Tutt went down the river some 8 miles to wood. Captured 17 [miles] & several horses. Three divisions of the 13th & 19th army corps – Maj. Gen'l Franklin comd'g arrived here from below. Orders received to be ready to march at 6 o'clock tomorrow morning & to take 3 days rations & 40 rounds ammunition per man with us. Wrote to Father.

Saturday, 26: Weather quite warm. Reveille at 4 A.M. ready to march at 6 – but did not get started until about 10. Passed through a beautiful country – fine plantations – dwellings plain but comfortable – grounds beautifully ornamented with shrubbery. Route most of the day lay along by Bayou Rapides. Marched about 15 miles & camped at night on the Bayou.

Sunday, 27: Mild pleasant weather. Started on the march about 8 o'clock & went 9 miles arriving at Red River about noon. Fleet not yet arrived. Went into camp on river bank at Cotile Landing, where we are to await the arrival of the transports.

Monday, March 28: Remained in camp today. Foraging parties sent out. About 2 P.M the gunboat Sam Easthart[?] arrived up. Heard that the delay in the arrival of fleet was occasioned by the Lanie[?] running aground at the rapids. The Commissary boat & Monitor – a tin clad – also arrived during the afternoon.

Tuesday, 29: In statu quo. During last night the fleet of transports came up & now are tied up to shore. On [?] all day expecting orders for regiment to embark. Towards evening received orders to put the transportation aboard the boat. Weather disagreeable – A regular March wind blowing.

Wednesday, 30: Weather quite warm. No move. Heard that the Hospital Boat Woodford in attempting to come over the rapids struck & sunk. No particulars as to the disaster.

Thursday, March 31: Weather warm. News arrived that the rebels attacked & burned the steam boat La Crosse below Alexandria. No more yet. Supposed to be waiting for more transports to arrive up, to supply the place of the marine boats ordered back from Alexandria.

Friday, April 1: Weather pleasant. The steamers Luminary, Meteor, Rob Roy & Jennie Rogers arrived up from Alexandria. The necessary transportation having arrived orders will doubtless be received to embark the troops. Wrote to Mother.

Saturday, April 2: Weather warm. Received orders for the troops to embark at 7 A.M. and for the transports to be ready to move at 9 A.M. At 2 ½ o'clock P.M the signal was given from the flag boat Clarabell for the fleet to get under way. About 9 o'clock the fleet tied up to the shore for the night.

Sunday, April 3: Weather cloudy, raining part of the day. Fleet started about daylight. Passed the small town of Cloutierville. Delayed several hours at the Grand Ecore bar.

The Tutt ran on the bar. Pulled off by the gunboat Mound City. The fleet tied up for the night near Grand Ecore.

Monday, April 4: Weather pleasant. This morning fleet was ordered up a short distance above the town of Grand Ecore, where the troops disembarked & went into camp. Beautiful camping grounds in the edge of the timber. Grand Ecore a small dilapidated town of about 20 houses. Col. De Russy has a fine residence here on the bluff overlooking the river.

Tuesday, April 5: Fine weather. This morning several of us rode out to Natchitoches. This is an old French town situated on Cane river (the old bed of Red River). There is a fine convent in the place. Found the troops belonging to Gen'l Banks command encamped in & around Natchitoches – Met the 130th Ills. At night we received orders to be ready to march tomorrow morning at a moments notice. Wrote a few lines to Father.

Wednesday, April 6: Orders to march today countermanded. Sent out a foraging party across the river. Today we received orders to turn over Str. Thos. & Tutt to Gen'l Kilby Smith's division. The programme now seems to be that our division & the 1st will march overland to Pleasant Hill & perhaps Shreveport & that Gen'l Kilby Smith's command will go up by river. Expected orders to march tomorrow morning.

Thursday, April 7: Orders received to be ready to march at 7 o'clock A.M. Started about 9 o'clock. Raining near all day – roads bad. Got into camp after dark having made a march of about 15 miles. Our wagons did not get in on account of the bad roads. Passed the night in a deserted negro cabin.

Friday, 8: Fine weather. Reveille at 5 ½ o'clock to start at 7 – In the afternoon heard heavy cannonading in the front. Supposed that the advance of Gen'l Bank's forces were skirmishing with the rebels. Marched about 18 miles & went into camp near the town of Pleasant Hill.

Saturday, April 9: Yesterday the 13 A.C. which was in the advance fell in with a strong force of rebels about 15 miles from Pleasant Hill & were repulsed with heavy loss losing many guns & wagons. The 13th & 19th A.C. fell back to Pleasant Hill. This morning the troops were drawn up in line of battle in front of the town. Late in the afternoon the rebels advanced on us in heavy force & after a fierce fight of several hours were repulsed with heavy loss. Our regiment was posted on the extreme left & was not engaged.

Sunday, 10: At 2 O'clock this morning we were ordered to fall in & learned to our surprise that Gen'l Banks had ordered a retreat. To Gen'l Smith's command was assigned the important duty of covering the retreat. Started about 4 o'clock. The rebels did not follow us in force. Some skirmishing in the rear with cavalry. Went into camp early in the afternoon. No alarm during the night.

Monday, 11: Reveille at 5 o'clock. Started on the march about 7 o'clock. Nothing occurred during the day to interrupt our march & about sundown we arrived at the river & went into camp above Grand Ecore. Found that the fleet had started up the river. Heard heavy cannonading up the river.

Tuesday, April 12: Remained in camp today. Heard heavy cannonading up the river during the greater part of the day. It is the general belief that the rebels are attacking our fleet. Received our first mail from home since leaving Vicksburg.

Wednesday, 13: Wrote to Louis. About noon today we were ordered to fall in & be ready to move at a moments notice. About 4 P.M. our brigade & the 2nd brigade together with 500 cavalry & 2 batteries started on an expedition up the river. We crossed the river on the pontoon bridge at Grand Ecore & having marched some 8 miles camped for the night near the town of Campte.

Thursday, 14: Early this morning our forces marched into Campte. Found the fleet all safe but most of the transports bore marks of having been fired into. Our forces returned to Grand Ecore with the exception of our regiment, 100 cavalry & 2 pieces of artillery which were left behind until all the transports could get down. All the transports returned to Grand Ecore except the Hastings, Warner & Iberville. The two last ran aground below the town. Camped for the night below the town.

Friday, April 15: This morning the Iberville got off the bar. The Hastings, Warner & Iberville then started down the river. Soon the Iberville ran aground again & remained so during the day. About night she succeeded in getting off & with the other two transports ran down to Grand Ecore. We marched down, crossed the pontoon bridge & arrived in camp at 12 O'clock at night.

Saturday, 16: Remained in camp today. Inspection of Companies. Made out Inspection & Armament Reports. The Ste. Thos. E Tutt was reassigned to our regiment & we were ordered to put all our surplus baggage camp & garrison equipage aboard the boat.

Sunday, 17: In statu quo. Wrote to Will. West

Monday, April 18: Weather pleasant. The Steamer Thos. E. Tutt & others ordered to drop down below the Pontoon bridge & report to Col. Chandler of Gen. Banks' staff for a guard from the 19th Corps, previous to their departure for Aleandria. All of our baggage, camp & garrison equipage was placed aboard the Tutt.

Tuesday, 19: Weather pleasant. Received orders to be ready to move against the enemy at a moment's notice. No move to-day. Wrote to Mother.

Wednesday, 20: Fine weather. Wrote to Bigelow. About noon received orders to fall in. The troops in the command of Gen'l A.G. Smith took up the line of march in the direction of Natchitoches, where we arrived about sundown. Found a picket force of the rebels stationed in the town. Our forces were drawn up in line of battle. No alarm during the night.

Thursday, April 21: Remained drawn up in line of battle during the day. Received orders to move at 4 P.M., time afterwards changed to 6 P.M. Started on the march about 9 P.M. Crossed Cane river opposite Natchitoches. The 19th & 13 Corps came up on a different road from Grand Ecore passed us & took the advance. Gen'l Smith's command was assigned to bring up the rear. Made little progress during the night, owing to the immense train, which was in advance of us.

Friday, 22: Our course to-day lay along the north bank of Cane river. Passed through a rich country fine large plantations. Immense supplies of corn burned & large amount

of cotton. Some skirmishing in the rear between our cavalry & the rebels. Marched during the day & night about 30 miles & arrived at Cloutierville, where we went into camp at 2 O'clock Saturday morning.

Saturday, 23: Raining this morning. Ordered to move at 4 1/2 A.M. Started about 6 & marched several miles to where train was in corral. Heard heavy cannonading in the advance at Pine Hills. About noon a brigade of rebels of Polignac's command made an attack upon our rear but were repulsed after heavy skirmishing. Our loss 3 wounded. After the fight we marched on a couple of miles & went into camp about sun down.

Sunday, April 24: At about 3 O'clock this morning the rebels commenced to shell our camp. At daylight they made a spirited attack upon our rear lines, but were repulsed after heavy firing. Our loss was 3 killed & some 15 wounded. Started on the march at 8 1/2 o'clock, crossed Cane river on a pontoon bridge at Pine Hills at 11 o'clock. Arrived at Cotile Landing where we encamped at about 9 P.M.

Monday, 25: Weather warm. Started on the march about 11 O'clock. Some skirmishing between our cavalry & a force of rebel cavalry who still continued to follow our rear. Went into camp at about 5 O'clock on the bayou Rapides. Roads very dusty. Marched about 9 miles.

Tuesday, 26: Weather warm. Started on the march about 8 O'clock. Some skirmishing in the rear. Passed the 13th Corps in camp some 4 miles from Alexandria who turned out & welcomed us with cheers as we passed. Arrived at Alexandria at 3 P.M. & encamped on the grounds previously occupied by us. Received a letter from Father.

Wednesday, April 27: Last night 6 regiments of Inftry & a battery belonging to 13th Corps & Genls McClelland & Lawler arrived up from below. Remained in camp to-day. Wrote to Father.

Thursday, 28: Weather very warm. Two regiments of Inftry & a battery of 13th Corps arrived up to-day. Heard cannonading & musketry firing in the front. Our advance cavalry had a heavy skirmish with a brigade of rebels. In the afternoon the whole force was called out under arms & drawn up in line of battle around the town. Remained in line of battle during the night.

Friday, 29: Returned to camp this morning. Busied myself making out monthly returns. Weather very warm. Sickness increasing in the regiment.

Saturday, April 30: Remained in camp.

Sunday, May 1: [No entry]

Monday, 2: Received orders to move at 1 o'clock P.M. & to take one day's rations with us. Marched out on the Bayou Rapide road, about 5 miles. The troops of the 13th Corps which were in the advance skirmished during the afternoon with a force of rebels who fell back as we advanced. Troops were drawn up in line of battle for the night.

Tuesday, May 3: Early this morning we marched out on a side road to the Opelousas road. Advanced out the latter road about 9 miles from Alexandria. Our regiment being in advance were thrown forward as skirmishers. Skirmishing was going on

most of the afternoon between our forces & the rebels. In the afternoon I rode in to Alexandria to order out two days rations for the men. Returned to the regiment about 10 O'clock at night. Found the forces encamped on Gov. Moore's plantations.

Wednesday, 4: This morning a portion of our forces advanced but a mile or so & soon commenced to skirmish with two brigades of rebel mounted infantry under command of Gen'l Bee. Our troops were ordered back to their former position, where we were drawn up in line of battle. Four companies of our regiment were deployed as skirmishers at a crossing of the Bayou Roberts & had a lively skirmish with the rebels.

Thursday, 5: To-day the infantry forces made no advance movement but remained in camp on Gov. Moor's plantation. Our cavalry were sent forward to face the enemy. Skirmishing was going on most of the day. In the evening the cavalry fell back to their former position. Orders received for the troops to be ready to move at 6 to-morrow morning.

Friday, May 6: Our brigade was ordered to remain behind and hold the position on Gov. Moore's plantation & on the Bayou Roberts. In the afternoon the rest of the troops made an advance movement & drove the rebs some 4 miles & across the bayou. The rebels burned the bridge behind them, which delayed the advance of our troops until another bridge could be built.

Saturday, 7: Our brigade remained in statu quo. The advance forces crossed the Bayou Roberts & drove the rebels beyond the Bayou Le Moore. The 89th Ind. & 119th Ills. in the advance had a severe fight with the enemy in which they lost 17 men killed & wounded. In the evening Gen'l Mower was ordered to fall back. At 11 o'clock P.M. the troops returned & resumed their original position on Gov. Moore's plantation & along the Bayou Roberts.

Sunday, 8: Weather warm. No move. Remained encamped on Moore's Plantation.

Monday, May 9: Rode in to Alexandria this morning. Went up to see the dam which was being constructed across Red River below the rapids. Found that the river had risen several feet on the rapids & that two of the monitors the Lexington & a tin clad had succeeded in getting over. Returned to camp in the afternoon.

Tuesday, 10: The rebels made an attack & drove in our advance pickets. Several regiments were sent forward to support the pickets, when the rebels withdrew. Went in to Alexandria. Heavy fatigue parties still at work on the dams. The gunboard Chillicothe got over the rapids today. Five gunboards the Carondelet, Pittsburg, Louisville, Ozard & Mound City still remain above the rapids. Returned to camp about sundown.

Wednesday, 11: Weather pleasant. No move to-day, though we are daily expecting orders to take up the line of march.

Thursday, May 12: Weather warm. No move to-day. The rest of the gunboats succeeded in getting over the rapids to-day. Wrote to Louis.

Friday, 13: Weather warm. Received orders to be ready to move to-morrow morning at 5 ½ o'clock. To-day a large part of Alexandria was set afire by stragglers from the

army. The fleet dropped down the river a few miles below the town, preparatory to starting in the morning.

Saturday, 14: Started on the march at about 6 O'clock. Marched down by the river road in the direction of Fort De Russy. Cavalry skirmishing in the front all day. The fleet of gunboats & transports moved down the river in conjunction with the land forces. Transports were fired into from the opposite bank of the river. Camped at night on the river bank.

Sunday, May 15: Moved out at 8 O'clock. Delayed several hours by the train. Passed Snaggy Point where the rebels destroyed the Warner & the two tinclads. Towards evening the advance cavalry had a heavy skirmish with the rebels at Marksville. Our cavalry were driven back by the enemy's artillery. The 19th corps bivouacked in line of battle between Marksville & Fort De Russy. Our division camped for the night at Fort De Russy.

Monday, 16: Reveille at 3 O'clock. The 19th Corps took the advance – the 16th followed. Found the rebels posted in line of battle beyond Marksville. An artillery fight ensued. The 19th & 16th Corps were drawn up in line of battle on a large prairie & advanced against the enemy. Upon this demonstration the rebels retreated without giving battle. Crossed Bayou De Glass & went into camp between 8 & 9 O'clock.

Tuesday, 17: This morning we remained encamped until the whole train & the 13th Corps had passed us. Heavy skirmishing in the rear between our cavalry & the rebels. Started on the march about 12 o'clock. Marched about 6 miles were drawn up in line of battle & encamped for the night. Towards evening very heavy cannonading in our rear.

Wednesday, May 18: Early this morning we crossed the Bayou De Glass on the pontoon bridge & took up a position about 2 miles from the Atchafalaya. The rebels attacked our cavalry in force. Gen'l Smith recrossed the bayou with his command & advanced against the rebels. Fighting nearly all day. We captured about 100 prisoners. Our loss between 2 & 300 killed, wounded & missing.

Thursday, 19: Remained drawn up in line of battle all day. No attack from the enemy, they having withdrawn their main force from our front. At night we crossed our train over the bridge transports which had been constructed over the Atchafalaya at Simmsport. Wrote to Father.

Friday, 20: About 2 O'clock this morning our rear guard retired across the bayou & took up a new position. Remained in position until the afternoon when we marched to the Atchafalaya & crossed over. The 19th & 13th Corps with their trains had passed over previously. The detachments of the 16th & 17th Corps brought up the rear. As soon as the troops had crossed the fleet steamed down to Red River Landing.

Saturday, May 21: This morning we marched down to Red River Landing. Drew 5 days rations. In the afternoon the Detachments of the 16th & 17th Corps received orders to embark aboard the transports. The 19th & 13th Corps marched down the river. Wrote to Mother.

Sunday, May 22: At 10 ½ o'clock the fleet composed of 22 transports started up the river for Vicksburg. The 52nd Ind. Col. Wolfe rejoined our brigade at Red River Landing.

Col. Wolfe resumed command of the brigade. Nothing of moment occurred during the day. Passed Fort Adams and Natchez.

Monday, 23: En route for Vicksburg. Passed the towns of Waterproof, Rodney, & Grandgulf. In the evening the officers of the Regiment held a meeting in the cabin & passed resolutions on the death of Capt. McFarland who died at Alexandria on the 10th inst.

Tuesday, May 24: Arrived at Vicksburg at about 1 O'clock A.M. Troops ordered to disembark on the plain below the city so that the boats could be policed. Preparations for a move at an early day. Wrote to Louis.

Wednesday, May 25 – Tuesday, May 31: [No entry]

Wednesday, June 1: Wrote to Mother.

Thursday, June 2: Received orders this morning to be ready to embark at an hour's notice. The Ste. Thos. E. Tutt having been condemned by the Inspector as unsafe our regiment was assigned to the Ste. Leviathan, a fine large & new steamer – which had been pressed into service for the trip to Memphis. At night the wagons, baggage ammunition & c. were transferred from the Tutt to the Leviathan.

Friday, 3: To-day the troops of Gen'l Smith's command embarked on the transports & all preparations were made for an early departure. Our regiment & five companies of the 52nd Indiana embarked on the Leviathan. Brigade Hd. Qts. was also established on the Leviathan.

Saturday, 4: The fleet composed of 21 transports left Vicksburg at about 12 O'clock this morning. The Ste. Leviathan is the 19th boat in the fleet. Very slow progress made during the day & night. It is generally believed that the troops will disembark near Columbia on the river, where a rebel force has been operating for sometime past..

Sunday, June 5: In the afternoon the fleet tied up at Sunny Side Landing, some distance below Columbia. The troops of the command were disembarked & were drawn up in line of battle & pickets thrown out. Some skirmishing occurred about dusk, between the cavalry of the Marine brigade & the rebel pickets. The troops bivouacked for the night.

Monday, 6: Ordered to take up the line of march at 6 ½ o'clock. Moved out on the road leading around Old River Lake. The advance skirmished all morning. About 2 o'clock the 1st Div. in advance had a severe fight with a rebel force of 2000 cavalry & a battery under Marmaduke at the crossing of Fish bayou. Our loss about 100 killed & wounded. The rebels retreated on a road leading into the interior; we advanced & encamped for the night at Lake Village. Raining most of the day. Marched about 11 miles.

Tuesday, 7: Marched about 9 miles this morning & rejoined the fleet at Luna Landing above Columbia. The rebel force that had been operating near Columbia had left & the fleet passed up without interruption. The troops re-embarked in the afternoon. The houses at Columbia & in the vicinity were burned. The fleet remained at the Landing during the night.

Wednesday, June 8: The fleet started up the river at 4 o'clock this morning. Passed Eunice Gaine's Landing, Cypress Bend and Napoleon without being fired into by guerrillas, whom we expected to find along the river. Towards night arrived at White River Landing, when the capt. of the Leviathan received permission to pass on in advance of the fleet.

Thursday, 9: Wrote to Louis. Passed Helena this morning and arrived at Memphis at about 6 P.M. The troops were disembarked & we marched to the Charleston Depot, where we remained for the night.

Friday, 10: The fleet having all arrived up during the preceding night & this morning, the Division marched out on the Hernando road to the suburbs of the city where it went into camp. In the afternoon our regiment marched out from the depot & rejoined our brigade.

Saturday, June 11: In statu quo to-day. The men being without tents, busied themselves in arranging such shelters as they could against the sun & rain. Our Chaplain J.D. Gillham, his resignation having been accepted, left for Illinois.

Sunday, 12: Received orders to move at 3 ½ o'clock this morning with 3 days rations. Marched to the depot & took the cars for Collierville. Our brigade was sent out to reinforce Gen'l Sturgis whose command had been defeated & routed by Forrest on the 10th inst at Gunntown. Met Gen'l Sturgis with the remnant of his command at Collierville. The enemy did not follow up in force. At 9 ½ o'clock at night our brigade was ordered to White Station.

Monday, 13: Arrived at White Station about sunrise. The affair at Gunntown is the most disgraceful that has happened to our arms in the west. About 200 wagons, & 18 pieces of artillery fell into the hands of the enemy. Sturgis abandoned his army taking the cavalry with him & leaving the infantry to save themselves as best they could. Our loss will perhaps reach 2600.

Tuesday, June 14: In the afternoon we took the cars and returned to Memphis. We saw none of the enemy while out. It seems that the main force of the rebels did not follow our discomfited forces – but only a brigade of Chalmers cavalry to pick up our stragglers. Gen. Sturgis was relieved from his command & ordered to report to the Secretary of War. Received a letter from Mother & Bigelow.

Wednesday, 15: Remained in camp to-day. Received orders to be ready to move tomorrow at 2 P.M., taking 3 days rations & 40 rounds of ammunition. Wrote to Mother.

Thursday, 16: Contrary to our expectations, we did not move to day.

Friday, June 17: Still under marching orders though it is not probable that we will leave here before we are paid off.

Saturday, 18: In statu quo to-day.

Sunday, 19: This morning, Mr. K.A. Burnell, Field Agent of the Christian Commission came out and held religious services in the regiment.

Monday, June 20: [No entry]

Tuesday, 21: The regiment received four months pay to-day. Major Smith Paymaster.
Wrote to Theodore.

Wednesday, 22: Orders received to store all surplus baggage, tents & c. at Memphis, preparatory to a move. Expect orders to start to-morrow morning. The 1st Division under Gen'l Mower left Memphis to-day.

Thursday, June 23: Received orders to move at 8 O'clock A.M. Our brigade struck tents marched to the Charleston depot & took the cars for Moscow. Trains were fired into near Collierville by a party of rebels & 11 or 12 or 15 of our men were wounded. Disembarked at Wolf river – the railroad bridge over that stream not being completed. Went into camp on Wolf river near Moscow.

Friday, 24: Remained in camp to-day. The 2nd brigade of our division came out by rail. Active preparations being made for a field campaign. Our division is now encamped here – the 1st division under Gen'l Mower is encamped on the opposite side of the river.

Saturday, 25: Weather very warm. Our wagon train and Battery "G." of the 2nd Ills. Artillery which has been assigned to our brigade arrived at camp this morning. They came through from Memphis under escort of a reg. Of cavalry & and infantry guard. Wrote to Mother.

Sunday, June 26: Weather hot & sultry. An Inspection & review of the division was held this morning by Col. David Moore comd'g division. Received orders to be ready to move at 5 O'clock to-morrow morning.

Monday, 27: Reveille at 4 o'clock A.M. & started on the march about 6. Weather very hot & sultry. The men suffered very much from the heat and the lack of water. Several cases of sun stroke occurred along the road. Marched to La Grange a distance of 10 miles & went into camp on Wolf river, a mile or so south of the town.

Tuesday, 28: Remained in camp to-day. Wrote to Mother. La Grange is a fine little town having a beautiful location. From all appearances it was once a thriving place, but it is now almost entirely deserted by its former inhabitants. The country around seems fertile, but the farms & plantations are mostly abandoned.

Wednesday, June 29 – Friday, July 1: [No entry]

Saturday, July 2: This morning rode up to La Grange & went to the camp of the 11th Mo. Met my friend Dr. Hawley of that regiment.

Sunday, 3: Service held in camp this morning by Chaplain Lovejoy of the 7th Kansas Cavalry & the Chaplain of the 52nd Ind.

Monday, 4: Wrote to Mother. At night an impromptu meeting was held in camp in celebration of our 88th anniversary. Speeches were made by Col. Moore, Lt. Col. Merriam, Major McWilliam, Capt. Olden, Lts. Kerr & Hay. At noon a national salute of 34 guns was fired. Received orders to be ready to move to-morrow.

Tuesday, July 5: Received a note from Louis enclosing Cousin Marie's letter of Bergzabern, also her photographs. Broke camp at 4 o'clock P.M. & started on the march. Marched out on the Holly Springs Road several miles & took a road to the left

leading in the direction of Grand Junction. Passed the 1st Div. encamped at Davis Mills. Marched 5 or 6 miles & went into camp.

Wednesday, 6: Reveille at 3 O'clock & orders to be ready to move at 4 – Started about 7 o'clock. The 1st Division in advance. Hot & sultry day. Many of the men gave out from the effects of the heat. Several men in the division were killed by sunstroke. Marched about 10 miles & went into camp about 4 o'clock.

Thursday, 7: Reveille at 2 ½ o'clock & orders to move at 4 o'clock. We started on the march about 5 – our division taking the advance. Weather hot. Found plenty of good water along the route. Our advance cavalry skirmished some with the rebel cavalry during the day. Went into camp about 2 o'clock P.M. Marched about 10 miles.

Friday, July 8: Reveille at 3 o'clock. Weather warm & sultry. Passed through Ripley a small place but containing several fine residences. Marched about 10 miles & went into camp early in the afternoon. A fine shady camp – with several springs of fine water in the vicinity.

Saturday, 9: Reveille at 2 ½ o'clock to move at 4 – Our division in advance. Marched about 12 miles. Country more improved than any we have yet seen in northern Miss. nearly every farm having an orchard. Arrived at New Albany shortly after noon & went into camp.

Sunday, 10: Reveille at 2 ½ o'clock. Started on the march about 6 o'clock. Weather quite warm. Marched about 10 miles & went into camp early in the afternoon.

Monday, July 11: Reveille at 1 ½ o'clock to start precisely at 3 – 1st Div. in advance. Had an early start. A battle being expected near Pontotoc the trains were sent to the rear. Some skirmishing between our cavalry & the rebels. Entered Pontotoc about 9 A.M. The rebel cavalry force supposed to be 2 or 3000 strong fell back as we entered. Camped in line of battle 1 ½ miles south of town. Picket firing at intervals during the afternoon.

Tuesday, 12: Remained in camp to-day. A day of rest much needed by our troops. Our cavalry was sent out on the Huston & Okalona ready to reconnoitre. They reported a heavy force of the enemy as having taken up an advantageous & strong position on a creek about 4 miles out on the Okalona road.

Wednesday, 13: Received orders to move this morning. Our division in advance. Took the direct road for Tupello. Fighting in the rear nearly all day. Marched about 18 miles & camped about 1 ½ miles from Tupello. Cavalry entered Tupello & destroyed the railroad track. Our forces were drawn up in line of battle. Our regiment being sent out on picket on the left.

Thursday, July 14: Preparations for battle this morning, the whole of Lee & Forrest's forces being in our front. The rebels made their first attack on the centre but were repulsed with heavy loss. They next made three desparate [sic] charges on our right held by Gen'l Mower's division but were each time repulsed, losing many in killed & wounded. At night the rebels made an attack on our left & were again repulsed. Our regiment took part in the night action. During the day we supported Batter "G" 2nd Ills. Arty. which did some splendid shelling during the day's fighting.

Friday, 15: We started on the march about 9 A.M. Our division in advance. After we had left the enemy attacked the 1st Div. but were repulsed with heavy loss. The rebel Gen'l Buford reported as killed. After the train had been parked the advancing enemy drove our cavalry from a commanding position & planted a battery & commenced to shell our camp. The 2nd Brig. charged and drove them from the position.

Saturday, 16: Last night our brigade & the 2nd were drawn up in line of battle & remained so during the night. This morning our regiment led the division. Very little skirmishing during the day. Camped for the night near Elliston. Soon after getting into camp, the rebels attacked our rear guard of cavalry, but were driven back.

Sunday, July 17: Started on the march about 7 A.M. Our brigade bringing up the rear of the infantry column. The rebels made no demonstrations on the rear during the day. Marched about 12 miles & camped on the Tallehatchee at New Albany. The 1st Division & the supply train crossed over & went into camp on the Ripley road.

Monday, 18: Reveille at 2 o'clock to march at 3. Our division in advance. Left the Ripley road & took the Holly Springs road. Passed over a very hilly country. Soil poor & sandy. Very few farms along the route. Marched about 18 miles & went into camp about 5 o'clock.

Tuesday, 19: Reveille at 2 o'clock to move at 4. Our regiment in the advance this morning. Passed over a very rough & untraveled [sic] road. Built a bridge over Tippid river. Marched about 16 miles & went into camp at Salem. A Supply train of 20 wagons joined us here. One days full rations for the troops.

Wednesday, July 20: Reveille at 4 O'clock & commenced to move about 7 o'clock. Traveled during the day about 11 miles & went into camp at about 6 P.M. at Davis Mills on the Central Miss. R.Rd. We are now distant about 5 miles from our camp at La Grange & all seemed pleased with the fair prospects of a rest for a while.

Thursday, 21: Arrived at our old camp about 10 A.M. Put up our tent & made things as comfortable as possible. Received several letters from home & 1 from Will. West. Wrote to Mother informing her of my safe return to La Grange. In the afternoon received an unexpected but very welcome visit from Father. He, being down at White Station on a visit to Walter, who is in the 142nd Ills., and hearing of the return of Gen'l Smiths troops to La Grange got aboard the train & came out to see me. Part of the 1st Div. took the cars for Memphis to-day.

Friday, 22: This morning I received permission to go with Father to White Station to see Walter. Took the cars & arrived there early in the afternoon. The train was loaded with troops belonging to the 1st Div. Found the Belleville boys all well. Saw Charley West at Germantown as we passed down. The troops are moving into Memphis very fast. I expect our regiment will be along to-morrow or next day.

Saturday, July 23: Remained at White Station to-day. Col. Moore, Adj. Hay & other officers of reg. Stopped at White Station to-day. Our division left La Grange yesterday at noon & marched to Moscow where we encamped & to-day it marched to Collierville where all the troops with the exception of our regiment took the cars for Memphis. Our regiment encamped for the night at Collierville.

Sunday, 24: To-day our regiment went into Memphis by the train. Father & I went in with the reg. Our brigade encamped on the Hernando road in the suburbs of the city. Received letters from home. Orders rec'd at Hd. Qts. To prepare for another campaign without delay. Prospects for a long rest not very propitious.

Monday, 25: This afternoon Father took passage on the Ste. "Belle Memphis" for St. Louis & home. Thought it would be a very nice thing to go with him & make a visit home – but no furloughs for Uncle Sam's boys now – there is too much demand for their services at present.

Tuesday, July 26 – Tuesday, August 2: [No entry]

Wednesday, August 3: Wrote to Mother. Our train of artillery, wagons and ambulances left this afternoon. The train is guarded by Col. Benton's brigade of U.S. Inf'ty (Colored). From what I can learn it will go by the direct road from here to Holly Springs. The troops will go by rail to Holly Springs.

Thursday, August 4: The Second brigade of our division left this morning – taking the cars for Holly Springs Miss. Our brigade received orders to move to-morrow morning.

Friday, 5: Reveille at 3 o'clock to be ready to move at 4. Our brigade marched to the depot, but owing to the lack of transportation only part of the brigade succeeded in getting off. Our regiment & five companies of the 52nd Ind. marched out to the suburbs of the city where we encamped. Received a letter from Father (date Aug. 1st)

Marched to the depot & took the cars for Holly Springs. Started about 8 o'clock A.M. & arrived at Holly Springs about 4 P.M. No mishaps happened on the road. The track of the Central Miss. R.Rd. is very rough & much out of repair & overgrown with bushes. Went into camp east of the town. The train that left Memphis on the 3rd arrived here yesterday at 9 P.M.

Sunday, August 7: Wrote to Father. Remained in camp to-day. Heard that our advance Infantry were at Waterford 10 miles below here & our Cavalry at the Tallahatchie river. Holly Springs a place of perhaps 3000 inhabitants before the war – but now nearly deserted. Has a fine site & was once a beautiful town. The principal business portion of the town, together with the depots, engine houses & c. were destroyed during the Van Dorn raid in Dec./62

Monday, 8: Took a ride through the town this morning. Went to see the large spring. The town derives its name from its fine springs & the numbers of Holly Trees. The 2nd Brigade of our Division arrived here from Memphis to-day. Received orders to be ready to march at an hours notice.

Tuesday, 9: Contrary to our expectations we remained in "statu quo" to-day. Our brigade received orders to move to-morrow morning.

Wednesday, August 10: Our brigade took up the line of march this morning taking the road for Waterford where we arrived early in the afternoon & went into camp. Fine stream of water & splendid springs. Found the supply train – guarded by Col. Benton's brigade at this point. Gen'l Mower's division of infantry & the cavalry forces had left for the Tallahatchie. Distance marched 10 miles.

Thursday, 11: Reveille at 3 ½ o'clock A.M. Hurried out of camp in quick haste and then had to wait several hours for a supply train of 40 wagons, which we were to guard down to the Tallahatchie, to get ready. Got under way about 7 o'clock & crossed the Tallahatchie about noon. Very hilly country & almost entirely deserted. Went into camp about ½ mile this side of Abbeville. The 1st Div. is also encamped here & our cavalry are encamped at Abbeville. Distance marched about 11 miles.

Friday, 12: Wrote to Father. In statu quo to-day. Early in the morning the most of our Cavalry passed to the rear, supposed to be going to look after Forrest who is reported to be moving in the direction of La Grange with a portion of his command. Considerable picket firing during the day. Two regiments of Infantry were advanced to the Picket lines & several Cos. of Cavalry were sent out – whereupon the rebels retired.

Saturday, August 13: Considerable picket firing during the morning. Just before noon, a party of mounted rebels surprised & captured 34 of our cavalry outpost. A fight being expected our brigade was called out & our wagons were loaded up & sent to the rear. In the afternoon Gen'l Mower took our brigade, a brigade of the 1st Div. & 4 regiments of Cavalry & advanced to feel the enemy. He had advanced about 4 miles when he found the rebels strongly posted on a creek. An artillery & cavalry fight ensued when we drove them from their position & followed them up several miles. Our forces returned to camp about 11 o'clock.

Sunday, 14: Still no move. It is a mystery to us why we do not move one way or the other. Gen'l Smith still has his Hd. Qts. at Holly Springs. The rebels made no demonstrations on our lines to-day. The rebel force which we fought yesterday is supposed to be Gen'l Chalmer's command numbering perhaps 2500 or 3000 men. Our loss in the fight yesterday considering the heavy firing, was slight. Rebel loss not known. Our Cavalry report that they left 40 killed & wounded on the field. This report however must be received with a good deal of allowance.

Monday, 15: Remained in camp to-day. No move & no picket firing.

Tuesday, August 16: Remained in statu quo.

Wednesday, 17: Wrote to Mother. Remained in camp.

Thursday, 18: The 1st & 2nd Brigades of our division arrived here from Holly Springs to-day. All of our forces have now concentrated at this point & the supposition is that the advance movement will commence to-morrow. Heavy showers this afternoon. Our brigade received orders to move to-morrow morning.

Friday, August 19: Reveille at 3 O'clock to move at 5 A.M. About 6 – our brigade & 2 brigades of Cavalry under Gen. Hatel (?) took the road for Oxford. Raining hard nearly all day. Roads very muddy. Our advance cavalry skirmished with the rebels who fell back as we advanced. Marched about 5 miles to Hurricane creek where we took up a position on the opposite side of the creek. Our artillery & wagons were left on this side, with 5 Cos. of our reg. as a guard. The rebels skirmished with us during the afternoon & some picket firing occurred during the night, but no attack in force was made.

Saturday, 20: This morning a party of rebels slipped up & fired on some of our men who were out foraging about ¼ of a mile from camp. Com. Sergt. McGowan lost his horse which was captured by the rebels. Late in the afternoon, the 5 Cos. of our regt. the battery & the wagons rejoined the brigade on the opposite side of the creek. The 1st Brigade of our division arrived here from Abbeville. Orders received to move camp in the morning.

Sunday, 21: This morning our two brigades moved out & went into camp about 2 miles in advance of our former position. The rebels having been reported as being in position where we intended to camp. The 21st Mo. & our regiment were sent in advance, with the other regiments as supports. Some firing by our skirmish line, but upon arriving at the position the rebel force was gone. The 2nd Brig. of our Div. rejoined us to-day.

Monday, August 22: Reveille at daylight to move at 8 O'clock A.M. The 1st Div. moved past us & took the advance. The advance had reached Oxford when a dispatch bearer arrived direct from Memphis bringing the intelligence that Forrest had made a raid into Memphis. The return of the army was ordered. The cavalry was sent off immediately to intercept Forrest's retreat if possible. The infantry camped and the trains were corraled at Hurricane creek.

Tuesday, 23: Reveille at 3 ½ o'clock, to move at 5. Marched to the Tallehatchie river where we went into camp. The bridge over the river broke down while a wagon was crossing & 6 mules were drowned. Heard that Forrest had eluded our Cavalry forces & recrossed the Tallehatchie below us. In the afternoon Chalmers brigade attacked our rear at Abbeville & was driven back losing about 12 killed & some prisoners. Our cavalry followed up the retreating rebels as far as Hurricane creek.

Wednesday, 24: Remained in camp today. The Pioneer Corps busily engaged in building a new bridge over the Tallehatchie. Rebels made no demonstrations to-day.

Thursday, August 24: Received orders early this morning to be ready to move at 7 O'clock. Our division led the advance. Stragglers fired at by order of Col. Shaw comd'g division. Weather very warm & oppressive. Marched about 9 miles & went into camp near Waterford.

Friday, 26: Reveille at daylight – to be ready to move at 8. The 1st Div. being in advance we did not get under way before 10. One brigade of white troops & one brigade of the A. D's with the Cavalry Supply train were left at Waterford. Weather warm. Marched to Holly Springs & went into camp.

Saturday, 27: Remained in camp to-day. Foraging party sent out from the Brigade under command of Major McWilliams. A squad from the Foraging Party were fired upon by a party of 10 or 15 rebels. Our regiment lost 1 horse & a mule captured by the rebels. Wrote to Father giving him the particulars of the expedition.

Sunday, August 28: Reveille at 3 O'clock – to start at 5. The forces were divided the 1st Div. taking the road by La Grange & our Div. the road by way of the Coldwater. Our regiment acted as train guard. Passed through a fine country. Fine Plantations. Several of our men were captured while away from the column foraging. Marched about 21 miles & encamped on the Coldwater.

Monday, 29: Reveille at 4, started on the march about 6. Very stringent orders issued against straggling. Weather quite warm & roads dusty. Marched about 14 miles & went into camp early in the afternoon.

Tuesday, 30: Started on the morning [sic] early this morning. Div. Commander issued a very stringent order against straggling. Forded Nonconnah creek & arrived at Memphis early in the afternoon. Our division went into camp about 2 miles out from the river. Received a letter from Louis & one from Mother. Mailed my letter to Father.

Wednesday, August 31: The regiment mustered for pay to-day. Busily engaged in making out monthly returns & field & staff pay rolls.

Thursday, September 1: Remained in camp.

Friday, 2: Remained in camp.

Saturday, September 3: Remained in camp.

Sunday, 4: [No entry]

Monday, 5: Received orders to be ready to embark aboard transports at an hour's notice. The 1st & 2nd brigades of our Division went aboard transports preparatory to leaving for Cairo. Wrote to Mother.

Tuesday, September 6: The 52nd Ind. & the battery belonging to our brigade left this afternoon on the Ste. City of Alton for Cairo. The remaining three regiments of our brigade were obliged to wait for transportation.

Wednesday, 7: This afternoon our regiment broke camp near Memphis, Tenn, and marched down to the levee. About midnight embarked on the U.S. Steamer "Satan". The 49th Ills. went aboard the Ste. Stephen Decatur and the 178th N.N. on the Ste. Silver Spray..

Thursday, 8: About 6 O'clock this morning we bade farewell to Memphis and started up the river. When near Fort Pillow passed the Steamers Decatur & Silver Spray which had left the port of Memphis several hours ahead of us.

Friday, September 9: This morning the Steamer Belle St. Louis passed us on her way up. Arrived at Cairo about 11 o'clock P.M having had a very pleasant trip from Memphis.

Saturday, 10: This morning our regiment disembarked & went into camp on the levee about 3 miles above Cairo. Reg. Hd. Qts. remain on the boat. Orders to leave all transportation & surplus baggage aboard the boat. Our division is now all congregated here awaiting orders. Orders rec'd from Div. Hd. Qts. to be ready to embark at a moments notice. Wrote to Louis.

Sunday, 11: Remained in statu quo. Gen'l A.J. Smith left on the train for St. Louis.

Monday, September 12: No move to-day.

Tuesday, 13: Received orders to embark to-morrow morning at 6. Fleet to start up the river at 9 A.M. Rumors that our division is going to Cape Girardeau Mo. Wrote to Father.

Wednesday, 14: This morning the regiment came aboard the Ste. Satan about 6 A.M. A section of the 2nd Ills. Art. Bat. "G." was also placed on the boat. Dropped down to Cairo where we lay to until about 3 P.M. when we started up the Miss. River. The fleet carrying the Div. is composed of 11 boats. Report now is that we are going to Sulphur Springs Mo. Wrote to Father.

Thursday, September 15: Lay to this morning several hours at Cape Girardeau. Took on 10 days rations from the Ste. Longsmith. Passed the Stephen Decatur a few miles above the Cape snagged. Made but slow progress during the day owing to low stage of water on the bars. Lay up most of the night on the Ills. shore below the town of Liberty.

Friday, 16: Passed Liberty & Chester this morning and St. Genevieve & Herculaneum in the afternoon. Arrived at & tied up at Sulphur Springs about sundown. The Strs. Sioux City, Bostona No 2 & the Monsoon had arrived in ahead of us. Received orders not to disembark the troops but to proceed up to Jefferson Barracks at daylight tomorrow morning.

Saturday, 17: Arrived at Jefferson Barracks Mo. this morning. Disembarked & went into camp. Fine camping grounds, on the river. Our division have all arrived here with the exception of one or two regiments. Wrote to Father.

Sunday, September 18 – Tuesday, September 20: [No entry]

Wednesday, September 21: Received five days leave of absence to visit my home in Belleville Ills. Left camp about noon and reached home about 7 o'clock P.M. Found house full of company, Bishop James, two Elders, Uncle William & Aunt Virginia. What pleasure to be at home once more after a year's absence.

Thursday, September 22 – Sunday, September 25: [No entry]

Monday, September 26: Left for camp at Jefferson Bks, this morning at 11 o'clock. Met Col. Merriam in St. Louis and arrived at the Barracks at about 2 o'clock P.M. Found the regiment gone, having left the preceding night for De Soto on the Iron M. R. Rd.

Tuesday, September 27: This morning Col. Merriam left on the train for De Soto to take command of the regiment. I remained in camp taking charge of the camp guard. Lt. C. S. Beath Co. "A." in command of the camp of the 117th Ills. Rumors of fighting at Pilot Knob between Gen'l Ewing and the rebels.

Wednesday, 28: No trains from the front to-day owing to the breaking down of the railroad bridge over the Meramec river. No definite news of the fight at Pilot Knob or in regard to the safety of Gen'l Ewing's forces who are reported to be surrounded by a heavy force of the enemy. Expect the troops back to camp to-morrow.

Thursday, 29: Our regiment together with the remaining troops of our division returned to the camp at Jefferson Bks. to-day. Received orders to be ready to move at an hour's notice.

Friday, September 30: Expecting orders to move all day. About night orders came for our brigade to move immediately. Troops & baggage loaded on the cars. Transportation to follow us overland. Got off about midnight. Proceeded by rail to St. Louis and thence out the Pacific R. Road. Wrote a note to Father before starting.

Saturday, October 1: Arrived near Franklin between 9 & 10 A.M. Met the militia who informed us that a rebel force estimated at 1500 was there in the town. The 52 Ind. 49th & 117th Ills. of our brigade were disembarked & advanced upon the place in line of battle. Considerable skirmishing between the two lines – the rebels opening with two pieces of artillery. As our force advanced rebels skedaddled. Our regiment had two men wounded. Our brigade went into camp in the town.

Sunday, 2: Franklin is an important place at the junction of the South West branch with the main Pacific R. Rd. The rebels entered the town about 8 o'clock yesterday morning, burnt the railroad depot, engine house, machine shop & water tanks & ransacked & plundered the stores of the place. They also burnt the railroad bridge over the Meremac river. Wrote to Mother.

Monday, October 3 – Tuesday, October 4: [No entry]

Wednesday, 5: Our brigade left Franklin at 7 A.M. & marched to Gray Summit Station distant about 5 miles. Upon our arrival there found the other two brigades of our division already here. They marched through from Jefferson Barracks by way of Kirkwood & Donchester & arrived here yesterday afternoon. Went into camp. Wrote a letter to Louis. Rec'd a letter from Father dated Sept. 30th.

Thursday, October 6: Remained in camp to-day. Preparations making for a campaign the supply train being loaded & c. The news is that Price is moving on Jefferson City.

Friday, 7: Received orders to move camp at 8 ½ o'clock this morning. Our brigade marched about 2 ½ miles to the Meremac river & prepared to go into camp when orders arrived to hold the command in readiness to move at a moment's notice. Started on the march about 4 P.M. taking the road to Union. Went into camp about 9 P.M. on the Bon Hommie river. Distance marched about 15 miles.

Saturday, 8: Reveille at 5 to move at 6 ½ o'clock. Passed through Union. Country much devastated by the rebel forces that passed through here about a week since. Very hilly, rough & rock road. Marched about 25 miles and went into camp on Boeuf Creek.

Sunday, October 9: Rested to-day. About noon 2 brigades of Enr. Mo. Militia Commanded by Brig. Gen'l Pike arrived up – having camped the preceding night about 8 miles in our rear. Services in camp in the afternoon by Chaplain Lockwood of the 49th Ills. Orders received to be ready to move to-morrow morning at 6 ½ o'clock.

Monday, 10: Reveille at 5, started on the march at about 8 o'clock. Our brigade in the rear of the division. The 2 brigades of Enr. Mo. Militia, having received orders started on the return march. Marched about 17 miles to the Gasconade river, forded it & went into camp.

Tuesday, 11: Reveille at 5 to move at 6 ½ o'clock. Passed through the town of Linn. Many evidences of loyalty by the people along the route. Encamped for the night on Meyer's Creek. Distance marched about 20 miles.

Wednesday, October 12: Reveille at 4 o'clock started on the march about 6. Our regiment in advance of the Inftry force. Forded Osage river. The 1st & 2nd Brig. of our Div.

went into camp on a creek 3 miles from Jefferson City. Our brigade marched into the city and took the cars for California, distance about 24 miles. Wrote to Father.

Thursday, 13: Arrived at California this morning after a cold night's ride. Camped in the town. California is quite the thriving place. The rebel army under Price passed through here last Sunday on their way to Boonville. They destroyed the depot & other railroad buildings, a considerable portion of the railroad track & plundered the stores. They were driven out of the town by our cavalry, who were following them up from Jefferson City.

Friday, 14: Remained in camp to-day. About noon the 1st & 2nd Brig. of our Div. arrived here, having marched from Jefferson City. Wrote to Mother.

Saturday, October 15: No move by our brigade to-day. The 1st Brig. left for Sedalia. Troops of the 1st Division passed here to-day on the cars, westward. In the evening attended divine services in the M.E. Church South. Received orders to be ready to move to-morrow morning at 7 – Rec'd a letter from Mother date Oct. 7th.

Sunday, 16: Started on the march about 9 taking the road to Tipton. Passed through the towns of Tipton & Syracuse. The finest country we have yet seen in Mo. mostly Prairie land. Marched about 30 miles & went into camp near the La Mine river about a mile from Otterville. The cars now run from Jefferson City to the La Mine river – the railroad bridge over the river was burnt by the rebels.

Monday, 17: Remained in camp to-day. Our brigade of the 1st Div. arrived from Jefferson City. The Supply train was loaded up preparatory to a forward movement; the supplies having been brought through from Jefferson City by rail. Wrote to Louis.

Tuesday, October 18: Orders to move at 8 – started about 10. March lay through a beautiful country, large prairies and fine farms. Passed through the towns of Otterville, Smithton, Farmer's City & Sedalia. Marched about 18 miles & went into camp about a mile from Georgetown. Price reported to be at Marshall, about 36 miles north of Georgetown.

Wednesday, 19: Started on the march at 2 O'clock P.M. taking the main road to Lexington. Passed through the town of Georgetown. Marched about 17 miles & went into camp about 8 o'clock on the South fork of the Blackwater creek.

Thursday, 20: Left camp about 11 o'clock. Our brigade in the rear of the Supply train. A cold chilly day. A slight fall of snow in the afternoon. First snow of the season. News received that Price & his army passed through Lexington to-day. Got into camp after night. Distance marched about 17 miles.

Friday, October 21: Got an earlier start than usual this morning. Arrived at Lexington about 6 & went into camp in the suburbs. Price & his whole army passed through here yesterday taking the road to Lexington. The rebels obtained a large amount of flour & other supplies in the city. Paid the citizens in Confederate script. Distance marched to-day about 22 miles.

Saturday, 22: Reveille at 5 to move 8 ½ o'clock. Rode through the city & visited the fort – the scene of Mulligan's gallant defense. Lexington the finest place we have yet been in Mo. Country in the vicinity beautiful. A warm pleasant day for marching.

Took the road leading to Harrisonville. Our brigade in the advance. Marched about 18 miles & got into camp about sundown.

Sunday, 23: Moved at 10 o'clock A.M. Our brigade in the rear. Passed through a depopulated country. Arrived at the Little Blue river about 8 P.M. where we made a stop of 3 hours to get supper, draw rations & c. Orders received to move again at 11 to the Big Blue river, where it was reported our Cavalry forces were holding Price in check until our Infantry forces could come up.

Monday, October 24: Passed through Independence about 3 A.M. & reached the Big Blue river shortly after sunrise, having marched in the last 24 hours about 40 miles. Found that Price after a severe fight with our Cavalry and the Kansas militia at the river & on the borders had succeeded in crossing his train over the river & made good his retreat. The rebel loss in the fighting of yesterday was severe – together with 6 pieces of artillery & quite a number of prisoners. Remained encamped on the Big Blue.

Tuesday, 25: Reveille at 5 ½ to move 7 ½ o'clock. Started on the march about 8 going in a southwest direction. Passed through Santa Fe on the boundary line between Mo. & Kansas. Went into camp on the Little Blue River about 3 miles from Little Santa Fe. Distance marched about 15 miles.

Wednesday, 26: Reveille at 2 ½ o'clock, to move at 3 ½ o'clock. Started about 6. March lay over a large prairie during the day destitute of water and few farms. Passed through Harrisonville about 4 P.M. & encamped about 1 ½ mile from the town on a branch of Grand river.

Thursday, October 27: Remained in camp. Chaplain White of our Reg't arrived from Warrensburg. Military execution took place near Harrisonville, a man was hung by the militia. He was charged with being a spy. Major McWilliams started for Warrensburg with escort, in charge of a petition to Gen. Rosencrans to allow the Ills. & Ind. soldiers to go home to vote. Wrote to Theodore.

Friday, 28: No move to-day. Good news from our forces in pursuit of Price, if it is only confirmed. At work making out monthly returns. At night a supply train of 100 wagons arrived through from Warrensburg. A large mail also arrived for our two divisions.

Saturday, 29: Rec'd a letter from Louis, dated Oct. 18. The news confirmed that Curtiss & Pleasanton had attacked Price near Fort Scott & captured the Reb. Genls Shelby & Marmaduke, 2000 prisoners, all his artillery & his wagon train. Col. W.T. Shaw relieved from the com'd of the 3rd Div. in order to be mustered out of the service and Col. D. Moore assigned to the command. Rec'd orders to move to-morrow.

Sunday, October 30: Reveille at 5 o'clock to move at 6 ½. Marched about 10 miles & went into camp about noon on Big creek near the town of Pleasant Hill. Maj. McWilliams rejoined the regiment. Gen'l Rosencrans refused to allow the Ills. & Ind. soldiers of our Div. to go home to vote – giving as a reason that the exigencies of the services would not admit of it.

Monday, 31: The forces were divided this morning & marched in 6 columns taking different roads. Our division to come together again at Glasgow. Our brigade moved out of camp at 9 ½ o'clock. Eight miles out, our regiment was detached to go to

Independence & Independence L'dg, while the main portion of our brigade was to march to Coggswell's landing. Our regiment took the Warrensburg & Independence road & went into camp after dark on the Little Blue river. Distance marched 20 miles. Lt. Col. Merriam & Lt. Kerr left for Warrensburg this morning with the train – having received permission to go home.

Tuesday, November 1: Started from camp at the Little Blue at about 9 A.M. Marched to Independence & made a stop of several hours. Took dinner with Dr. Wiley at Mr. Wm. McCoys. Left Independence at about 2 P.M. taking the road to Lexington. Crossed the Little Blue & went into camp at the Six mile Prairie Church about 10 miles from Independence. Distance marched during the day about 16 miles.

Wednesday, November 2: Moved out of camp at 6 ½ o'clock. Overtook the main portion of our brigade on the road to Lexington. Went into camp in the suburbs of the city, having made a march of about 30 miles since morning. The bodies of Maj. Henry, As't Sarg. Porter & Q.M. Ashley of the 89th Ind. were brought into Lexington this evening. They were captured and killed by bushwhackers at Greenton.

Thursday, 3: Reveille at 5 o'clock, moved out at about 7. Ground covered with two inches of snow. Passed through the town of Dover. Joined the 2nd Brigade at Waverly where we encamped having marched about 22 miles. A day long to be remembered. A cold & wet snow fell until about noon & marching very hard on the men owing to the muddy & slippery state of the roads.

Friday, 4: Started on the march at 8 o'clock. Our regiment in the rear. Clear, cold day. Good day for marching. Marched through a fine rich country. Passed through Pleasant View. Went into camp about sundown on Cow creek – Good water. Distance marched 20 miles.

Saturday, November 5: Distance marched to-day 18 miles. Reveille at 5 to start on the march at 7 o'clock. Weather clear & cool. Arrived at the Mo. river opposite Glasgow at 3 ½ P.M. Went into camp. The 1st Brig. of our Division arrived here yesterday & crossed over to-day. A man of the 178th N.Y. shot & killed by our pickets. Orders to be ready to move to-morrow morning at 7.

Sunday, 6: The 2nd Brigade crossed over to Glasgow last night. Our brigade crossed over this morning. Troops taken over on a steamboat & a steam ferryboat & the wagons & ambulances ferried over on flat boats. Went into camp about a mile from town. At night attended divine services by Chaplain White in the Baptist church Glasgow. Wrote to Mother. Orders received to be ready to move at 8 to-morrow morning.

Monday, 7: The division commenced moving at 8 ½ o'clock. Our brigade in advance. Marched 12 miles to Fayette & went into camp on a creek about a mile from the town. Fayette the county seat of Howard County is quite a thriving place & contains two fine large college buildings – "Fayette Male & Female Colleges" – Weather cloudy & some rain.

Tuesday, November 8: Commenced raining last night and raining to-day. Our regiment and the 49th Ills. sent out on scouting expeditions, while the main portion of the division remained encamped at Fayette in order to give the Mo. & Iowa troops an

opportunity of voting. Our regiment passed through Land Mark & encamped at the Church of Bethlehem, having marched 14 miles. Took one prisoner.

Wednesday, 9: Started on the march at 9 A.M. Snowing and quite cold. A very disagreeable day for marching the roads being very muddy. Reached Columbia early in the afternoon and went into camp at the Fair Grounds. Distance marched 15 miles. Columbia the county seat of Boone Co. contains the State University & a Baptist Female Seminary.

Thursday, 10: Remained in camp to-day. The 49th Ills. arrived in about noon & went into camp in the Fair Grounds. Busy all day making out returns. Our division did not arrive to-day suppose they are detained by the bad weather. Papers of the 9th in camp. News good & foreshadow the triumphant re-election of Abraham Lincoln.

Friday, November 11: No move to-day. Our division arrived early in the afternoon & went into camp a mile or so from town. Expect orders to move to-morrow. Papers of the 10th confirm the news of the glorious triumph of the Union Party in the re-election of President Lincoln by an overwhelming majority. Received orders to be ready to move to-morrow morning at 7 ½ o'clock.

Saturday, 12: Division commenced moving at 8 A.M. Our brigade in advance. Weather cloudy & cold. Moved eastward. Went into camp about 5 o'clock near the farm of Dr. Martine having marched about 20 miles. Orders received to be ready to move to-morrow morning at 8 o'clock.

Sunday, 13: Started on the march at 9 o'clock. Weather clear & cool. A very pleasant day for marching. Passed through Willaimsburg – a town of about a dozen houses. Camped after dark a mile or so beyond the town. Awful smoky in camp. Marched about 18 miles to-day.

Monday, November 14: Reveille at 6 to move at 8 o'clock. Weather pleasant. Slight shower fell in the afternoon. Passed through Danville the seat of Danville Female Academy. This place was visited by a band of bushwhackers about 3 weeks since & the business portion of the town was burnt. Went into camp about 3 P.M. near the town of High Hill, having marched about 20 miles.

Tuesday, 15: Moved at 8 A.M. Our regiment led the advance. Cloudy, chilly day. Roads good. Passed through Warrenton. Marched about 16 miles & went into camp early in the afternoon a mile or so beyond the town. Wrote to Father.

Wednesday, 16: Started on the march at 9 A.M. The 117th brought up the rear. Weather cloudy & raining part of the day. Marched 21 miles and went into camp at about 4 o'clock P.M. Col. Moore left this morning by rail for St. Louis, to transact business for the regiment connected with the Ordnance.

Thursday, November 17: Moved at 8 A.M. Weather pleasant. Roads admirable. Country chiefly settled by Germans. Passed through Cottleville a small German town. Marched 19 mile to St. Charles, crossed the Mo. river, and went into camp on the banks of the river. Received three letters from home.

Friday, 18: Reveille at 6 o'clock. Broke camp at 8 A.M. Our brigade in the advance. Arrived at St. Louis early in the afternoon and went into camp at Camp Gamble at the

head of Olive Street. Miserable place for a camp. Great scarcity of wood & water. Heard that the 1st Div. were at Benton Barracks. Wrote to Father.

Saturday, 19: Remained in camp to-day. Preparations being made for a move at an early day. Made out the Armament and Tri-Monthly Reports. Commenced making out the Muster & Pay Rolls (Field & Staff) for Oct. 31 – as we expect to be paid off Monday or Tuesday. Colonel Moore rejoined the regiment this afternoon.

Sunday, November 20: Father and Mother came over this morning & made me a visit in camp. Left St. Louis at 2 P.M. for Springfield to attend to some business with the Adjutant General of Illinois. Arrived at Springfield at 8 P.M. & put up at the Chenery House.

Monday, 21: Called at Adjutant General Fuller's Office & received my commission as Adjutant of the 117th Ills. vice Deveen resigned. Met Col. Englemann of the 43rd Ills. Took the 5.20 P.M. train for St. Louis – arrived there at 12 o'clock at night. Put up at the Olive Street Hotel.

Tuesday, 22: Was mustered in as Adjutant to date from Nov. 21st by Lt. Fetterman U.S.A. C.M. 3rd Div. 16th A.C. Called at Major Pope's office and rec'd 2 month's pay as Sergt. Major. Met Louis & Walter in camp & accompanied them to Belleville Ills.

Wednesday, November 23: At home this morning. Left in the 3 ½ P.M. train for St. Louis. Arrived out at camp after dark. Expect orders to move to-morrow. The 1st Division embarked to-day.

Thursday, 24: "Thanksgiving Day". Rec'd orders to hold the command in readiness to move at a moment's notice. Four brls of Apples & a box of eatables donated to the regiment by the Christian Commission. About noon our brigade marched down to the river. Our regiment bivouacked on the levee as the transport as not ready to receive the troops.

Friday, 25: Embarked on the Steamer Mollie McPike this morning. Started down the river about 3 P.M. ours being about the last boat to leave the city. Ran about 26 miles and tied up for the night to the Illinois shore – the night being too dark for the boat to run.

Saturday, November 26: Much delayed this morning by foggy weather. Passed Chester about noon. Many houses showed signs of the late tornado at that place. Tied up for the night near Commerce on the Mo. side. In the evening Chaplain White head divine services in the cabin.

Sunday, 27: Passed Cape Girardeau about ten this morning. Services in the cabin by our Chaplain. Arrived at Cairo about 3 o'clock P.M. Received orders to proceed on to the mouth of the Cumberland river as soon as the boat could complete taking on a supply of coal. Lay at the Cairo wharf all night. Wrote to Mother.

Monday, 28: Left Cairo at about 11 A.M. Passed Paducah after dark & arrived at Smithland at 10 P.M. Found the fleet of transports carrying our division at the mouth of the Cumberland. The 1st Division had gone on. Received orders to be ready to move at daylight to-morrow morning.

Tuesday, November 29: The fleet of transports (12) carrying our Division started up the Cumberland river at about 6 A.M. Passed the towns of Salem, Eddyville & Canton. Arrived at Fort Donelson about midnight and fleet tied up for a couple of hours. Weather very pleasant.

Wednesday, 30: Passed Clarksville about noon to-day. Quite a pleasant & thriving town. The 83rd Ills. garrisons the town. Weather beautiful & trip this far has been very pleasant with no accidents to mar it – with one exception. R. Dingle of Co. “H” fell overboard & has not been heard of since.

Thursday, December 1: Wrote a note to Father. Arrived at Nashville at 1 o’clock A.M. News received of a battle at Franklin yesterday between Schofield & Hood. Troops disembarked & marched out 2 miles west of the city. Took up a position in line of battle. The forces under Schofield arrived in from Franklin during the afternoon & went into position on our left. Rebel army reported advancing.

Friday, December 2: Our line of battle extends around the city with the flanks resting on the river – distance some 7 or 8 miles. Our brigade holds the extreme left of our Corps joining on the right of the 4th Corps. Changed position & moved farther to the right. Spent the night in throwing up breastworks and felling trees in front of our position. Some firing between the cavalry pickets.

Saturday, 3: Rebels made an advance on the Hillsboro pike drove in our advance pickets & opened with artillery. About 2 P.M. appearances indicated a general attack on the left of our line. Our brigade rec’d orders to change our position. We took up a new position on the right of the Harding pike between the 1st Brig. of our Div. & the 1st Div. Spent most of the night in fortifying.

Sunday, 4: Artillery firing and skirmishing going on all day in front and along the left of our position. The rebels throwing up breastworks in front of our lines on the left as if they intended to lay siege to the city. A company of our cavalry made a dash out on the Harding pike and captured four prisoners.

Monday, December 5: The Artillery firing and musketry not as heavy to-day as yesterday. Either Hood is waiting for reinforcements or is making feints in our front while he is carrying on movements in other parts. Quite a brisk skirmish occurred out on the Harding pike, between a company of our Cavalry and rebel Cavalry. Wrote to Mother.

Tuesday, 6: No new movements to-day. The usual amount of Artillery & Picket firing. Gen. Hood sent in a flag of truce on the Franklin pike, proposing an exchange of prisoners. Gen Thomas replied that the prisoners taken by our forces had been sent north & were now out of his jurisdiction consequently he could not carry out the proposition.

Wednesday, 7: Nothing new to-day. Artillery and picket firing at intervals along different portions of the line – much more quiet to-day however than yesterday. Our regiment commenced to throw up a new line of works on the crest of the hill in the rear of the first line. Weather turned quite cold – a north-wester blowing.

Thursday, December 8: Scarcely any firing along the Picket lines to-day. A mutual agreement seems to have been entered into between the two armies to put a stop to

that procedure. Completed our new line of works – demolished the old line of breastworks & moved the camp of the regiment back of the new line. Weather quite cold. Brig. Gen'l Garrard assumed command of our Division.

Friday, 9: Winter is upon us in real earnest. A heavy snow & sleet storm fell this morning. Made out Armament & Tri-Monthly Reports. Bought a sheet iron stove & put up in our tent so that we can now keep comfortable. Wrote a long letter to Louis. All quiet along the lines. Report in circulation that the rebels have planted a battery & blockaded the river, 15 miles below the city.

Saturday, 10: In statu quo to-day. Everything quiet along the lines. Reports current that Hood has withdrawn part of his army from our front. Weather extremely cold – a cold wind blowing all day.

Sunday, December 11: Weather moderated some to-day still too cold to think of campaigning unless it is absolutely necessary. No artillery or picket firing which seems to give color to the reports that the rebel commander has withdrawn his main forces from Nashville.

Monday, 12: Weather milder than yesterday. Mailed to the Adj't Gen'l of Ills. Monthly Returns of the Reg. from January to November 1864 inclusive. Prospects of a campaign at an early day. Indications are that we will have to march after Hood. Our cavalry forces recrossed the river to this side to-day.

Tuesday, 13: Weather cold – a high wind blowing most of the day. Some picket firing along the lines last night & also to-day. Received orders to hold the command in readiness to move at 2 hours notice by day or at 4 hours notice by night. Rec'd a letter from Mother.

Wednesday, December 14: No move to-day. Some artillery & musketry firing on different portions of the line. Rebels reported concentrating in front of the center of our position – rumors also that they have been re-inforced. Turned over all surplus guns & accoutrements. Weather chilly. Rec'd orders to be ready to move to-morrow morning at 6. Wrote to Mother.

Thursday, 15: Moved out of the works at about 6 o'clock. Our brig. massed on the Harding pike. Our Reg. ordered forward deployed Cos. "A." & "B." as skirmishers with the Reg. as support. Regiment afterwards took position on left of Brig. The left of the Rebel position turned by Gen'l McArthur's Div. Glorious advance along the whole line. Rebel army driven from their 1st line of works – Cos. A & B. captured 3 pieces of artillery & 40 prisoners. Loss in Reg. 1 Capt. & 7 men wounded. Bivouaced [sic] along the enemy's 1st line of works. Rebel loss heavy in Artillery.

Friday, 16: This morning Rebel Army occupied their last & strongest line of works about 5 miles in rear of Nashville. Battle re-opened early in the morning. Tremendous artillery firing. Grand & glorious charge along our whole line at about 4 P.M. Rebel works carried at every point. Our Regiment captured two pieces of artillery – 100 prisoners & 1 battle flag. Loss in Reg. 2 men killed & 4 wounded. Rebel loss in the two day's battle estimated at 2000 killed & wounded 6000 prisoners & 58 pieces of artillery. Union loss probably 2500 in killed & wounded.

Saturday, December 17: Wrote home. Started on the march this morning in pursuit of the retreating rebel army. Our corps moved out on the Granny White pike the 4th Corps on the Franklin pike. Marched out about 10 miles from the city, crossed over to the Franklin pike & went into camp. Raining all day. Our cavalry pursued the rebels vigorously to-day capturing artillery & prisoners.

Sunday, 18: Moved forward on the Franklin pike the 4th Corps in our advance and the 23rd Corps in our rear. Crossed Harpeth river passed through the town of Franklin & encamped about 2 miles from town. Reports from the front to the effect that our cavalry captured more prisoners & guns to-day. Raining most of the day. Rec'd a letter from Father.

Monday, 19: Rec'd orders to be ready to move at about 8 o'clock. Wrote a few lines to Mother. Heavy cannonading heard in front. Started on the march at 1 o'clock P.M. Our brigade in the rear of our corps. Rain falling all day. Passed through & went into camp near the town of Spring Hill.

Tuesday, December 20: Remained in camp this morning. Made out Tri-monthly & Armament Reports. About noon received orders to be ready to move immediately with 3 day's rations. Broke camp at 3 o'clock P.M. Commenced raining. Marched about 3 miles & went into camp after dark. Very disagreeable time. A cold rain pouring down. Got tent up & settled down about midnight.

Wednesday, 21: Remained in camp to-day. Wrote to Father. Cold, wet, snowy day. Our advance was delayed by the bridge being down over Carters Creek – the creek being very much swollen by the heavy rains. A pontoon train passed us and the pioneers are building a bridge over the creek, which will be completed by to-morrow.

Thursday, 22: Received orders this morning to be ready to move at an hours' notice. Weather dry & cold. The ground being frozen. Broke camp late in the afternoon. Road blocked up with trains. Crossed Carter's creek on a pontoon bridge – the main bridge not being completed. Marched 3 or 4 miles & went into camp on Duck river. Our Reg. Wagons arrived in camp about 11 P.M.

Friday, December 23: Remained in camp to-day. Weather quite cold. Made out Armament & Inspection Reports. The 49th Ills. start back to-morrow, the term of service of the non-veterans expiring on the 29th inst. Ordered to draw three days rations. Expected orders to move in the afternoon. About 9 P.M. orders received to be ready to move to-morrow morning at 3 o'clock.

Saturday, 24: Reveille at 1 ½ o'clock A.M. Broke camp at about 4. Delayed until sunrise at Duck river. Crossed over on a pontoon bridge. Passed through Columbia, once a beautiful town but now almost abandoned by its inhabitants and much desolated by the ravages of war. Went into camp about 10 miles south of Nashville. The Reg. Wagons did not get up – being detained at the river.

Sunday, 25: Spent Christmas in camp. A merry Christmas to all! Gen'l Garrard gave an entertainment to the Commanders of Brigades & of Regiments of his Division. Our Reg. wagons arrived in camp about 3 P.M. Commenced raining early in the afternoon. Wrote a letter to Mother.

Monday, December 26: Colonel Moore rejoined the Regiment this morning. Received orders to be ready to move at 9 o'clock. Did not get started until about noon. Passed through the small town of Lynn. Weather damp cloudy & threatening rain. Went into camp about sundown having marched about 10 miles.

Tuesday, 27: Received orders to be ready to move at 10 o'clock. Started about 11. Our regiment in advance of the division. Raining in the morning but cleared up during the afternoon. Marched about 8 miles & went into camp early in the afternoon about 3 miles this side of Pulaski. Roads quite muddy.

Wednesday, 28: No move to-day. Weather pleasant. Numerous rumors afloat of the capture of Hood & a large number of prisoners also of the destruction of a large portion of his wagon train. Rumors not credited. Gen'l Thomas Hd. Qts. are at Pulaski & the 4th Corps is encamped near there. Orders received to be ready to move at 8 to-morrow morning.

Thursday, December 29: Moved out of camp at about 9 o'clock. Passed through the town of Pulaski once a fine town but now almost deserted. The army here divided. The 4th Corps took the road leading to Decatur. Gen'l Smith's command moved on the road to Lawrenceburg. Roads very rough & hilly. Weather warm & pleasant. Marched about 13 miles & went into camp.

Friday, 30: Reveille at 5 o'clock to move at 7. Passed through a rough & hilly country. Fine streams of water. Passed through the deserted town of Lawrenceburg. Crossed Shoal creek, a fine clear stream affording ample water power for mills & factories. Marched about 13 miles. Weather cloudy – slight rain fell during the afternoon. Commenced raining hard about night.

Saturday, 31: Ground covered with snow this morning. A bitter cold day. Moved very slowly on account of the awful state of the roads. Marched about 8 miles & went into camp. Farewell to old "64". A year spent in almost continual campaigning & a rough time we have had. Distance traveled during the year about 4,800 miles – of which we marched 2000 miles, traveled by boat 2500 miles & traveled by rail 300 miles.

Memoranda: Wrote to Father Jan. 7. Wrote to Mother Jan. 10. Wrote to Mother Jan. 15. Wrote to Louis Jan. 20. Wrote to Mother Jan. 27.

[Start of 1865 Diary]

Inside cover: James F. Krafft, Lieut. & Adj't 117th Ills. Inf'ty from – Belleville, Ills.

Sunday, January 1, 1865: Welcome New Year! The year in which our term of military service ends and which shall witness our return (D.V.) to the far more agreeable pursuits of civil life. Started on the march at 11 A.M. Reached the Clifton Turnpike at 1 P.M. henceforth good roads to the Tenn. river. Passed an extensive ironwork. Marched 14 miles & camped 1 ½ miles from Waynesboro.

Monday, 2: Moved out of camp at about 8 A.M. Weather warm & pleasant. Roads good. Passed through Waynesboro a small dilapidated town. Arrived at Clifton on the Tenn. river at 4 P.M. having marched about 18 miles. Found 7 transports & several gunboats at the Landing. Orders rec'd for our brig. to be ready to embark to-morrow at 8 ½ A.M. Destination Eastport. Wrote a letter to Louis.

Tuesday, 3: Embarked on Str. "Leni Lesti" at noon. Brigade Hd. Qts. on same boat. The 52nd Ind. & 178th N.Y. on Str. "Cora S." The fleet of 6 transports (carrying the 1st & 3rd Brig. of our Div.) convoyed by 2 gunboats got under way at about 4 P.M. Made about 20 miles & soon after dark tied up to the Right bank. Several gunboats & a fleet of transports came down from above. Gen'l Smith returned to Clifton.

Wednesday, January 4: Lay to all day under orders to await the return of Gen. Smith from Clifton with more troops. Hood reported at Corinth with his main force. Made out muster & pay rolls, monthly returns. Weather very pleasant. Boys foraged extensively in the adjoining country. Divine services held in the cabin in the evening by Chaplain White.

Thursday, 5: About 9 P.M. last night orders arrived to get up steam & get under way. Gen. Smith having returned from Clifton with the balance of the fleet. Ran slowly all night & to-day. Passed Pittsburg Ldg. at noon & arrived at Eastport at 8 P.M. Did not land but continued on up to Waterloo Ldg. Ala. where the fleet tied up.

Friday, 6: No move to-day. Our fleet now consists of some 15 transports & some 5 or 6 transports [sic – probably gunboats was meant]. A brigade of our Cavalry are encamped near Waterloo. The cavalymen are busy building themselves huts for winter quarters. Gen. Smith doubtless awaiting to hear whether a force of the enemy is in the vicinity of Eastport – as I understand a Reg. of our Cav. has been sent across to scout.

Saturday, January 7: Fleet dropped down to Eastport Ldg at daylight this morning. Troops disembarked. Brigade went into camp about a half mile from the river on a high range of hills covered with pines & scrub oaks [sic]. Chap. White sent to Paducah in charge of the sick of the Div. Capt. Randall & Sergt Umbarger left for Nashville after the stored baggage. Fleet returned to Clifton to bring up the rest of Gen'l Smiths command & the transportation.

Sunday, 8: Mailed a letter to Father yesterday. Eastport, Tishomingo Co. Miss. a small dilapidated place of about a dozen frame shanties. The country around very broken & hilly. Abundance of good water & wood. Laid out a permanent camp. Indications are that we are going to enjoy a rest of a month or so. Welcome rest! Preparations making to fortify the camp. Drew a lot of Spades, Picks & Axes.

Monday, 9: Raining all day. Heavy detail at work on the fortifications. Boys busy building log huts & shanties for winter quarters. All the abandoned houses in Eastport bid fair to be demolished before the increasing demand for boards & brick. The 2nd Brig. went out to Iuka on a reconnaissance [sic]. Returned the same day. Saw about a dozen rebs.

Tuesday, January 10: Raining this morning, turned colder in the afternoon & commenced snowing. Heavy detail at work on the fortifications. They are putting up a strong line of works. Fleet returned from Clifton, bringing the remainder of the 1st Div. & our transportation. All hard at work fixing up quarters. Wrote to Mother

Wednesday, 11: A beautiful sunny day. Walked out to the line of works. Surprised at the strength of them. Imagine they would be difficult to carry with A.J. Smith's boys behind them. Camp begins to assume a different appearance. Trees cut down &

underbrush cleared out. Many of the men have comfortable huts & all goes merry as a marriage bell.

Thursday, 12: Weather cool & pleasant. Fortifications were completed this morning. The line extends from Bear Creek on the left to the Tennessee river on the right. Quite a formidable line of works which cannot be flanked. Come on ye rebs! We would much rather fight you here than have to follow you all over Dixie in the Spring.

Friday, January 13: Very pleasant weather. Anxiously expecting a mail have not heard from home; for a long time. No further military developments. Understand that the 23rd Army Corps has been ordered to Annapolis Maryland. Doubtless on their way to join Sherman.

Saturday, 14: About a dozen transports arrived up bringing the rear of Gen. Smith's command and the balance of the trains. Report abroad that the river is blockaded below. Report not generally credited. Preparations being made for Regimental Inspection & bataillon [sic] drill to-morrow morning. Held a dress parade this afternoon.

Sunday, 15: The Reg. was inspected this morning by Lt. Rupe A.A.I.G of the Brig. A large fleet of boats arrived from Nashville bringing up supplies of all kinds, a large mail for the command and convalescent soldiers belonging to the different regiments. Received a letter from Mother. Wrote to Mother.

Monday, January 16: Gen. Thomas established his Hd. Qts. here to-day, having arrived yesterday from Nashville. The 34th New Jersey Vols. just in from Paducah Ky. was assigned to our Brigade. Eastport evidently is to be the base of supplies for the coming Spring campaign which we surmise will be opened sometime in March. We shall see!

Tuesday, 17: Nothing worthy of note. The general surmise is that our next campaign will be in the direction of Columbus Miss. & Selma Ala. with the Mobile & Ohio R.Rd. as our line of communications. The Tennessee river is now in fine boating stage.

Wednesday, 18: Nothing of especial interest transpiring. The 3rd Division went out on a scout. Yesterday, the bodies of three of our soldiers were found just beyond the picket lines barbarously mutilated. The troops were doubtless sent out to scour the country for the perpetrators of this cruel act.

Thursday, January 19: Heard nothing of the results of yesterday's scout but suppose it was unsuccessful as usual. Late papers from the north contain among news items that the rebel government has sent peace commissioners to Washington and that Blair has gone to Richmond on a peace mission. Too good news to be true.

Friday, 20: A fleet up, bringing supplies & mail. Rec'd a letter from Louis. Heard of the death of Lt. Brown Co. "A." who was left sick at Pulaski Tenn. The papers of the 14th indicate that the peace rumors are all bosh. Wrote a letter to Louis also enclosed one for Jennie in Germany.

Saturday, 21: A rainy wet day. Several of our officers rec'd "leaves of absence" to visit home. Spent most of the day in doors, or rather in tent. At night listened to the reading of "King Lear."

Sunday, January 22: Cloudy damp weather. Nothing astir or worthy of note. Turned cold towards night. In the evening in our tent Shakspeare's [sic] tragedy "Othello" was read.

Monday, 23: Awoke this morning & found hill & dale white with snow. A freezing snap upon us. Rather cold weather for this clime. Troops out of rations. Supply boats not yet arrived. Rec'd notice in the evening that the Commissary would issue corn & fresh beef. Hard times a coming boys!

Tuesday, 24: Fleet of boats arrived from Nashville bringing mail but no rations. What's the matter! The river is in good boating stage & there is no excuse for the Chief Commissary that he is out of supplies. First draw & issue of corn. Grand boiling of hominy & parching corn. Capt. Randall & Sergt Umbarger returned to-day bringing the surplus baggage of the Regt. Rec'd a letter from Mother.

Wednesday, January 25: Papers received yesterday contain the glorious news of the capture of Fort Fisher with 1800 prisoners & 72 cannon. Busy to-day putting up my tent, preparatory to work. News to-day in papers to the effect that the rebels hoot [?] at peace negotiations. Very well! "A little more grape Capt. Bragg." Weather clear & cold.

Thursday, 26: Cold winter's day. Moved into my new quarters. Very comfortably fixed up – if our Generals only allow us to stay here long enough to enjoy it. Doubtful? Now ready for work & plenty of it to-do. More corn instead of crackers & poor beef instead of "sow belly." Heigho!

Friday, 27: Very cold day. Ay, very cold! Rec'd a letter from Father containing a V. Much obliged! Wrote to Mother. Boats brought up a supply of flour & a scanty allowance of pickled port & coffee. Flour flapjacks instead of parched corn & hominy! An improvement to say the least.

Saturday, January 28: Pleasant day overhead. Cold bracing weather. Lt. Col. Merriam left camp last evening for home – having received a "Leave of Absence" for twenty days. Would like mighty well to make a trip up that way myself. Only 8 months more & then! The thought does me good.

Sunday, 29: A quiet pleasant day. Beautiful sunny weather. What a pleasure it would afford me to be with the home folks this blessed Sabbath day. Took a ride down to the river and through the camps of the different Div. Commenced reading "Frank Warrington" a tale of love and war.

Monday, 30: Weather cloudy mild & pleasant. Col. Moore assumed command of the Brigade; Col. Wolfe former Brig. Commander having been mustered out, his term of service having expired. A meeting of the officers of the Brig. was held at 3 P.M. Object of meeting to pass resolutions in reference [sic] to the anticipated departure of our late Commander Col. Wolfe. Adjourned over 'til 11 A.M. to-morrow.

Tuesday, January 31: Pleasant weather. The officers of the Brig. met this morning at Brig. Hd. Hqs. Resolutions were read by Lt. Col. Main of the 52nd Ind. Major Robert McWilliams & Capt. Randall Co. "E" left for home this evening their resignations having been accepted. Q.M. Fike also left for home on leave of absence for 20 days.

Wednesday, February 1: Wrote to Father sent letter by Lt. Fike. Busy making out monthly returns. Part of the 3rd Div. went out to luka to-day partly out on a scout & partly to obtain lumber. They were fired into by a party of rebels while on their return. Finished reading "Frank Warrington" quite an interesting tale.

Thursday, 2: Raining all day. Nothing astir; indoors most of the day. Quite a fleet of boats arrived – all empty. Rumors afloat that there is going to be a move at an early day, of the troops at this point. Rec'd two letters from home – 1 from Father & 1 from Georgie.

Friday, February 3: A wet day. A drizzling rain falling most of the day. Rumors of a move confirmed. Orders to clean Clothing & get ready. For what? More boats arrived up. Suppose we will embark on transports and steam for the waters of the Mississippi.

Saturday, 4: Weather cool and damp. A fleet of ten large transports came in. Understood that Gen. Smith's command has been ordered to New Orleans and that a part of the 4th Corps is coming to garrison this post. Orders rec'd to have Inventory & Inspection Reports of unservicable C.C.&G.E. made out.

Sunday, 5: Cold rainy day. Wrote a letter to Walter. The 1st Div. that had received orders to embark this morning did not, owing doubtless to the inclement weather. Busy day at the Landing – batteries & transportation being loaded on the transports. Commenced reading "Much ado about nothing."

Monday, February 6: Cold weather. The 1st & 3rd Divisions marched down to the Landing & embarked on transports. Understood that Gen. Hatch's Div. of Cavalry was on its way to relieve our Division in charge of this post. Commenced snowing about night fall. Finished reading "Much ado about nothing."

Tuesday, 7: Ground covered with snow. Some firing occurred on the picket lines last night. The fleet carrying the 1st & 3rd Divisions left this morning. Gen'l Thomas left for Nashville. Part of Gen Hatch's Div. of Cav. crossed over the river to-day & encamped here.

Wednesday, 8: Clear cold weather. transports assigned to our Division. The St. Patrick, Metropolitan & Des Moines assigned to our Brig. Brig. Hd. Qts. & 34 New Jersey on Str. St. Patrick, the 52nd Ind. & 178 N.Y. on the Metropolitan & our Reg. on the Des Moines. Orders rec'd to place all transportation, baggage & c. on boats this afternoon.

Thursday, February 9: Broke camp at daylight this morning & embarked on Str. Des Moines. Fleet carrying our Division got under way about 10 A.M. Weather clear & pleasant. Day passed by without incident worthy of note. Made very good time & unless accidents should occur will be in the Ohio early to-morrow morning.

Friday, 10: Arrived at Paducah at about 8 A.M. Rec'd a mail – letter from Mother. Proceeded on to Cairo, where we arrived at about 2 P.M. Saw a paymaster & rec'd my back pay & bounty money. Wrote to Father. Orders rec'd about night to change boats. Our Reg. removes to the Luminary a No. 1 boat. Glorious change from the old dirty hulk "Des Moines" to the "Luminary".

Saturday, 11: Remained at Cairo all day. Boat discharging freight. Received orders to proceed to New Orleans La. Started down the river at 9 P.M. the Captain of the

Luminary having rec'd permission from Gen. Garrard to go on to Memphis in advance of the fleet.

Sunday, February 12: Cool pleasant weather. Nothing worthy of note occurred. Very pleasant trip so far. The officers of the Luminary very courteous & attentive. Wrote to Georgie & Mother. Finished reading "Fortunes of Nigel." Arrived at Memphis about 12 o'clock at night.

Monday, 13: On arriving at Memphis found the Str. Kilgour – Gen. Garrard's Hd. Qts. Boat – the only one of the fleet in. Having reported to the General we received permission to proceed on. Left Memphis at 1 A.M. Passed Helena at 10 in the morning. Weather cloudy & raining.

Tuesday, 14: Cloudy weather & raining. Last night had quite a storm – a heavy fall of rain & high winds. Wrote to Louis. Tied up several hours about 35 miles above Vicksburg, waiting for the moon to rise – also delayed by fogs. Finished reading the "Wife's Secret".

Wednesday, February 15: Arrived at Vicksburg at about 1 A.M. Found the fleet carrying 1st & 3rd Div. in port. Men disembarked & cleaning off the boats. Reported for clearance & proceeded on after an hour's delay. Weather clear & pleasant. Arrived at Natchez at 5 P.M. Boat stopped about $\frac{3}{4}$ of an hour. Took a walk through town – Beautiful place.

Thursday, 16: Reported last night at Morganzia for orders. Orders rec'd to disembark the command at Kennerville 10 miles above New Orleans. A beautiful Spring day. Passed Baton Rouge at 7 A.M. Fine scenery along the river. The plantations for the most part seemed deserted – and the palatial residences surrounded by groves of live oaks & orange trees tenantless.

Friday, 17: Arrived at Kennerville at 10 o'clock last night. Did not disembark but proceeded on to New Orleans where we arrived at 1 o'clock this morning. Reported at Gen'l Canby's Hd. Qts. & were assigned a camp about 8 miles below the city. Disembarked from the Luminary & re-embarked on the Col. Colburn which conveyed us to our camping grounds where we arrived at 2 P.M. Wrote to Mother.

Saturday, February 18: Weather clear & pleasant. Our present camp is located on a plantation, the site of the battle for New Orleans, within sight of the monument erected on the spot where Packenham is said to have fallen. Reg. was inspected by Capt. Allen A.A.I.G. Mil. Div. West Miss. Went in to the city with Surg. Jennings, Capt. Gilmore & Whitaker. Stopped over night at the St. Charles Hotel.

Sunday, 19: Took breakfast at the French Market. Visited Jackson Square & saw Mill's celebrated statue of the General. Took the street cars on Canal street & rode out to the Ridge & Greenwood Cemeteries. Called at Hd. Qts. Mil. Div. West Miss. & obtained some Inventory & Inspection Reports. Returned to camp in the afternoon. Cloudy weather – Some rain.

Monday, 20: Remained in camp to-day. Capt. Allen A.A.I.G. Mil. Div. West Miss. came out & inspected unserviceable Camp & Garrison Equipage. Made out Tri-Monthly Report. Commenced reading "For better, for worse." Weather cloudy – threatening rain & blowing hard all day.

Tuesday, February 21: Remained in camp. Weather cloudy. The first boats of the fleet carrying our Division came in about noon. During the afternoon most of the fleet arrived in. Troops disembarked & went into camp. About night a heavy storm of wind & rain came up & continued during the night.

Wednesday, 22: Cloudy disagreeable & damp weather. Drizzling rain most of the day. Did not stir from camp. The balance of Gen. Smith's command arrived to-day. The old 16th Corps has been re-organized & Gen. Smith assigned to its command. Finished reading "For better for worse." Quite an interesting love story.

Thursday, 23: Not out of camp to-day. Raining off & on all day. Made out Inspection Report. Commenced reading one of Levers novels "Tome Burke of Ours." Received orders at night to prepare immediately for an active field campaign. Ho! for Mobile!

Friday, February 24: Continued wet weather. Pouring down rain this morning, harder than ever. Roads getting to be "awful" muddy. The ground on which our camp is located is so low that we are almost afloat. Made out a consolidated Infantry Report. At night, wrote to Theodore.

Saturday, 25: To-day weather cleared up and we had a fine day. Rode in to the city this morning. Roads very muddy. Returned to camp in the afternoon. Chaplain White rejoined the regiment to-day having been absent since the 7th of Jan'y/65.

Sunday, 26: A bright sunny day. Prospects for better weather than we have been having. Lt. Col. Merriam rejoined the Regiment to-day from leave of absence. Received a mail to-day – a Valentine from H__

Monday, February 27: Cloudy rainy weather – News received of the evacuation of Charleston & Fort Sumter and their occupation by our forces. A salute of 100 guns was fired in honor of the event. Made out Tri-Monthly & Monthly Reports. Wrote to H__ R__

Tuesday, 28: More pleasant weather to-day than yesterday. Grand holiday in the City. Received orders to hold ourselves in readiness to embark at any moment. The 1st Brig. of the 1st Div. embarked on Gulf steamers & left for Dauphine Island Ala. Rec'd a letter from Louis & answered it.

Wednesday, March 1: Weather cloudy but pleasant. No move to-day. Turned in our old Accouterments (which had been in use some 30 months) to Depot Ordnance Officer and drew a new supply to equip the Regiment. Word rec'd that our command would probably move to-morrow.

Thursday, March 2: Pleasant weather. No evidences of a move to-day. Qt. Master Fike returned from home & brought me a letter from Father containing \$75. Much obliged! Comes in good time! Went in to the city with Miller, McGowan & Tyndale. Spent the day running around & returned to camp at night.

Friday, 3: A cloudy, windy day. Had a very disagreeable time in camp. Tried to work on returns, but it was so windy that to work with any comfort proved an impossibility. Rumors afloat of a change in our brigade, understood that the 11th Wisconsin had been assigned to our brigade.

Saturday, 4: Last night we had a regular storm of wind & rain and it was much as a bargain that we succeeded in keeping dry under our fly. A chilly day. Grand firemen's parade in the city. Camp almost deserted. Steamer arrived in loaded with troops from New York.

Sunday, March 5: Pleasant weather. The remainder of the 1st Div. embarked on ocean steamers to-day. A new organization of our Division. Col. Harris of the 11th Wis. assumed command of the 3rd Brig. relieving Col. Moore and our Regt. was assigned to the 2nd Brig. Wrote to Father. Rec'd orders at night to be ready to embark to-morrow.

Monday, 6: Pleasant weather. Broke camp about noon and marched down to the river. The 6th Minn. & the 32nd Iowa of our brig. embarked on the steamship Geo. Cromwell & left at sunset. The steamship "Empire City" intended to carry the balance of our Brig. not having arrived we bivouaced [sic] on the levee.

Tuesday, 7: Our regiment, the 27th Iowa & the 10th Kansas embarked on the steamship Empire City this morning. Started down river at 9 A.M. Passed Forts St. Phillip & Jackson at 2 P.M. Crossed the bar at the mouth of the river at 5 P.M. Cloudy weather, a smart breeze blowing and some rain.

Wednesday, March 8: We had quite a rough sea last night & many of the men were seasick. Passed Fort Morgan at six o'clock this morning and anchored off Fort Gaines on Dauphine Island. Troops transported to a river transport & landed on the Island where we encamped on the beach. Weather pleasant. Wrote to Mother.

Thursday, 9: The 1st Div. of the 13th Corps & the 1st Div. of the 16th Corps are now encamped on this Island. Dauphine Island is some 9 miles long & from 1 to 3 miles in width. The center of the Island is swampy & covered with pine trees. The coasts of the Island are lined with beds of fine oysters. Six Regiments of our Div. arrived to-day.

Friday, 10: Storming all last night. A chilly day. A cold wind blowing from the north. Remained in camp all day. Fires quite comfortable, at least one would judge so from the numbers huddled about the log fires. Rec'd orders to have drill at least two hours per day. Mailed Monthly Return for February.

Saturday, March 11: Pleasant weather. A bright sunny day. Heard heavy cannonading all day up in the direction of Mobile. Supposed to be our gunboats shelling a rebel position on Dog river about 5 miles below the city. The object seems to be to effect a lodgment of our land forces at that point.

Sunday, 12: A pleasant day. Nothing astir in camp and no movements as far as I know. More troops arrived to-day from New Orleans. Lt. Col. Ried [?] of the 77th Ills. formerly of the 130th Ills. called in to see us. Rec'd a mail to-day but no word from home.

Monday, 13: A cloudy windy day. No movements yet. More cannonading heard up the bay in the direction of Dog river bar. All of the 16th Corps has now arrived on the Island I believe with the exception of 1 brigade of the 3rd Div. Overland transportation still behind.

Tuesday, March 14: A stormy day. Rain pouring down nearly all day. Remained in camp. No orders for moving as yet. Commenced reading "Tom Burke of Ours". having completed Morford's "Days of Shoddy." No transportation yet.

Wednesday, 15: Pleasant weather this morning. More cannonading heard up the bay. Reports abroad in camp of a glorious success gained by Sherman. Commenced raining this afternoon. Wrote to Louis. Rec'd orders to hold an inspection of ammunition to-morrow morning.

Thursday, 16: A pleasant day. Made out requisitions for ammunition. Received a letter from Mother and one from Jennie Z_ dated Feb 5/65. The 13th Corps under marching orders expect to move to-morrow.

Friday, March 17: Clear pleasant day. The 1st Div. of the 13th Corps broke camp to-day and crossed over the bay to Mobile Point. One Division of our Corps received orders to be ready to move to-morrow morning.

Saturday, 18: Very warm day. The 3rd Div. of our Corps broke camp to-day & embarked on transports. We received orders to be ready to move at an early hour to-morrow morning. Wrote to Mother.

Sunday, 19: Warm weather. Received orders to be ready to move at 10 ½ A.M. Marched down to the pier & embarked on tin-clad gunboat No. 44. The 32nd Iowa on same boat. Proceeded across the bay & came to anchor in navy cove, where the fleet is rendezvousing [sic] preparatory to an onward movement.

Monday, March 20: A pleasant morning. Fleet got under way & started up the bay at about 9 A.M. Proceeded to the mouth of Fish River. The transport A.G. Brown just in advance of us go aground on the bar at the mouth of the river. Our tin-clad in trying to pull her off broke her engine. Obligated to lay over for repairs. Commenced raining at night.

Tuesday, 21: Heavy rains this morning. The transport Starlight came alongside the tinclad & our regiment & the 32nd Iowa were transferred aboard the Starlight. Proceeded up Fish river, a narrow, crooked & deep stream, some 15 miles & disembarked at Danley's Ldg. Went into camp 1 ½ miles from the Ldg. Our Corps is now lying here encamped in line of battle. Pleasant weather this afternoon.

Wednesday, 22: Pleasant weather. The rebels advanced a skirmish line in front of the 1st Div. this morning to feel our lines but withdrew after some firing. Heavy cannonading heard on the bay during the day. One brigade of the 13th Corps arrived up from Mobile Point to-day & crossed the river on the pontoon bridge. Wrote to Father.

Thursday, March 23: Very warm weather. No move to-day. Some picket firing in front of the 1st Div. this morning. The 3rd Div. of the 13th Corps arrived to-day & went into camp on this side of the river. They were 7 days coming from Mobile Point. A heavy detail at work fortifying.

Friday, 24: Pleasant weather. Remained in camp. Preparations for a forward move to-morrow. Finished work on fortifications. The 1st Div. of the 13th Corps arrived up to-

day. Made out Tri-Monthly & Armament Reports. Received orders to be ready to move to-morrow morning at daylight. Our baggage reached us to-day.

Saturday, 25: Warm weather. Reveille at daylight. Broke camp & started on the march at about 9 A.M. The 1st Div. of our Corps in advance. Skirmishing all day in front. A regiment of rebel cavalry disputing our advance. Marched about 10 miles & went into camp. Threw up a line of breastworks in front.

Sunday, March 26: Reveille at 4 ½ o'clock. Started on the march at 6 o'clock. Our brigade in advance. The 10th Kansas & 6th Minn. deployed as skirmishers. Advanced on the road to Blakely. Skirmished all day with a force of rebel cavalry. Went into camp about noon at Sibley's Mills on Rock Creek. The 6th Minn., 32nd Iowa & our Regt. took up a position on the north side of the Creek.

Monday, 27: The 1st & 3rd Div. of our Corps moved down to Spanish Fort this morning & in connection with the 13th Corps completely invested the Fort on the land side. Our Division (2nd) remained in position here at Sibley's Mills, distance some 5 miles from the fort & on the main road leading to Blakeley. Heavy cannonading & skirmishing heard at the fort all day. All quiet in our front.

Tuesday, 28: Cool weather. Some rain. Five of our monitors succeeded in getting through the obstructions & over the bar & came up within a mile or so of the fort. Cannonading & musketry going on all day. The garrison of the fort was re-inforced last night from Mobile by water. No skirmishing in our front.

Wednesday, March 29: Pleasant weather this morning. Regiment on picket. The monitor Chickesaw was sunk yesterday by a torpedo. Heavy firing heard all day at the fort. All quiet along our picket lines. Raining this afternoon. Our casualties since the investment of the fort estimated at 200. Wrote to Louis.

Thursday, 30: The regiment was relieved this morning by the 6th Minn. Went into camp on the south side of Rock creek. Our Div. now occupies an entrenched camp south of the creek & we are doing picket duty on a line extending from the Blakely road in our front to the fort. The rebels made a sortie last night & captured some of our skirmishers but were quickly driven back. Another monitor reported sunk by a torpedo.

Friday, 31: Pleasant weather. The battle still goes on around the fort. Our men busily engaged erecting siege batteries. Our Regt. made 196 gabions to-day for the heavy gun batteries. The 1st Div. of the 13th Corps left in charge of a supply train for Gen. Steele's command. Q.M. Fike rejoined the Regt. to-day, bringing up our transportation.

Saturday, April 1: Pleasant weather. Heavy firing going on at the fort. Our siege batteries opened on the rebel works – the rebels replied vigorously from their guns on the island. Towards evening cannonading was heard in the direction of Blakely – supposed to be Gen. Steele's advance approaching that place.

Sunday, 2: This morning our Brig. went out on a reconnaissance [sic] towards Blakely to effect a junction with Gen. Steele's forces. Exploded a torpedo on the road killing 2 horses. Found Gen. Steele's command investing Blakely. Returned to camp in the

afternoon. Some 400 prisoners among them a Brig. Gen. taken by Gen. Steele's column passed here to-day. Wrote to Mother.

Monday, 3: Received orders early this morning to hold ourselves in readiness to move at a moment's notice to the assistance of Gen. Steele. Struck tents about noon & started on the road to Blakely. Took up a position in the line investing the rebel works at Blakely. Our Division holds the extreme left, joining the 13th Corps on the right. Our skirmishers advanced driving the rebels back to their rifle pits. Rebels opened on us with a battery.

Tuesday, April 4: Weather pleasant. Our position remains the same as yesterday. Our skirmishers last night threw up works to protect them from the enemy's sharpshooters & the rebel batteries. At 5 o'clock P.M. our siege batteries opened up on Spanish Fort & there was heavy firing for 2 hours. Capt. Halbert rejoined the Regt. Rec'd a letter from Louis.

Wednesday, 5: Warm weather. Our position unchanged. Heavy detail at work throwing up fortifications in front of our reserves. Usual amount of firing in our front. The rebels using a battery of field pieces in our front. No casualties as yet in our Regiment. Wrote to Louis.

Thursday, 6: Weather warm. The 1st Brigade of our Div. took up a position farther to the left. The rebels charged our skirmish line early this morning but were repelled. Skirmishing going on all day. Rebels firing briskly from their batteries & also from a gunboat. Several shells passed over our camp to-day.

Cold rainy day. The usual amount of firing from the rebel side. Details at work on our advance lines strengthening the works & fixing places for our batteries. We expect to have several batteries in position to-morrow, and two batteries of Parrott guns, one on the right & one on the left to command the river & drive off the rebel gunboats.

Saturday, 8: The rebels charged our skirmish line between 1 & 2 o'clock this morning but were driven back. Heavy firing during the day between the rebel & our batteries. At 5 P.M. our forces at Spanish Fort opened out on the fort from some 60 pieces of artillery. The bombardment lasted over an hour. The rebels evacuated under cover of night by a bridgeway laid on piles driven out to a sand bar connecting with the main land near Blakely.

Sunday, 9: Our forces entered Spanish Fort & Fort Alexis at 10 o'clock last night capturing 549 prisoners & 46 pieces of artillery. Our Div. rec'd orders to charge Fort Blakely at 4 P.M. About 5 a general charge was made on the rebel works. In 15 or 20 minutes we carried the works capturing 3 Brig. Genls. some 2500 prisoners & [blank space] pieces of artillery. The casualties in Div. number 160 in killed & wounded. No casualties in our Regt.

Monday, April 10: Last night our Regt. remained on picket duty in the fort. This morning our whole brigade moved out & encamped in the works. The charge yesterday was made by our Div of 16th Corps, 1 Div. of 13th Corps & 1 Div. of negro troops. The greater part of the rebel garrison was captured, several hundred escaped by crossing the river in yawls & skiffs. Our Div. captured 1500 of the prisoners & 22 pieces of the artillery. Wrote to Mother in answer to her's of Mar. 24.

Tuesday, 11: No move to-day. Last night a lot of pontoons were brought down to the landing and a battery of 20 pdr. Parrotts was planted on the river. The rebels still hold their island Forts Herger & Tracy & to-day heavy firing is going on between them & our batteries. The general supposition is that the rebels are evacuating Mobile. Reports of the evacuation of Richmond & Petersburg confirmed.

Wednesday, 12: Our brigade moved out to its former camp this morning. The 114th Ills. crossed over the river last night in pontoon boats & took possession of Forts Herger & Tracy which were found evacuated by the enemy. Twenty one guns were found in the two batteries. A portion of the 13th Corps crossed over the bay & occupied Mobile, the city having been evacuated. Wrote to Sister.

Thursday, April 13: Weather pleasant. Orders received to be ready to move at 10 o'clock. Report is that our Corps is going to Montgomery Ala. Wrote a few lines to Father. Broke camp at the hour designated & started on the march. Marched about 8 miles & went into camp at 2 ½ o'clock P.M. Route lay through a barren pine region. Made our Armament Report.

Friday, 14: Very warm day. Orders to move at 7. Started about 9. Our Regt. train guard. Passed through a barren, sandy pine region. Saw one deserted house. Went into camp at half past two having marched between 12 & 15 miles. Made out Monthly Inspection Report.

Saturday, 15: Warm weather. Had a thunder shower in the afternoon. Started on the march about 10 o'clock. Passed several inhabited log houses to-day. The aspect of the country has not changed much, the pine is the principal tree with now & then a few small oaks [sic]. Our Div. being in the rear we did not get into camp until 5, having marched 10 miles.

Sunday, April 16: Very warm day. Broke camp at 7 ½ o'clock. Roads muddy. The country is improving. Passed several log houses & some signs of cultivation. People say they live on rice & sweet potatoes. Encamped at 3 P.M. having marched about 15 miles. Water poor & scarce at that.

Monday, 17: Warm sultry weather. Reveille at 4 to move at 6. Our Division in advance. Crossed Escambia River on a pontoon bridge. Passed a large plantation where abundance of forage was obtained. Waded a creek a branch of the river. A company of rebel cavalry reported on our front. Went into camp at 4, having marched 16 miles. Regt. detailed as guard at Corps Hd. Qts.

Tuesday, 18: A very warm day. Our Division being in the rear we did not get off until 11 o'clock in the morning. Passed through a fine country to-day. Several fine plantations where abundance of forage & bacon was obtained. The pine trees are not so abundant & instead are forests of oaks [sic], hickory elm & persimmon trees. Crossed Burnt Corn Creek & passed through Burnt Corn Village. Went into camp at 6, having marched 10 miles.

Wednesday, April 19: Reveille at 5, to move at 8. The country passed through to-day was not as inviting as that passed through yesterday. About noon we received news that Lee & Johnston had surrendered their armies, that Forrest had surrendered to Washburne & that the war was virtually over. The news was received along the lines

with cheers, firing of guns, music & unfurling of banners. Went into camp at 5. Distance marched 15 miles.

Thursday, 20: Reveille at 4 o'clock, started on the march at about 6. Our Div. in advance. Cloudy weather & threatening rain. Delayed over an hour, a bridge having to be built over a large creek. After crossing this stream we entered a fine country where we found abundance of forage. Marched about 16 miles & went into camp at 5 o'clock on Pine Barren Creek.

Friday, 21: Commenced raining last night & pouring down to-day. Our Div. being in the rear as guard to the wagon train we did not get under way until 11 o'clock. We made but slow progress owing to the awful condition of the roads, the wagons in many places sinking to the hubs in mud. Camped at 5 o'clock having marched about 5 miles.

Saturday, April 22: The other Divisions of the Corps advanced on yesterday & encamped at & near Greenville. Our Division started on the march at 9. Passed through Greenville & went into camp a mile from town. Distance marched 8 miles. The 1st & 3rd Div. remained in camp to-day. At 3 P.M. as salute of 200 guns was fired by our batteries in honor of the surrender of the Army of Northern Virginia. Greenville is a small dilapidated town, containing about 1000 inhabitants.

Sunday, 23: Orders to be ready to move at 7 ½ o'clock. Started about 9. Passed through a rough broken country. Cool pleasant weather from marching & roads good. Marched about 17 miles & went into camp about 5. Very poor camping grounds. About 90 prisoners were taken at Greenville, by Col. Spurling's Cavalry brigade in our advance, who entered town on the 21st.

Monday, 24: Reveille at 4 to start at ¼ to 6. Got an early start. Our Division in advance. Passed through Sandy Ridge. A fine country in comparison to what we have hitherto seen in this state. A party of mounted citizens fired on our advance cavalry yesterday. Went into camp at 2 o'clock having marched 18 miles.

Tuesday, April 25: Reveille at daylight. Started on the march at 9 o'clock. Our Division in the rear. Passed through a fine country. Very large plantations & crops looking well. The 1st & 3rd Divisions passed through Montgomery & encamped on the other side of the city. Col. Spurling's Cavalry brigade occupied the city yesterday. Our Div. encamped on Coloma creek 4 miles from the city. Distance marched today 8 miles.

Wednesday, 26: Warm Weather. Remained in camp to-day though we had expected to move our camp nearer to the city. The fleet has not yet arrived up from Mobile. The supplies that we brought up in the wagon trains have been exhausted, and we are now running the mills in the city grinding corn. Plenty of meat is obtained in the country. Wrote to Father.

Thursday, 27: Weather warm. Orders to move camp at 8 o'clock. Our Division marched in to Montgomery, paraded through the city and went into camp on the Wetermissha [?] road about two miles northeast of the city. A pleasant camp in the woods but water rather scarce. Fleet not yet arrived.

Friday, April 28: Showery weather this morning but cleared up towards noon. Walked in to the city with Capt. Beath. Visited the State House, the Cemetery & walked through

the principal portion of the city. Montgomery is quite a pretty city, many fine residences with yards beautifully ornamented with shrubbery & flowers. Took dinner at the Exchange Hotel. Returned to camp towards evening.

Saturday, 29: Weather warm & sultry. Remained in camp to-day. Made out Tri-Monthly and Monthly Reports. Details at work cleaning up the camp grounds & digging wells. The fleet has not yet made its appearance many surmises as to the cause of delay. Order received for drills & dress parades.

Sunday, 30: Pleasant weather. Went in to the city this morning. Attended the M.M. Church South. About noon the Tarascon, Gen. Steele's Hd. Qt. Boat arrived at the Landing. During the afternoon the remainder of the fleet 8 transports & 2 tin clads arrived up bringing a Division of negro troops. The 2nd Div. of the 13th Corps is at Selma Ala. Returned to camp towards evening.

Monday, May 1: A warm day. By the arrivals from below yesterday the sad news of the death of President Lincoln, by assassination was confirmed. In accordance with orders rec'd from Gen Canby all offices & places of business in the city were closed, flags were displayed at half staff and half hour guns were fired from sunrise to sunset & minute guns between 12 M & 1 P.M. Gen Steele assumes command of all U.S. forces operating in Northern Alabama.

Tuesday, 2. Weather pleasant. Busy in camp, clearing out the undergrowth, laying out roads & forming a regular encampment. Rode in to the city in the afternoon & returned to camp about sundown. Wrote to Mother. Mailed Monthly & Deserters Returns to Washington.

Wednesday, 3: Weather warm. Nothing especial transpiring in and around camp. Men hard at work fixing up their tents as if the intention was to make a permanent stop here. Walked in to the city in the afternoon. Numbers of paroled prisoners from Lee's army are daily coming in to our lines. No news from below.

Thursday, May 4: Warm, sultry weather. Remained in camp. Made out Monthly Return of C.C.& G.E. for month of April 1865. Mailed Monthly Returns for March & April to Adj. Gen. of Ills. News rec'd by way of Macon Ga. that negotiations for peace were going on between Gens Sherman & Johnston.

Friday, 5: Weather warm. Staid in camp all day. Gen. Steele issued an order to-day suspending hostilities in this command pending the negotiations now going on for a universal peace in this country & prohibiting all foraging on the country. Commenced reading "Shirley" by "Curren Bell."

Saturday, 6: Hot, sultry weather. Roads very dusty. Great need of rain. A force of our cavalry arrived here a day or so ago from a raid out to Eufala Ala. bringing in as prisoners Gov. Watts of Ala, Gen. Pilon & staff & 200 of his command. They were captured near Union Springs, Ala. Rode into town this evening.

Sunday, 7: Weather warm. Three steamers arrived up from Mobile last night bringing up supplies and a large mail for our Corps the first received since our arrival at this place. Rec'd a letter from Mother & one from Father. Attended services at the 2nd Baptist Church in the city. Wrote to Louis.

Monday, 8: A fine shower fell last night. Pleasant cool day. Nothing especial transpiring in & around camp. Rumors afloat of military changes at this place. Heard that Gen. Steele with his command of negro troops had been ordered to Mobile and that the 1st Div. of our Corps was ordered to Selma Ala.

Tuesday, 9: Quite a heavy rainfall last night. Very pleasant weather. Gen. Steele and command started for Selma this morning where I understand they are to take steamers for Mobile. Called with the Chaplain & took tea at Mr. William's in the city. He is the pastor of the 2nd Baptist Church. Spent a very pleasant evening.

Wednesday, May 10: Weather cool & pleasant. The 1st Div. of our Corps left for Selma this morning. Rec'd official notice of the surrender of Gen. R. Taylor & all the rebel forces in his Dept. comprising the states of Miss. Alabama, East Louisiana & East Florida. The interview between Genls Canby & Taylor took place at Citronello Ala. May 4./65 – Rec'd a letter from Mother.

Thursday, 11: Remained in camp all day. Raining most of the day. The citizens of Montgomery & vicinity held a public meeting for the purpose of deliberating on the best method of re-organizing the state government under the new order of things. A majority & a minority report were drawn up to be transmitted to the President.

Friday, 12: Chilly weather. Remained in camp. Nothing new & interesting afoot. All quiet in camp. Paroled prisoners still continue to come in from the East. To-day a steamboat arrived from Selma bringing a number of rebels from Taylor's army on their way home. Another public meeting was held in the city to-day.

Saturday, May 13: Cool pleasant weather. Nothing transpiring worthy of note. Remained in camp. Commenced reading "Beulah" a novel by Miss Evans. A detail of 50 men from our Regt. sent out with a train to obtain forage. Railroad train arrived through from Stockton.

Sunday, 14: A cool pleasant day. Rode in to the city with the Colonel & attended the M.E. Church. Sermon by Dr. McTiere [?] pastor of the church. Spent the afternoon in camp reading "Beulah."

Monday, 15: Weather warm. Remained in camp. Made out Monthly Inspection Report. Commenced reading a tale of the Revolution called "Margaret Moncreiffe" by Burdett. An Inspection of the Regt. held this afternoon by Major Healy, Div. Inspector. Wrote to Father.

Tuesday, May 16: Warm, sultry day. An official dispatch rec'd from Gen. Wilson announcing the capture of Jefferson Davis & family & some members of his cabinet in Georgia. Rode in to the city & called at Mr. Williams. Grand illumination in camp to-night bonfires music & speeches. Great rejoicing over the news of the capture of Davis.

[No more entries]