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Civil War diary, 1861-1862. Wis Mss 124S [unpublished]

Moore, William, P., 1827-1862

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CAPTAIN WILLIAM MOORE.

Captain William Moore, was born in southern Indiana on the 8th day of September 1827; and moved to the village (now city) of Black River Falls, Wis, in the fall of 1847; which place was his residence until his tragic death which occurred at Larkinsville, Alabama on the fourth day of July, 1862.

He was married to Alzina L. Coleman on the 16th day of February 1851; and by such marriage had one son and two daughters; Wm. P. Moore, of Denver Col; Emma, now deceased, and Mary who married Charles Wheelock and who now resides in Milwaukee Wis.

Soon after his marriage , Mr. Moore was elected Sheriff of JacksonCo., which in those early days was the highest office within the gift of the people, was re-elected at the close of his term of office, which he still held at the time of his enlistment . He was also Master of Black River Falls Lodge of A. F. & A. Masons, and when he left for the war was presented with a handsome gold hilted sword by his brother Masons , and which was afterwards given back by his widow, Mrs. Moore , and now hangs over his portrait in the lodgeroom.

Captain Moore , with the assistance of C. C. Pope and others, was successful in raising Co. G of the 10th ~~WIX~~ Regiment of WisconsinVolunteers Infantry; and started for the front in October 1861. It was a splendid company , and it had a splendid commander!

Captain Moore was killed in a skirmish with the confederates, at Larkinsville, Alabama, on the 4th day of July 1862. The last words of the gallant captain as he sank into his last sleep, were; " Pursue the Enemy! Pursue the Enemy!" Noble and unselfish words, showing that even at the last, his thoughts were not of himself but of his country. His remains were brought back to Black River Falls a short time after his death, and buried in Riverside Cemetery, under Masonic Honors. There was an immense concourse of people in attendance at his funeral, and there were but few dry eyes , when his body was consigned to Mother Earth. All the public buildings and many residences, were draped in mourning. Not being able to purchase a sufficient amount of material from the stores for the purpose, the wives of comrades and friends generously donated their black dresses, which were cut up and used to help drape the Court House .

Captain Moore was a splendid looking man, tall and well proportioned. He was strong and sincere in his convictions of right and wrong. Honest himself, he had but little patience with the wrong doer. He was fearless in the discharge of his duty, and outspoken in his views.

He had a strong dislike for shams of all kinds, but always admired true worth wherever he found it. He was greatly beloved by the members of his company, and by all who knew him. Truly it can be said of him:

" His life was gentle ; and the elements

So mixed in him that Nature might stand up

and say to all the world : "THIS IS AMAN":

There was an unusual incident connected with the death of Captain Moore. He was, stationed, with his company near Larkinsville, Alabama, charged with the duty of patrolling a portion of a railroad track in that vicinity. On July 3rd, 1862, he sent out a detachment of men under the command of his brother-in-law, Isaac Coleman, to guard the track. Coleman was captured by a squad of confederates. The captain of the confederates asked Coleman if he had any near friend in the union service, and upon being informed that a brother-in-law was the commander of his company; a confederate said to Coleman, "You write to him and I will find some way to get the letter to him". Coleman wrote to Captain Moore and gave the letter to the confederate captain, for delivery.

On July 4th 1862, the day after the capture of Coleman, Capt Moore went out with a detachment of about thirty men to patrol the railroad track and to find Coleman if possible. The captain took the center of the track, and deployed an equal number of his men on each side,. He had not proceeded far when he was covered by a loaded musket in the hands of a belligerent confederate who demanded his surrender. The captain refused, and when attempting to raise his own musket was shot down by the confederate. The comrades of Capt Moore on hearing the report of the musket, went to his support and succeeded in shooting the assailant. Strange it was, that they found, in the coat pocket of the dead confederate, the letter which Coleman had written to Capt Moore, and which the confederate had agreed to deliver. The confederate had kept his word, but in a different manner than he anticipated.

By-

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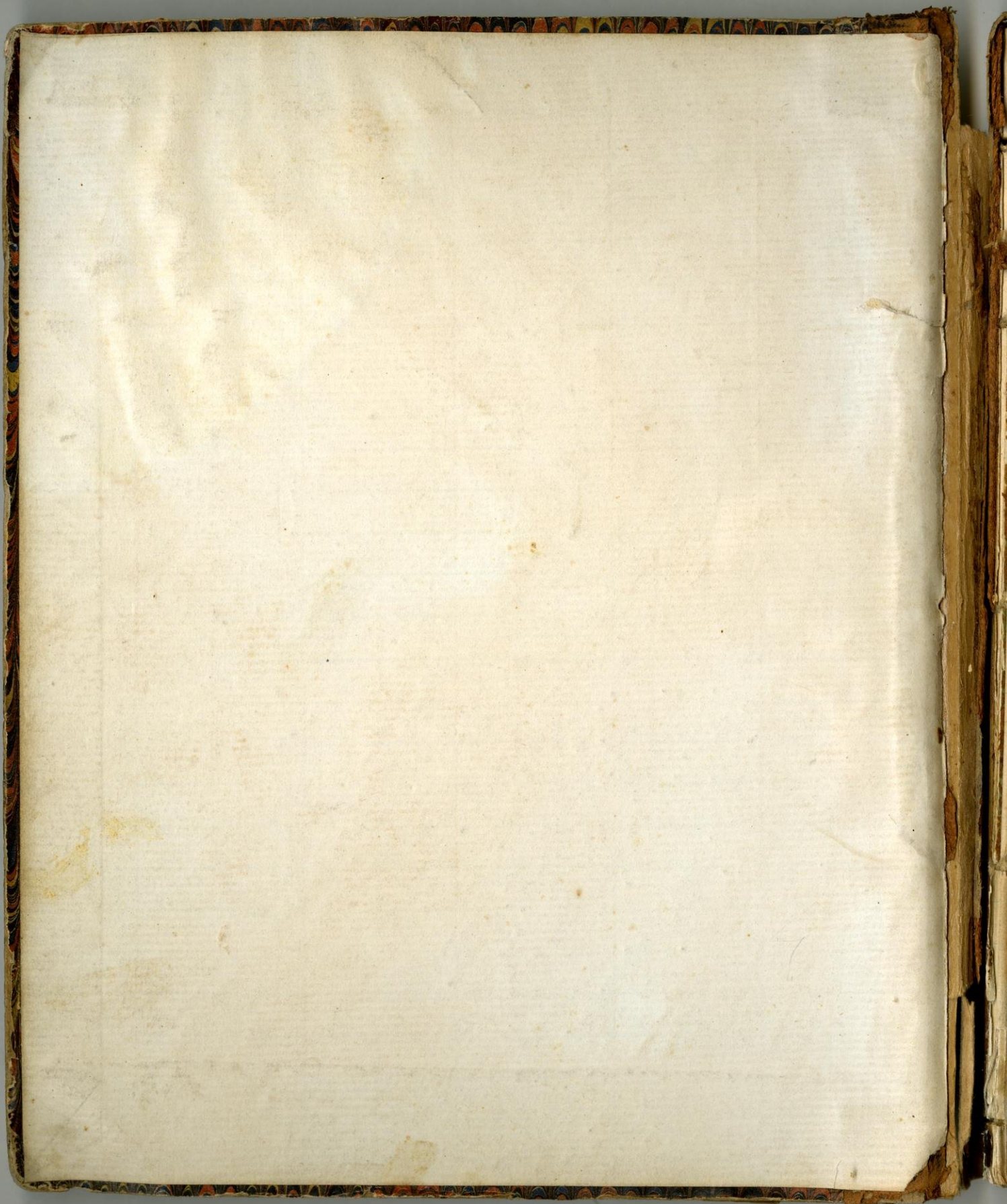
WILLIAM MOORE DIARY

History of Company G, Tenth
Regiment Wisconsin Volunteers

Sept. 7, 1861 - June 26, 1862

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Mss
124S

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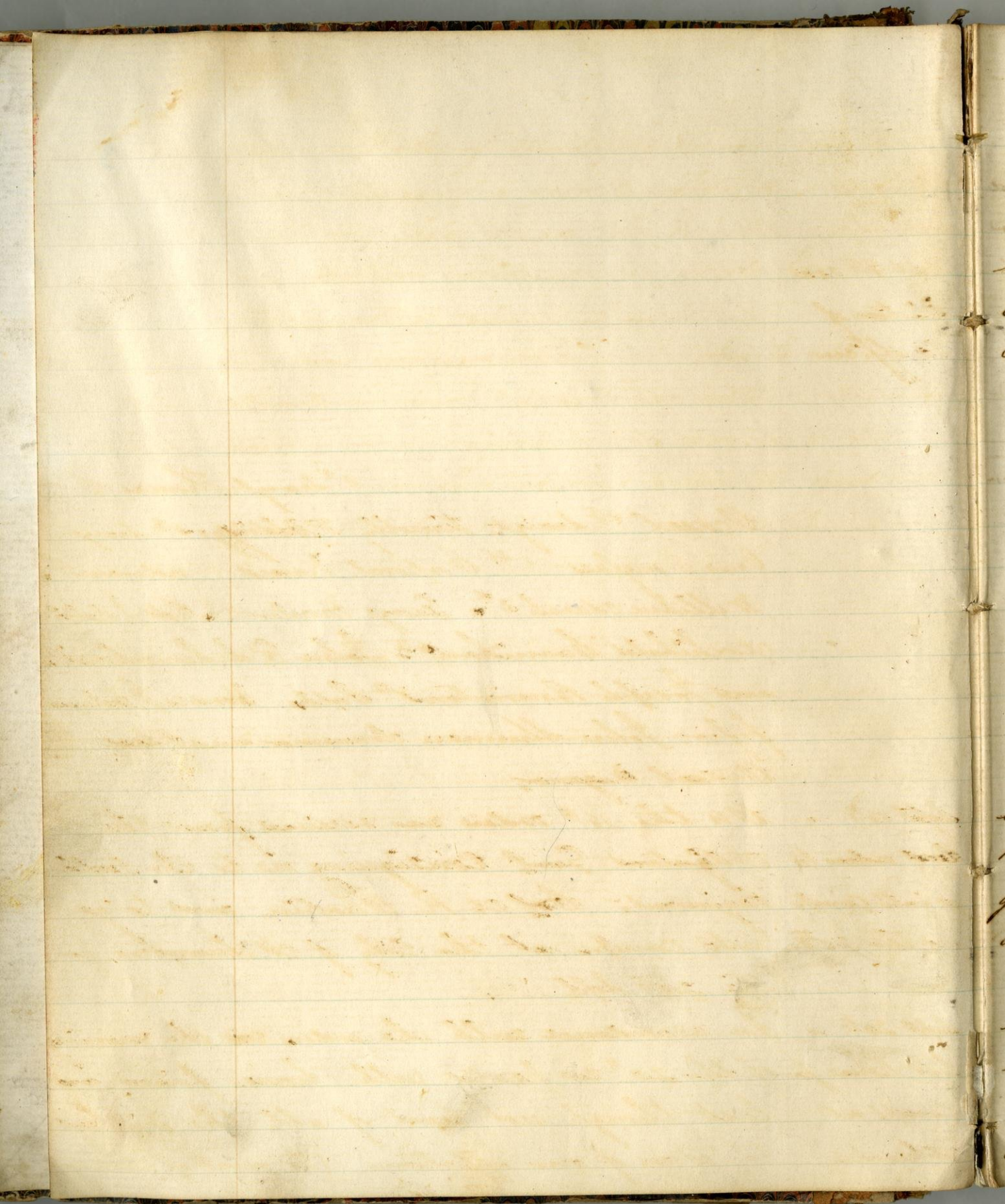


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The Jackson County Rifle Company, consisting of one hundred and one men, rank and file, met in Masons Hall in the village of Black River Falls Sept 7th 1861 on the 7th day of Sept. A.D. 1861. for the purpose of electing company officers, which resulted as follows, William Moore Capt, unanimous Ballott Loren B. Brewer 1st Lieut, Silas & Wilson 2^d Lieut, Benjamin F. Johnson 1st Sergt, John W. Brewer 2^d Sergt Joseph O. Hussey 3^d Sergt Thomas C. O'Neal 4th Sergt, Timothy P. Eldridge 5th Sergt Enos Douglass 1st Corporal Knud Anderson 2^d " William Marsh 3^d " George Hunter 4th " Robt J. Bates 5th " Archibald Carrigan 6th " John E. Schencklow 7th " and Joseph Burrinton 8th Corp'l, Horace J. Holmes fifer, John Shuman drummer and Isaac O'Neal Wagoner,

Sept 18th " On the 18th orders was received from the Recd orders to Adjutant Genl. Consigning us to the tenth go into Camp Regiment, Col. A. R. Chapin, and to go on the 28th into camp, at the City of Milwaukee, on the 28th Sept.

Sept 26th " In accordance with the orders, on the morning left home for of the 26th we parted with home, friends and Camp at last though not least of all, the Wife and Milwaukee Children of our affections. (To most of us dearest

than all else of earth) to mingle in the
busy scenes of a Soldiers life, and to defend
with our lifes blood, the liberties which our
fore Fathers obtained for us at the cost of
thousands of valuable lives.

We were conveyed during the day to the Rail
Road, by horse teams, and withall the rain
that fell during the entire day, and the
mud under foot it was to say the least, rather
uncomfortable. But the "boys" inflamed with
pure patriotic feelings, bore these privations
nobly.

Sept 28th We arrived in Milwaukee at ten o'clock A.M.
Arrived in on the 28th Sept 1861, and were the third
Milwaukee Company in Camp. We were met by our noble
Col at the Depot and conducted through
the City to Camp.

On the 29th of Sept 1861

Name of The Regiment was composed of ten
 Companies in Companies as follows viz:
 tent Regt Walworth County Guards Company A
 Layon Guards. "Kekoskee" Company B
 Menasha Guards "Menasha" " C
 Fremont Rifles "Fortage City" " D
 Sturdy Oaks " E
 Grant County Patriots " F
 Jackson County Rifles " G
 Juneo County Rifles " H
 Grant County Sixth " I
 Waupun Rifles " K.

Our Regimental officers were made up from
 Regimental the first men in the country, and withall
 officers possessed of some little of military knowledge and
 a goodly supply of real manhood, and soldier
 like bravery. Our Col. Ch. R. Chapin of Milwaukee,
 was a man respected and loved by the men
 under his command, he was always perfectly
 sociable with his men, yet stern and
 commanding while in the discharge of his
 official duties. He was brigade adjutant to
 General Abercrombie, and was at the battle of
 "Falling Water"

Regimental Lieut Col. J. J. Guppy and Major
officers J. G. McMyan, were both men of a first
class education, and gentlemen of high standing
in Society, and were consequently held in the
highest estimation by the members of the Regt.

First Sickness While in Camp (Holtz) at Milwaukee the
in Camp measles broke out among our men, and consequently
filled the Hospital with sick men, but fortunately
for our Company, we were presented with a
Reed Pot of bot well filled with Preserves, Jellies, Wines,
"nick nacks" Cordial, and all manner of niceties for the
from home sick, all prepared and put up by the hand
of our Wives and Sisters at home, in Jackson
County. The sick were well cured for, so that
First death only one death occurred in the entire Regiment
in the Regt during the six weeks we were in Camp Holtz.

On the 25th day of October 1861, I was presented
Capt. presented with a Captain's Sword, with appropriate engraving
with a sword by my Brethren of Black River Lodge No 74 of
H. and A. Masons, over whom I had the honor
to preside as W. M. for two years, and with
whom I have spent among a "cheerful festive night"
and who I shall ever hold in the highest
estimation as Brethren of the Craft.

Oct 8th ordered On the evening of the 8th of Oct we were ordered to pack up to get everything in readiness, to strike our tents and start for the next morning early, preparatory to starting for Louisville Ky. Accordingly everything was packed up that could be, and taken to the Chicago Depot that night.

Oct 9th 1861 order came to strike the tents at the third tap of the Bass Drum. And in the space of two seconds from the time the third tap was given not a single tent could be seen standing where so short a time before one hundred and seventy five tents were all standing in good order. To roll the tents and load them on the wagons was but the work of a very few minutes.

The Regiment was formed on the parade ground at 8 o'clock and a guard of ninety detailed men was detailed from the different companies as an escort guard to the Regiment. Capt Moore and I was detached from my own company to take command of the escort. By order of the Commanding General the Col. leaving my company in charge of the Lieutenants Brewer and Wilcox.

This arrangement did not at the time please me, for I was perfectly aware of the increased responsibilities that would rest

upon me in that capacity.

Compliment But I was more than paid for it, by
from Col. Phelps receiving the following Compliment from
to Capt. Moore my S^{gt}, at the supper table at the
" Tremont House in Chicago in the presence
" of all the Company and field officers,
" He says, "Well Captain Moore how do you
" like you new command, I knew when I
" put you into that place that it was the
" hardest place to fill in whole Regiment,
" but I wanted a man in it that I could
" depend upon."

9 o'clock At about 9 o'clock we took up our line of
Started for march through the City to the Chicago Depot,
the Depot the whole distance, three miles, being
" enlivened by deafening Cheers, waving of
" handkerchiefs, and flags, by the thousands
" of Citizens who followed us the whole way
" to the Depot, in a few minutes the Iron
horse was put in motion, and we were
on our way to the seat of war,

Passed Racine As we passed the City of Racine, we were
Salute greeted with the sound of Artillery belching
forth welcomes to all Union Soldiers, and
a fair warning to those who in their

madness would dare disgrace our beloved
Flag. We arrived in Chicago at 6 o'clock in
the evening, and our march through the City
was accompanied with enthusiastic demonstrations,
and by the waving of one "Seeds" flag by a
woman. We marched to the Louisville Depot
escorted by a company of Home Guards with
music, and thousands of Citizens on all sides,
upon arriving at the Depot, hot Coffee was
delt out in abundance to the Soldiers to
drink and fill their Canteens with.

The officers were invited to a sumptuous
to supper at feast prepared for them at the Tremont
the Tremont House, House. And after indulging in everything
that appetite could desire, we again mounted
the Iron horse, and Chicago was soon left in
the distance, passing through North western
Indiana during the night. We arrived at
Indianapolis at 8 o'clock on the morning of
the 10th of Oct. where after again indulging
our appetites, we made another Start for
the Seat of War. We arrived at Jeffersonville
on the Ohio River, opposite to Louisville, just after
dark, and the men were kept in the Cars until
Crossed River, morning when we crossed the River, and for

Reception in
Louisville

the first time the Wis 10th Regiment found
its Self on Slave Soil. We were received
with Shouts from all Sides, and occasional
display of the "Stars and stripes," here again the
men were treated with the utmost kindness
by the Citizens, who furnished them with
a sumptuous breakfast, served up at the

Breakfast at Bushville Depot. The officers were invited to
Louisville Hotel partake of the hospitalities of the Louisville Hotel

where we found every thing that appetite could
desire spread before us. At about ten o'clock
we again on board the CARRS, and then for
the first time we were able to contrast the
the difference between Slave and free States,
for until we reached the polluted Soil of
Kentucky we were conveyed in first class

took passage on
Cattle CARRS,

Passenger CARRS, and now we are loaded
into Cattle CARRS, like so many horses,
At about two o'clock P.M. we arrived at

Shepherdsville

Shepherdsville on Salt River, and here we
had an opportunity of visiting the celebrated
Paroquette Sulphur Springs, the old buildings
and pleasure grounds were in a very bad
State of Repair, and all things seemed
to be ~~in~~ touched with the finger of death.

Description of The village of Shepardsville is in a most
Shepardsville, awful condition. The houses, most of which
were built in old Daniel Boone's time, are
still standing. Some on three legs and some
on two, and some have fallen to the ground
for want of a single leg to stand upon.

God's judgement And it seems as though the God of the
Universe having pronounced judgement
upon that unfortunate place, had sent,
the "destroying Angel," in the shape of Cholera
to collect the judgement, and for want of other
Satisfaction, swept the inhabitants almost entirely
away, leaving only ten to tell their ~~their~~
unhappy fate.

We encamped at this modern
Salomon, until the eight of December, which
gave us an opportunity of getting acquainted
with some of the inhabitants, and among
the rest I found a Negro family living
in the vicinity, who gave a very curious
history of themselves. The Women belonged
to her own son, lived by her former Master,
who gave a deed of the mother to her own son,
She afterwards married an old Negro and raised
up to him, for her son, ten Slaves.

Negro Family

its history.

Dec 8th 1861

On the morning of the eight we packed
Left Shepherdsville for the first time preparatory to marching,
and at about godocks found ourselves plodding
in Kentucky mud, on the march. We were required
to keep our men in as good order as possible
during the day, a job that ~~the~~ most of us
found very hard to perform. for we very often
found ~~found~~ ourselves in close proximity
with Persimom trees, laden with ripe fruit,
and then we would have an exemplification
of "Bulls Run." Thus we marched along
from one bad mud hole, to another, still
worse, untill after nightfall. when we found
ourselves upon the banks of the rolling fork,
of Salt River. Bridges gone River high and
no show of crossing for two or three days.
We encamped in a grove of timber on the
banks of the River untill the tenth when,
we put a line across the River and ferried
the wagons across. Swiming the horses, and
at noon we again found ourselves on the march,
after following up the Rail Road. Some four
or five miles. we again took to the wagon
road, and mud half knee deep for three or
four miles further, after wading in the

Arrived at
Rolling fork,

Crossed the
River,

bed of a small Creek for about two miles
we began to ascend to higher land, where
Highland, we found altogether a different looking
Country. The land is high and rolling, with
plenty of good water and good timber, and
here for the first time in the state I found
Farms that looked as though a man could
make a living on them. But the black
Effects of Slavery, stain of human bondage still showed itse-
lf in the dilapidated fences, Barns & Houses, and
the neglected fruit-trees, which looked as though
they never knew what the pruning knife was,
all go to showe the great benefits arising
from the damnable institution called
"Southern rights," but more generally known
as Slavery. We encamped at night within
Camped in a two miles of Elizabethtown, in a grove of small
Storm within timber, which afforded a very good shelter from
two miles of the Storm that raged that night to the great
Elizabethtown, discomfiture of all hands. The next morning
we took up our line of march for Town, and
went into Camp about a mile out of Town,
on the Louisville and Nashville Turnpike road,
Brigaded And here we were put into Brigade with the
thirty third, twenty first and second Ohio, Regiments

Colonel Sill, Commanding temporarily,
General Mitchael Commanding the Division,
Our present Honor took the name of the Father of
his Country, and was called Camp Washington,
Nothing of importance transpired during our stay
at Camp Washington, except the daily arrival of
Regiments and parts of Regiments of Soldiers,
So that when we received orders to march from
that place, we were about ten thousand strong,
We received the order at five o'clock in the morning
and at ten, the tents were struck at the top
of the drum. So that the entire Camp which
presented one great sheet of Canvas, tents, in
the space of three seconds was changed to
a perfect ocean of human heads, and not a
single tent in sight, loading the wagons
and getting all things in readiness were but
the work of a few minutes, and soon the
old woods resounded, with the music of
the several Regimental Bands, playing for
the onward march of thousands of Union
Soldiers. As we marched through Elizabethtown
in morning, the entire place seemed to be in deep mourning,
The buildings were either deserted or else their
occupants were afraid to show themselves.

The front doors were all shut and window blinds closed, "Verily the guilty flee when no man pursueth," From Camp Washington we have encamped a good road to Leesville, on Bacon Creek, where at Leesville we again pitched our tents for a season, giving it the name of Camp Jefferson. On the next morning Desertion from which was the 19th a deserter from the rebel Camp the Rebels, on Green River, came in, and reported that Buckner's army were greatly in want of food and clothing, and that they had not been paid a cent since they went into the Rebel Service. They were very much dissatisfied on account of misrepresentation made to them by their leaders.

History of
a Family, in
the vicinity

Here I learned from a Citizen the history of a family who present a sad picture of the deplorable effects of Civil War. The Father and two sons, each feeling a desire, to do something for their Country according to their individual notions of right, enlisted: the two sons in the Union army, and the Father in the Rebel army. The two sons expostulated with the Father, but to no purpose, when one of the sons addressed his Father in the following language, "Father if we meet in battle and you get your gun, to your face to shoot, and find that you

"got sight on me, do not take it down until
"you have pulled the trigger, for as I live,
"I shall know: no man as a friend who is
now enemy to my country, and the cause I
now fighting for," Shaking hands the parties
to meet perhaps in the deadly conflict,
Such are the deplorable consequences of one
Brother going to war with another.

Targate practise Dec 23^d This morning for the first time, I was
with rifle Cannon, a witness to targate practise with rifle Cannon.
The firing was carried on just over our heads,
and the balls could be distinctly heard whistling
through the air, as they passed from the top of
one hill, to the other.

Christmas a
Holiday Dec 25th General Mitchell issued an order last
night that Christmas should be observed as a
Holiday, and that all who wished could
have passes for the day, to visit, each other,
and any places of curiosity that might be in
the neighborhood.

Dec 28th Nothing of interest having taken
place since Christmas, we began to think of putting
our quarters in a little more comfortable situation.
The probability of being here until the R. R.
Camp Bridge is completed across Green River, and

The extremely muddy weather we are having just now, all combine to convince us that, we shall have ample time to prepare for a long Sojourn on the banks of Bacon Creek, Dec 29th This morning Muster Rolls were ordered of each Company, showing the exact condition of the different Companies. The word was circulated in a few minutes that the object of the Muster Rolls was to Muster us out of the Service, and great excitement prevailed throughout the whole Camp, during the entire day, but finally quieted down, into the belief that it simply meant, a preparation for the payment of the Regiment.

Muster Rolls
for Payment:

Camp Rumors
its effects

"Camp Rumor" seems to be the order of the day continually, operating very much like Streams of Electricity on a circle of men holding each other by the hand.

Dec 31st yesterday was a busy day with us, our Brigade was reviewed by Genl Mitchell and Staff. And to day the whole Division was reviewed by Brig Genl Buell. Commanding the Department of the Ohio, he gave the Compliment to 10th Regt. Wis 10th the praise of being the best looking Regiment he had seen in the State

Jan 1st 1862

This morning orders were issued to give Passes to as many as wished them, and the Boys enjoyed the New year largely, numerous were the passes granted to visit our Brother Soldiers encamped on Green River, a distance of eight miles from our Camp. The day was spent in jollification and merry making, to the great discomfiture of some of the neighbouring Farmers, who had stored Sundry Sweet potatoes in a large Cave about five miles from Camp, which Cave proved to be a place of great attraction for the men, who never failed to taste of the Sweet potatoes

Jan 5th Company Commandants were summoned to Col Chapin's head quarters and were instructed to drill their Companies in Skirmishing once a day, the Col Supervised the Skirmish drill of our Co this forenoon in person, and made it very interesting to the Co, who were very much pleased with the idea of being used as Skirmishers. This change of drill will have a good effect on our Regt, for they have been kept daily at Company, and Battalion movements until they have become tired

of it. Had it would be doing no more than justice to our Regt to say that they understand the drill very well at least.

Jan 9th The ground being almost without bottom our Col requested me to go with him in search of a better ground to camp on, *Moved Camp* across the creek we selected a place on the North side of Bacon Creek, on a hill side facing to the South, where we moved our tents and soon everything was put in good order.

Jan 11th The wet weather still increased, and our drills were suspended, to give the men *Ditching & building side walks,* an opportunity of ditching around the tents, building side walks, which was done by splitting timbers and laying down flat side up, the whole length of the streets.

Jan 12th The usual ceremony of Company inspection every Sunday morning, was *Sunday morning* attended this morning, after noon service *inspection* was dispensed with by the Chaplin, to the great satisfaction of all the men, which is not very much to the credit of our Chaplin. But he fills the place, and draws the pay, and of course he is satisfied, whether anybody else is or not.

Jan 14th This has been a busy day with us, orders were issued this morning to be Grand Guard prepared to march out of camp at 7 o'clock Drill with one days ration in our haversacks,

for the purpose of Drilling in the duties of the Grand Guard. Our Regiment was detailed to take the advance Divided into three Divisions, and Commanded as follows,

Right wing The right wing consisting of three Co's Capt H.C. Johnson of Infantry and twenty five Cavalry, Commanded by Capt H.C. Johnson,

Left wing The left wing consisting of three Co's of Capt Fozgood Infantry and twenty five Cavalry under Command of Capt Fozgood,

The Center Division consisting of four Companies of Infantry a battery of Artillery Capt W. Moore and one third of a Squadron of Cavalry under my Command, after Drilling three hours, we were relieved by the 21st Ohio Regt and after marching to our Battalion Drill ground, we were put through several of our old Battalion movements, including several double quick movements, and there Majors first for the first time, we were witness of Excitement the high temper of our Major,

who was heretofore supposed to be the coolest headed man in the Regiment. He became so excited that he rose into the ranks bawling at the top of his voice, to the men to "fall back, fall back." The men simply having crossed the alignment in their hurry to perform the maneuver of "Change front to the rear on first Company," done in double quick time.

Rain Storm Jan 18th This morning we were blessed and cursed with a terrible rain storm, heavy thunder and sharp flashes of lightning, our tents being of the leaky kind, the men generally got a good drenching, Guns, Blankets, and every thing shared the same fate. We soon came to the conclusion that we did not better our condition very much by moving our camp, for the mud is as deep here as it can be, Jan 19th Genl Mitchell issued orders this morning, detailing seven hundred men from the Division for the purpose of building timber roads to and from the Depot.

the dirt roads being so muddy that it is almost impossible for teams to pass. This work occupied the time of the Division for four days.

Jan 22nd Great excitement prevailed in Camp to day occasioned by the receipt of the news of the Rebel Zollicoffers defeat and death. And hopes were entertained that it would have the effect to bring us marching orders. But we were doomed to disappointment and longer stay in our present quarters.

Jan 27th Sickness seems to be on the increase in our Regiment occasioned mainly I think by the kind of food our men are compelled to eat. Raw Flour having been issued to the men for several days, and then baked without salt or salaratus and, about half cooked. I sent three men W. H. H. Smith and Jacobson men to Hospital and John Sterling to the Genl Hospital at Louisville.

Jan 28th For the encouragement of the men to
Color line improve in Cleanliness and Soldier like bearing,
established, an order was issued by Genl Mitchael, for the
different Regiments to establish a Color line,
in front of the encampment, at 11 o'clock A.M.
of each day, and remain untill 2 P.M. Two
Superior men were detailed for guard more than was
= was detailed, required for Camp duty, and at guard mounting
a Selection was made from the guard detail
of the two who had their guns and equipage
in the best Condition. Their duty was to
guard the Colors during the time the Color
line was standing, after which they were
excused from all other duty. This was
considered a post of the highest honor
among our Soldiers, and consequently operated
as a Stimulus to Cleanliness and Soldierlike
action.

Jan 29th Genl Mitchael Complimented our
Genl Mitchael Regiment very highly on it efficiency in
Compliments the drill. He stated that we had arrived
on drill, at what he called a "Militia Standard",
That is as good as volunteers ever get, and
he recommends that we take up the Regular
Army drill, and perfect our selves in every

thing that appertains to a well drilled
Soldier.

Feb 6th To the great joy of all hands, the man
Regt Paid with the "fir" made his appearance in
Camp this morning, and prayed the Boys
off for two months and twenty six days.

Suttlers,
Army Leeches
do
Counting, from the 5th day of Oct 1861, That
infernal Leech in the Shape of a man
Commonly called Suttlers, took from the
pay table, an average of one third of the
pay of the enlisted men. If the Devil
do not get all Suttlers and government
Contractors he will never have his just
dues.

Sent money Feb 6th Those who had money left after paying
by Express their little accounts, were permitted to
home, visit the Express office for the purpose of
sending their money home to their friends

Feb 8th The news of the capture of Ft Henry was
News of the received this morning with the wildest
Capture of bursts of enthusiasm. every man seemed
Ft Henry possessed of new life. now that something
in the Shape of action, appeared to be going
on among our western Soldiers, and hopes
are entertained that we shall soon be on

the more for Rebeldom, And the only thing that will save our men from a severe fit of that disease commonly called "Blews", will be orders to march very soon,

Feb 9th The day passed off as quietly as could well be expected after the news of yesterday, and notwithstanding the orders from Head Quarters, positively forbid that any loud talking should be allowed after Taps, the voice of some overjoyed Soldier could occasionally be heard,

But, those who were wont to obey all reasonable orders, were at last put to the test,

Orders to
March

At about 10 o'clock P.M. A Messenger came riding into camp at full speed and dismounted at the Col's Head Quarters, As quick as thought the word was circulated through the camp that we were to march at 8 o'clock the next morning with two days rations in our haversacks, "Taps" soon lost all its former power, and Cheer after Cheer was sent up from thousands of voices making the old hills of Ky fairly tremble with the outpourings of those patriotic souls, From that time until the call beat to fall in, in the morning, everything was perfect confusion

Preparation to
March

The sick had to be cured first. Rations had to be drawn and cooked, and in fact everything had to be packed up and ready to start precisely at the hour. This necessarily occupied the entire night, but everything went on in good order, so that when the drum beat the call, every man was ready to take his place in the ranks. It had frozen some during the night. So that we passed over the worst mud road before the sun shone out warm enough to make it disagreeable walking. After marching about two miles we struck onto the Turn Pike and had no more mud to contend with, until we arrived at Green River. here we encountered mud roads for a short distance. Crossing the R.R. bridge we encamped about a mile from it, in an open field. The bridge was planked on the ties for the purpose of crossing our teams, and was about ten feet wide. Some were one thousand feet long and one hundred and thirty seven feet high, and take it all in all this was a very dangerous feat to perform with untrained horses, and mules.

Green River

R.R. Bridge

Orders to
March at day
light

Feb 12th In the morning we set ourselves to work to make our tents as comfortable as possible, At night we need orders to be ready to march at day light in the morning. Meantime we had to exchange our wall tents for the Sibly tent. The Sick had to be cured for and every man supplied with a full amount of Cartridges. The Arms of the Sick were accumulated to such an extent that it was thought to be policy to leave some of them behind, and lessen the amount of transportation for our teams. I accordingly returned twelve guns and accoutrements and kept fire on hand. Some of the Companies returned as high as thirty.

Feb 13th Daylight found us in readiness to march, and also in the usual good spirits. As far as the river was the sound of Cheering could be distinctly heard, and very soon the entire train was in motion, keeping step to the tune of the "Bold Soldier Boy".

Band discharged Our Regimental Brass Band having been paid off and discharged yesterday we were obliged to come down to the sound of the fife and drum. As we passed through the field where the Rebel Col Ferry was killed, one of

the soldiers from Ohio picked up a very
Revolver found nice navy Revolver with the loads all in
it just as it fell from the hands of some
of the Rebels. This being the first trophy
Tried to buy it. of Rebeldom I tried to purchase it but
was unable to do so. He seemed to think
more of it than he did of Gold. And he
evidently did, for gold would not buy it at
any reasonable price. After marching about
Six miles we found the road obstructed
Fallen trees by fallen trees which the Rebels had felled
into it with the hope of stopping our advance.
But fortunately we were provided with plenty
of axes, and resolute men to handle them.
We were thus enabled by perseverance and
hard labour to cut our way at the rate of about
two miles an hour. In addition to the fallen
trees they had killed some sixty horses and
Dead animals "innumerable other animals," such as Dogs, Cats,
placed in water. Sheep, hogs Cattle &c and with the view to
cut us off for a supply of water. had placed
them in all the watering places along
the road through the entire days march.
And no doubt but what they supposed the
fallen timber would detain us in that region.

for several days, and of course be compelled to fall back to Green River for fresh supply of water. But in this they were greatly disappointed, for we were careful to have every man fill his canteen with good water before starting, this supply was sufficient to last till night.

Flag of Truce About noon, for the first time I was met by a band of Rebels who came in under a Flag of Truce, bringing with them two Federal officers who had been taken prisoner by them some time previous. They came up the road from the direction of Horse Cave, I was at the time the only Commissioned officer in charge of the entire wagon train. The Column having marched some distance
Recd Prisoners in advance, I received the Prisoners, who gave their names as Capt Prime, of Genl, Buell's Staff and Major Helvola, 1st Ky Cavalry, Genl Schoepff's Brigade, and sent them on to Genl McCook's Camp on Green River. The Rebels had need exchange for them and were ordered to deliver them up. The Cavalry who brought them in looked as though they could fight better than they

were represented to, by some of the Citizens,
But I suppose they were picked men for
the occasion, not allowing any of their
"Spinelle Shanked," Subjects to do this kind
of duty. At night we pitched our tents
at Bells Station, after a very hard days work,
At different points along the road the Rebels
had "Fortified" against us by plowing up the
road, thinking as the expressed it, to prevent
us from getting through with our heavy guns
But this obstruction, like the fallen trees
afforded them no protection against the
"D-d yankees," as the were pleased to term
us, for our teams were able to draw
the loads through without any very great
inconvenience.

Depot Burned The Depot at Bells Station had been fired
the night before we got there, by a Squadron
of Texas Rangers, and the ruins were still

R.R. torn up Smoking, The R.R. was torn up all along in
the vicinity of the Station, the ties were
burned and the rails heat and bent so as to

Tunnel blown up make them unfit for use., The Tunnel near
by, was blown up in such a manner as to
make very bad work for the old Iron Horse,

Feb 14th Early dawn found us all in marching order
On the march. The air was very cold. The ground was frozen and
again about an inch of snow on it. Sore feet from
yesterdays march was soon forgotten, and all seemed
halted at anxious to move forward. At about 10 o'clock the
Dripping Spring Column was halted at Dripping Springs, and
remained there until noon, when it was again set
in motion by the Command, "Forward March,"

We had not proceeded more than half a mile
when we came upon a rise of ground, from
which we could distinctly see the Black
Smoke of Rebel destruction ascending upward
from Bowling Green. Every man now seemed
inspired with new life, and set out with
the full determination, never to halt short of
the "Rebel Strong hold," Capt Loomis, Michigan
Battery and fifteen hundred Cavalry were
sent forward on the double quick.

Arriving at "Bakers Hill," Capt Loomis planted
his battery and commenced throwing shell
into the town, this had the effect to bring out
the "white flag" from the citizens, asking for
protection, to the town. One of Capt Loomis shells
struck a locomotive standing on the track
and disabled it so that the fleeing Rebels had

to leave it. together with quite a number of flat CARRS. The account given by the Citizens of the retreat of the Enemy, and our arrival, was of the most interesting Character.

Tents, Camp Kettles, Knapsacks, and all manner of Camp equipage were scattered along the line of their retreat.

The Destruction of Public & private property in the Town. Surpassed anything of kind I ever beheld, The Splendid Depot and Round House together with Six Locomotives and Tenders, were all left in one mass of ruins.

Ware Houses, Pork Houses, Stores and private dwellings, shared the same fate.

Two Splendid Bridges over the Big Barron River were also destroyed. The R.R. Bridge was a magnificent Structure, it was built of Iron, in the best style of workmanship, extending from substantial Stone buttments, on the East side, to the top of a perpendicular Rock Bank on the Side towards Town.

Here we had to encounter greater obstacles than ever before. Constructing a plank foot bridge across the River, on the ruins of the Rail Road Bridge, we were compelled

to transport our baggage, and Camp equipage
on our backs over the River, and up such a
precipice as a man under ordinary Circumstances
-es would think impassable for either man or
beast. This after marching forty miles in less
than twenty eight hours, each man loaded with from
forty to sixty pounds on his back, was no small
affair, to say the least.

Feb 16th After getting over the River with our baggage
we ran it out by hand on flat Carts about
half a mile, to a place selected for camping
ground, in the mean time it commenced
raining very hard, and I was compelled to
seek shelter for my Co. in an adjacent Barn.
To our great satisfaction we found plenty of
hay to sleep on, making very comfortable
quarters, for us. During the day some of the
men picked up the head of some unfortunate
Secisher. One of them was killed by the
bursting of one of our shells and was left
laying on the ground. One of our men went
into an old building after dark that was
used for a hospital, and went to kicking
up the straw with the intention of making a
bed for the night. His foot came in

contact with what he supposed to be a brother
Soldier asleep on the Straw. But to his utter
astonishment, upon close examination, he found
he was dead. Some five or six others were
Subsequently found dead, in the old buildings
They were said to be very unhealthy during
their stay at Bowling Green. Their loss from
disease was estimated at three thousand.
They were very indifferent about the burial
of their dead. Some were scarcely covered
with earth at all.

The Country around Bowling Green, looks as
though it deserved a better fate. But the
quarrel of Eden was polluted with sin,
and was visited by the great Falth of Secession.

Feb 17th A Squadron of Cavalry was ordered to
make a reconnoissance in the neighbourhood
of Franklin, where it was reported the
enemy were making a stand. They were
however unable to make any discoveries in
that region, and were told that the enemy
had gone on to Nashville.

Feb 18 Moved our Camp six miles out of Town,
on the R.R. leading to Nashville, where the
"Scared Devils," had burned a small R.R. Bridge

Here I put in Charge of a party of thirty men to rebuild the bridge and if possible to have it completed for a train to cross it that night.

We commenced work at Reveler in the morning and at 9 o'clock P.M. everything was ready for the train to cross, a rough but substantial bridge. The Rebels in talking to Citizens about our advance often said it was of no use for them to burn bridges, for the Yankees could build them up twice as fast as they could destroy them. They supposed that we had bridges along with us all ready to put up.

Feb 21st We moved our camp to a higher piece of ground, and set ourselves about making everything as comfortable as possible, not knowing how long a time we should remain here. In the meantime our provisions had mostly disappeared, and the natural consequence was that neighbouring Pig Sties, Turkey roost &c. had to pay the penalty, affixed by our hungry soldiers. This however was soon stopped by the arrival of our Quarter Masters Stores with plenty to eat.

Feb 22^d We received orders last night to march at

Six o'clock this morning. Our teams had been sent back to Green River for supplies. So that we only had four teams to the whole Regiment. We were compelled to leave the greater share of our camp equipage and part of our tents behind, in charge of the Chaplain who volunteered to take charge of them and get them on the Cans the first opportunity.

Feb 22^d Notwithstanding the rain that was falling, our men were up at 3 o'clock A.M. preparing rations for two days. At six o'clock A.M. we were on the move. We marched in the rain all day, wading streams that were swollen by the rain, until we arrived at Franklin, where we took refuge from the storm, in vacant houses. Here a great amount of wheat and other stores fell into our hands. The people seemed very glad to see us take possession of their towns.

Feb 23^d From here we have mud roads for a distance of six miles. Before we get onto the Pike again we marched up the R.R. track to Mitchellsville about two miles over the Tennessee line, where we halted for about an hour, after which we

left the R.R. and struck onto the Pike about two miles west of Town. found our teams there waiting for us. we marched untill night when we camped in an open field, near a beautiful Stream of water.

Feb. 24th. Started early this morning with the intention of seeing Nashville before we pitched our tents again, and we did; but not untill we had made a halt of about five hours to let the men rest and get something to eat.

Feb. 25th At three o'clock A.M. we were on the march and arrived at Nashville just at day light. Genl Mitchael ordered us into camp about two miles back on the same road we came. Then it was that our mens lips could be distinctly seen to fall in the direction of their knees. Every man felt aggrieved at the movement; of falling back a single inch, and I am of the opinion that the Genl himself regretted the order, for that very day the City was occupied by Genl Polsons Division, virtually stealing that Laurel from the brow of Genl Mitchael. But he met with but very little sympathy from any of his Command, for if he had have

ordered us to march into the City, and take possession of it, we should not only have been the first troops to enter the place, but would have saved a great amount of Commissary Stores that was destroyed after our Division came in sight of the City.

But as the saying is, The punishment is sure to follow the Crime, and so it was in this case,

The inhabitants here feel deeply the advantages of their present institution of Secession. They have to pay for Salt Six dollars per bushel, Tea from three to four dollars per lb, Coffee one to two dollars per lb, and other things to proportion with them. I was myself of necessity founed to feel the effects of the "Monsters". I found myself destitute of the necessary amount of Shoe leather, and was compelled to negotiate with a "Southern Gentleman", for a pair of Boots, for which he very graciously asked the nice little sum of \$20.00. But finally concluded that if I would pay him in U. S. money he would take \$10.00. He said that since "we all" came here their Southern

money was not quite so good as it was before.
Feb 26th Genl Buell ordered us to cross the River
and go into camp about three miles out on
the Road leading to Munfreesboro.

Here again we were brought in contact with
the works of the Destroyer. The Splendid
wire Suspension Bridge over the Cumberland
River was cut down, and the R.R. Bridge burned.
But fortunately Uncle Sam's Gun Boats were
on hand with some half a dozen Steam
Boats. So we were not detain'd long in
getting across the River. As we marched
through Town, the ear was occasionally visited
with the rough uncooth sound of "The D-d
Yankees, The D-d Lincolnites" &c. These
expressions generally came from the "Young
America," portion of the Citizens.

We did not get to our camping ground
untill about ten o'clock at night, and
having left our wagons on the other side
we were compelled to sleep on the naked
ground without our tents, and but little
to eat for supper and nothing for breakfast.
Our men bore their part well, and manfully.
The night was very cold, and disagreeable.

and it was all the more so from the fact that we were compelled to wade through water almost knee deep, just before we stopped for night, and then lay down on the cold ground, without cover or shelter,

Feb 27th The weather moderated this morning, the Sun shone out very pleasant. Our teams could not get across the River, so that we again found ourselves pretty short of the stuff of life and the trimmings for it. But our Boys discovered a Hoghead of Sugar handy by where an unlucky man had stalled his team with it the night before, and before a guard could be placed over it, there was nothing left to guard.

The Citizens here expressed great indignation at the needless destruction of Bridges and other property, by the retreating Rebels. The United States Flag flying from the top of the Capitol, attracted a great deal of notice. Some seemed pleased to see ^{the} "honor'd Flag waving in triumph over what was so short a time before a clod of thieves, and the Capitol of a State in Rebellion against

our glorious Government; Others looked on
with disdain depicted on their Countenances

Different expressions were index to the heart, that was
tearful Countenances bursting with grief for the loss of those
most dear to them, of all else on earth.
Here I was unexpectedly treated to another
one of our noble Col's Compliments that
proved to be of great consequence to me.
One day while sitting in my tent, thinking
of Loved ones at home, and what a horrid
State of affairs, the wicked designs of a
few of the leading men of the South had
brought about; Separating husband and wife
Father and Children, making widows of one
and Orphans of the other, the Col came in
and gave me the welcome news, that owing
to the strict forward course I had pursued
as an officer and a Soldier, he had selected
me to go home on Recruiting Service.

This to me, was not only agreeable but
March 13th 1862 Complimentary, On the 13th day of March 1862,
Started home, I took leave of my Company, and started in
on recruiting Command of a ~~recruiting~~ Recruiting Party
Service, consisting of three non Commissioned officers
and one private,

We got to the Rail Road "just in time to
be too late," the train had started about
an hour and a half before we got there,
So we concluded to take a hand Carr, and
run up to Bowling Green that night, and
be ready to take the Carrs in the morning,
So putting the action to the word, we,
set out on this laborious journey, a task
that we should not have commenced
willingly had we not been headed towards
home, but we found after running about
Sixty miles, that we could not get to Bowling
Green in time to take the Carrs, and we
stopped at Kitchaeville to await the next train
Here we fell in with a Seesh Soldier
who had deserted at the battle of Fort
Donalson, and got home to his family,
He gave me his history, and the particulars
of the Donalson fight. He expressed
himself entirely satisfied with the
Rebel Service. He was a man of family,
and had been in the Service of the
Confederacy for about eight months, without
receiving any compensation for his Services,
His family were poor and almost starving.

When I first began talking with him, he expressed considerable anxiety about his safety, but I assured him that he should not be molested, or separated from his family, if I could prevent it. But on the contrary I would show him that he had been grossly misinformed in regard to the character of the northern people. He had been led to believe that we would rob and plunder every house, and insult their wives and daughters. After talking to him for some time, I presented him with two bbls of Pork and two bbls Flour for the use of his family, and I was amply repaid for the charitable act, in the joy it seemed to give to himself and friends.

He acted like a "caged bird set free," and "went his way rejoicing." Every body around seemed to feel a pleasure in seeing him, treated thus by a Federal officer, of whom they had expected harsher treatment.

The Carro came along in a short time and we were once more wending our way homeward. On arriving at Bowling Green, we found ourselves enveloped in perfect darkness, with rain descending in torrents, rendering our

Situation anything but comfortable or agreeable. In this situation we were obliged to walk, and carry our baggage half a mile through mud, such as exists only in that region of Country. But overcoming all, we at last found a stopping place for night.

The next morning we took up our line of march for the Cars. The Bridge being gone we were compelled to walk about a mile and a half, crossing Big Barrow River, on a pontoon Bridge erected for the purpose of crossing troops, on our advance march.

We were soon relieved from plodding in the mud, for stepping on board of the Cars we soon found ourselves galloping across the Country, regardless of rain or mud.

At four o'clock in the after noon we arrived at Louisville, and found ourselves in another dilemma. It being Saturday, we were compelled to wait here over Sunday. This to a man who has been absent from those he loves dearer than all else of earth, for a period of six months, is almost unbearable. I found it necessary to use some little exertion to guard against a violent attack of "Blues".

I was not long in finding useful employment enough to occupy my time, while I stayed in the City. I started immediately on a tour of the City visiting the Military Hospitals, for the purpose of hunting up the Sicks of my Regiment. I was not long in finding two or three of my own Company. The greater portion of those I had sent to the Hospital, had so far recovered their health, as to be able to return to the Regt., and some had already started.

Thus employed, the day soon passed off, and we were again on the homeward track.

We arrived in the City of Madison, on the 18th day of March, and Reported to Maj^r R. S. Smith Superintendent of Recruiting Service, and after considerable persuasion on my part, and that of Hon G. B. Pope in my behalf, I obtained an order to establish a recruiting rendezvous at Black River Falls. My health had become very much impaired and I found it very difficult to keep myself up. I started for home again after a stay of three days in the city. Judge Price was there and accompanied me home, which served greatly to keep my spirits up.

On arriving at home, I found that I was much more unwell than I had supposed, and was compelled to call a Physician to my assistance. The "little pill Doctor" was accordingly sent for, and in the course of three weeks I was again enabled to walk, about the house, ("All praise to the little pills")

In the mean time I received orders that the Recruiting Service for the State of Wisconsin would be closed up as soon possible, and that I would join my Regt without delay.

Thus it seemed that an alwise Providence, seeing the future, had sent me home, to the Wife of my bosom, than whom none else could, feel so deep an interest in my comfort, while prostrate on a bed of sickness.

Oh! how swiftly glides the fleeting hours, when surrounded by all the tender love of the family circle, four weeks time passed off, and it seemed but a day, since I first came home. My health having improved sufficiently, and all things ready again, I was compelled from a sense of duty to my Country, to take leave of my dear little Family once more,

This I found to be much harder to do than when I first parted with them, nine months ago, I would to God, that I could, consistent with my duty, avoid the painful task of once more leaving the Sanctum of my own loved home, made pleasant by the songs of innocence sung by the Gaubs of my household.

But pleasure must ever give way to duty, for what enjoyment would it be to live in a country ruled by Despots, entailing servitude upon our posterity, in place of the freedom and independence we have so long enjoyed through the disinterested Patriotism, and untiring energy of our fore Fathers.

On the 25th day of April I again took leave of my friends at home, and started for my Regt. I was ordered to report myself to Maj^r Smith, for transportation, and labouring under the impression that Genl Mitchell had formed a junction with Hullick at Corinth, he gave me an order for transportation to Pittsburgh Landing, where after several days very unpleasant travel I arrived in safety. Here I found the 14th Regt Mis. Vols acting as Provost Guards, and made myself at home with

Capt. G. R. Johnson, and numerous old acquaintances belonging to that Regt;

My visits to the Battle ground, amply repaid me for the disappointment of not finding my way clear to My Regt. During the week that I spent there, I rambled ~~several~~ over the Battle field. Several times and was perfectly astonished, to find the timber all ~~scarce~~ with Cannon balls and grape shot. I counted in one small tree about eight inches in diameter thirty two musket balls, and in a large tree, fifty four. The thickets of under brush were literally cut down by the discharge of musketry. The entire ground for an area of four miles around presents the appearance of having been pastured by a large drove of sheep or cattle. Grass, weeds, and every living thing had been made a prey to the destroying tread of a hostile people contending, one for despotism, the other for Liberty. Here too I had a good opportunity, to see in some little degree the enormity of our coming National War debt.

An average of full five hundred teams were running every day between the Landing and our lines, loaded with Commissary Stores, for the army. I saw at one sight thirty two Steam Boats, at the Landing, all in the employment of the Government, at an expense of from \$250,00 to \$275,00 per day. This one item of expense seems enormous, when weighed in the scale of former times, when Peace and Plenty reigned Supreme in the Land.

An incident occurred on the day of the Battle that ought to make Secession tremble beneath the weight of its own guilt.

A Kentuckian, in the Federal army was concealed behind a tree, picking off those of the Confederates who might be unfortunate enough to come in range of his "old Kentucky Rifle," when he discovered a man a short distance from him, in the act of firing at him, he instantly fired on his adversary, and brought him down, badly wounded. In the mean time the wounded man recognised in the person of his adversary, his own blood Brother, and seeing him draw his gun up to shoot again, called to him by name and

begged him for Gods sake not to shoot
in that direction again. "for that's
Father," This is one of the many painful
incidents that occurred within my own
acquaintance, and gives a practical
illustration of the beauties of Secession and
Southern rights.

Time wore away, until I had spent weeks
with the 14th Regt. and as yet no signs
of communication being opened between
them and Mitchells Division.

I at length prevailed on the Provost
Marshall, to give me a pass to go back
to Nashville, and see if it were possible to
get transportation from there to my Regt.

General Wadsworth with the Sanitary
Commission from Wisconsin, was then on
board of the Steamer Sam'l Gaty, Chartered
by the State of Wis. and I found it a very
easy matter to obtain transportation with them
as far as Paducah, And I also found it to be
a very pleasant thing to meet with men of
my acquaintance, engaged in looking after
the Comfort and Convenience of the Sick and
wounded of our own State.

My journey from Pittsburgh Landing to Paducah, was to say the least not an unpleasant one. Surrounded as I was by friends and acquaintances, from Paducah, I took passage on board of the Steamer Gul Anderson, for Cassville, where I arrived in due course of time without any thing of a serious nature taking place.

The Country on the Cumberland River forms a strong contrast with that on the Tennessee River.

From the mouth of the Tenn., to Hamburg, eight miles above Pittsburgh Landing, the Country presents a wild and uncultivated appearance. Every thing shows a want of energy and enterprise. And I could not help thinking, how different it would be if that beautiful Stream had been laid in one of our Northern States, where the accursed blight of human bondage does not bind the intellect of man with a chain of Iron, forged by Aristocratic hands, as it does in States where Slavery is worshiped as the "God of Day."

The Country along the Cumberland River is more thickly settled, and wears more the appearance of a civilized Country. Fine looking Farms and handsome Residences are of more frequent

occurrences. Clarksville, sixty miles below Nashville is a place of considerable importance to that country. The Memphis branch of the Louisville and Nashville R.R. crosses the River at that point, and in better times done a very handsome business. One span of the R.R. bridge was destroyed by the Rebels on hearing of the Fall of Ft Donalson. The Road was also torn up in many places, to prevent our troops from using it. This virtually biting off their own noses to spite their face. Clarksville is one of the greatest Tobacco Markets, in that portion of the State. It contains about ten thousand inhabitants, and to its credit be it said, Schools are more generally attended, than is usual in the Southern States. And to this may be ascribed the intelligent appearance of its inhabitants, more than any one thing else.

When I arrived in Nashville, I found several of my own Company in hospital there, Sergt Hussey, Corp'l Carnihan, Shuman, Tyler and Hunt. Sergt Hussey at once decided to go with me to the Regt, And I decided to make a trial to get through the next morning. I went to the Master of Transportation and obtained transportation

as far as Shelbyville by Rail Road, and at
10 o'clock the next morning I found myself
rolling off Southward with the speed of a Race
Horse. Leaving Nashville some ten or twelve
miles we came into a beautiful farming country
thickly settled, and well improved.

Corn and Cotton, was almost the only crops that
could be seen growing any where along the Road.

These crops were planted cultivated and harvested
altogether by Slaves. It was no unusual thing
to see from five to twenty Negro women, plowing in
the fields with the men. This to a man who
has any feeling of respect for the female sex
whether white, or black, is revolting in the
extreme. I would not have them placed on
a level with our own wives & mothers, but I
would not have them converted into Draymen,
or Plow Boys, to work all day in the hot broiling
Sun, under the severe lash of a renegade
Northern man, hired as an overseer.

Such a man deserves not the name of
man. He should have inhabited some lonely
Isle where the Female form should never greet
his sight, and where pondering upon this curious
 freak of Nature, he might hate himself to death.

Oh! hardened depraved man, to think of
owning property in men, women and children,
Man, The last and nobles work of God, possessed
of body, mind and soul, of passions, Love
and hate, All bought and sold by man, for
a Consideration, and Computed in Dollars and
Cents. Is there a Just God and will he
always see his creatures thus oppressed, and
not send retributive justice with a sword
of vengeance to teach Traitors their duty,
and punish them for passed offences?

At Shelbyville I found Maj^r McPherson of
our Regt with a Company of Convalescents,
returning to the Regt, about one hundred
and twenty in number armed, with Belgium
Rifles. This was a "God send" to me for
now I could see a way of getting through,
with some degree of safety.

The Maj^r immediately put me in command
of the Company, thus relieving himself
of that responsibility.

We accordingly started on our march,
leaving the Maj^r behind to start the
wagon train forward. Our march to
Huntsville was very undisturbed, and marked

May 21st 1862
Returned to my
Regiment

with no event of interest. We arrived at
Huntsville on the 21st of May, and found the
Regiment engaged in guarding Rail Road between
Huntsville and Stevenson, and started on the first
train for Regimental Head quarters at Paint Rock
Station forty five miles from Huntsville, on the R.R.
About ten miles on the Road some cowardly Traitor
had taken up a rail, and laid it out to one
side of the road, the Locomotive and Tender
run off the track, but fortunately hurt no one,
Some of the Citizens living near the place were
very much alarmed for their personal safety
as well as for the safety of their property, got
together and assisted in getting the Train on
the Track again. Genl Mitchell had issued
orders holding the inhabitants responsible for
degradations committed in their neighborhoods
and in some instances had destroyed their
buildings for committing such degradations,
and the very naturally supposed that they
might be treated in the same way, nothing
of the kind was the case however.

On arriving at Regt head quarters I found the
Boys had very much improved in health and
Strength.

My first duty after reporting myself to the Col., was to take charge of a party and build fortifications around the camp.

This was done by digging a trench around the camp about two feet deep, placing posts in the trench, on end forming a tight picket fence around the camp, about eight feet high and eight inches thick. This was the work of about five days with fifty men.

Paint Rock Station, take it altogether is a very pleasant place for a small camp like ours. We had the camp fixed up in very good shape, to make it comfortable and pleasant.

With a splendid stream of water running down one side, and the Rail Road on the other, and a nice grove of shade trees between,

On the 2^d of June we were ordered to march to Bellefonte twenty two miles farther up the R.R.

On our arrival there we found the place to be a very unpleasant one. Situated as it is on River bottom the air was necessarily very impure, and the water was very bad also. Companies H. and I were stationed there, under the special guidance of the Col., while Companies D. G and K, under command of

June 3^d 1862 Maj McMynn, in company with the 33^d Ohio Regt
and a company of Cavalry (Co C 4th Ohio) started on
the morning of the 3^d June for Jasper,
In marching the distance of sixteen miles
we had to ford two streams of water almost
deep enough to swim a horse.

It was cheering to see with what spirit the
men plunged in and overcome these obstacles.
Hundreds of men could be seen at a single
glance pushing through the muddy water and
current made swift by the late heavy rains,
coming onto the bank again they would set
forward with new life sometimes wading
through mud shoe mouth deep,

We arrived at Stevenson about noon, having
marched sixteen miles during the morning.

June 4th 1862, Here we stopped until the next morning, when
we again set out for Jasper, and marched twenty
five miles that day. we were compelled to go
by the mountain road which made it about
nine miles farther than by the valley road
but the ferry boat was destroyed at the mouth
of Battle Creek, and it was impossible for us
to cross. About a mile below the mouth of
the creek, I captured a Rebel soldier with

June 5th 1862.

letters from Corinth to parties at Bellefonte, I took from his finger a bone ring, made of the "Shin bone of a Yankee," killed at the Battle of Bulls Run, Considering this one of the last relics of Barbarism, I retained it in my possession, We stopped for the night about a mile from Jasper. Our wagons did not come up to us that night, and the men were compelled to sleep without their Blankets, and in some instances without their coats, having put them on the wagons in the morning, the night being very cool made it rather unpleasant sleeping on the ground without covers, I suffered almost as much with cold as though it had been winter weather, Dews are very heavy in this country, almost equal to a shower of rain, Early in the morning we were on the move, passing through Jasper about sun rise, Some little surprise was manifested by the men at not halting at Jasper, for it was generally understood that we were to stop there, We however kept on the road toward Chattanooga until we crossed the Sequatchee River, and after leaving the River about a mile we took a road leading to the right over the top of the mountain, At about one o'clock P.M. We found

June 6th 1862

ourselves opposite to Shell Mound Station on the Rail Road. Here we found a small party of Rebels quartered in the Brick Depot; on the opposite bank of the Tennessee River. They came out and planted two pieces of Artillery on the bank, and opened fire on our Cavalry Boys who were in advance of our Column. Fortunately for us we had two pieces of Cannon recently captured from the Rebels at Bridgeport. These were soon brought to bear on the Depot and that place was soon made too hot for them, to quarter in any longer. We could see them "Skedaddle" in every direction to find shelter behind trees. There came a general exchange of compliments in the shape of Musket and Rifle balls. In a very short time not a Rebel could be seen save now and then one would dodge from one tree to another in the hopes of finding better shelter. Skirmishing was kept up until night, doing no particular damage so far as we were concerned except the loss of ammunition. Some close shots were made by the enemy however, and generally the bullets flew thicker than was actually required for our personal safety. The enemy lost ten men killed by the explosion of one of our Shells in the Depot; (so we were informed since)

June 7th 1862. On the morning of the 7th we were ordered to advance on Chattanooga. We accordingly took up our line of march a mile or so, and marched to within about ten miles of that place, where we again stopped for night.

June 8th 1862. On the following morning we were ordered to fall back to Jasper. On arriving there we found a very strong union sentiment prevailing among the people. They were soon engaged in forming themselves into a military company, under a man holding a commission from Gov. Andy Johnson,

June 10th 1862. of Tenn. On Tuesday morning June 10th we again took up our line of march for Stevenson leaving the union people who were induced to make a display of their sentiments in favour of the union, unprotected, and exposed to the persecution of Gurrilla parties in the neighborhood. And they were compelled to leave their homes in great numbers and follow us up for protection. We arrived at Stevenson in the afternoon and went into a large Warehouse to quarter for the night. We remained there until

June 12th 1862. the morning of the twelfth, when we were again ordered back to Jasper to protect that place against Gurrilla parties.

June 14th 1862

On the 14th we arrived in the Town, and were joined by the Second Ohio and twenty fourth Ill Regiments and Edgartons Battery also two or three Companies of Cavalry. The Union men in Town had succeeded in raising a Company to the number of seventy eight men. They drew their arms, and entered upon the duties of a Soldiers life with Commendable zeal. They were not dressed in the uniform of our soldiers, and to make us know them from other Citizens they tied a white strip around their right arm.

June 16th 1862.

On the 16th our three Companies were detailed to build a bridge across the mouth of Battle Creek. We accordingly packed up our baggage and came to the mouth of the Creek, about noon, and made our camp in a small patch of wheat close by, very much to the displeasure of the old Traitor who owned it. He made himself very disagreeable to us for a day or two, when the men became impatient at his actions and "talked saucy" to him, which induced the old reptile to take the oath of allegiance to the Government - he had so lately contributed his money and influence to destroy. He had four sons in the Confederate army, the last of

whom he compelled to go on he disowned, This to the son was a very strong argument for the old man was very wealthy.

At about midnight Col Sill sent a Courier down with orders to have the Bridge in readiness for foot Soldiers to cross early in the morning.

We accordingly called out our men and went to work in good earnest. I was put in to oversee the work, by the Maj's order. At daylight we had a Bridge made one hundred and fifty feet long and twelve feet wide, so that either footmen or horses could cross it if necessary.

During the day we had to finish up our work so that heavy teams could cross, and we were compelled to work under an occasional fire of small arms from the opposite side of the River. In the after noon Maj McMyun, became impatient at their impudence and ordered the Boys to return their fire, which was done with such earnestness that nothing more was heard from their guns that day.

June 18th 1862. On the following morning they planted a Six pound Cannon about half a mile above the mouth of the Creek, and opened fire on our wagon train that happened to be passing at

June 17th 1862,

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along the road leading directly along the bank of the River. I happened to be at the time on top of the mountain just back of our camp where I could, with the aid of a Glass see the Rebels at work at their guns. One of our little Secesh guns was sent up on the bank opposite to their guns, and opened fire on them. The first fire sent from our gun, they fled from the field leaving their gun on the bank of the River. Nothing more was heard from them until noon, when they again opened fire on Col Sill and Staff, who were passing along on horseback. Our little Secesh guns were both put in working order and started to the scene of action, and very soon their guns were again silent. I started with eighteen of my men in a boat and landed opposite to where the Battery was planted, and reported the matter to Col Sill, with the request that he would allow me to cross the River under protection of our guns, and either capture on Spike their guns. But I could not obtain his consent and consequently had to remain where I was. On reporting the matter to my men, they expressed their indignation by actions in

place of woods. Some of them went down under the bank and went to paying cards, in plain sight of the enemy's position, while others were firing at intervals over their heads. A little later in the day when the firing had pretty much ceased, four of them striped off and swam half way across the River. Calling for the rebels to come out and show themselves. They declared they would swim across if I would permit them to. Night coming on everything was quiet again. We were quartered at this time in a large log Barn about sixty rods from the bank of the river and in plain sight of the opposite bank.

June 19th 1862. About noon, while we were all under cover of the barn, from the heat of the sun. the Enemy opened fire on us, with a twelve pounder which they had planted, in a position to shell the barn. Their shots were well aimed. the third one striking the corner of the barn. We marched our men out and took a position under cover of the timber in a more secure place.

Our little Seesh guns were again brought into requisition, and opened on them from the mouth of the Creek. A portion of Edgerton's Battery came up just in time. and opened

fire on them with his twelve pound rifle cannon. They soon made the enemy observe the most profound silence. A Desenter came into camp a few days after, from the other side of the River, and reported that the second shot we fired, disabled their twelve pounder and killed two men. A continual Skirmish was kept up with small arms for six days, doing no great damage to us. one man was wounded in the right breast by a rifle ball.

Our forces consisting of the 2^d and 3^d Ohio 24th Ill and about one hundred Cavalry with Edgantons Battery had fallen back from Jasper in the morning accompanied by the new recruits from Jasper, and taken a position just below the mouth of the Creek. A portion of the 24th Ill remained above the mouth of the Creek to support the artillery planted on the point.

June 20th 1862 Our men were set to work on the 20th to throwing up earth works for our artillery, and when it was completed served well as a fortification. Firing was still kept up at intervals with small arms. No inducement could be held out to the enemy to play their artillery upon us again. Horses were drawn up in line

and marched up the river bank. but to no purpose, They could not be caught with such bats.

June, 23rd 1862 On the 23rd of June I was detailed with my Company to guard the wagon train, to Stevenson and back, nothing occurred during the trip worthy of mention,

The health of our men had so far improved, that with very few exceptions they were all able for duty. We were joined at Stevenson by five of our men who had been left sick in hospital. Our Company now number seventy five men for duty, and is as it always was, the largest Company in the Regt,

June 26th Last night an order was received from Genl Mitchell's Negro Order Genl Mitchell requiring all officers having Negroes in their employ as servants to turn them out of camp. This order being opposed to the known laws of Congress, it was decided at a meeting of our officers not to execute it, or to aid in executing it.

The officers of the 24th Ill went so far as to resign on account of it. the Col excepted,

The order was a contemptible farce

