

Rooms of General Court Martial  
Little Rock Ark Nov<sup>r</sup> 30<sup>th</sup> 1864

Col C W Kittredge  
36<sup>th</sup> Iowa Inftry

Sir

I have the honor  
to report Myself as on detached  
duty on a General Court  
Martial now sitting in the  
City of Little Rock Arkansas  
in obedience to Special Orders  
No 292 issued from Head Quarters  
Dept of Arkansas Nov<sup>r</sup> 24<sup>th</sup> 1864 by  
Order of Maj. General F. Steel

Very Resp<sup>t</sup>  
Your obt Serv<sup>t</sup>  
Benj<sup>n</sup> H Pearson  
1<sup>st</sup> Lieut Co G 36<sup>th</sup> Iowa Inftry

Facsimile of a letter written by Sergeant B. F. Pearson in 1864 to Col. C. W. Kittredge. Original in possession of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.

# ANNALS OF IOWA

VOL. XV, No. 2

DES MOINES, OCTOBER, 1925

THIRD SERIES

## BENJAMIN F. PEARSON'S WAR DIARY

Pertaining to this diary are the following correspondence and comments:

W. Bramwell Booth, General  
Evangeline C. Booth, Commander U. S. Forces  
Thos. Estill, Commissioner Eastern Territory  
THE SALVATION ARMY  
Second & French Sts.,  
Wilmington, Del.

Aug. 3, 1923.

Adjutant General,  
Iowa National Guard,  
Des Moines, Iowa.  
Dear Sir:

I am herewith enclosing an old Civil War communication from Lieut. B. Pearson to his commanding officer, Col. C. W. Kittridge of the Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, under date of Nov. 30, 1864. The letter was found amongst other debris in our paper assorting room in this city and may be of interest to some Grand Army post of Iowa you may know.

Yours very truly,

WILLIAM M. HARVEY,  
Captain.

## ROOMS OF GENERAL COURT MARTIAL

Little Rock, Ark., Nov. 30, 1864.

Col. C. W. Kittridge,  
36th Iowa Infty.  
Sir:

I have the honor to report myself as on detached duty on a General Court Martial now sitting in the city of Little Rock, Arkansas, in obedience to Special Orders No. 292 issued from Head Quarters Dept. of Arkansas Nov. 24th, 1864, by order of Maj. General F. Steele.

Very Respt.

Your Obt. Servt.,  
BENJ. F. PEARSON,  
1st Lieut., Co. G, 36th Iowa Infty.

The Adjutant General of Iowa, Aug. 7th, 1923, to: E. R. Harlan, State Curator, Historical Dept., State House, Des Moines, Iowa.

1. Forwarding for such disposition as you may desire.

LOUIS G. LASHER,  
The Adjutant General.

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HISTORICAL DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

Des Moines, Aug. 16, 1923.

William M. Harvey,  
Captain, Salvation Army,  
2 & French Sts.,  
Wilmington, Delaware.

My dear Captain Harvey:

Your letter to the Adjutant General, enclosing letter from Lieut. Pearson to his commanding officer, Col. Kittridge, was turned over to this department where we eagerly welcome every scrap of material bearing on Iowa's part in the Civil War. Our Civil War Roster bears both the names and the place of their birth and enlistment.

Thanking you for your interest, I am  
Sincerely,

E. R. HARLAN,  
Curator.

The above letter written by Lieutenant Pearson, now in the possession of the Historical Department, is very well preserved. It would be interesting to know its history, where it was hidden away for sixty years, and what called it from its seclusion. Lieutenant Pearson, as shown by the "Roster of Iowa Soldiers," was elected second lieutenant of Company G, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, July 26, 1862; mustered October 4, 1862; promoted to first lieutenant, March 4, 1862; taken prisoner April 25, 1864, at Marks Mills, Arkansas; returned to company; resigned May 3, 1865. His age at enlistment was given as forty-seven, his residence Centerville, Iowa, and his nativity Maryland.

Colonel Charles Woodman Kittridge (see "Iowa Colonels and Regiments," p. 513) was born in Portland, Maine, January 16, 1826. In 1858 he removed to Ottumwa, Iowa, where he engaged in the grocery business. In 1861 he enlisted in Company F, Seventh Iowa Infantry, and was elected its captain. He was wounded at Belmont, left on the field and captured. He was paroled and after several weeks rejoined his regiment, but not entirely recovering from his wounds, resigned June 11, 1862, and



returned home. In August, 1862, Governor Kirkwood tendered him the colonelcy of the Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, which he accepted. He was a brave and vigorous commander.—EDITOR.

*Tuesday, July 22, 1862.* Mr. David C. Campbell &<sup>1</sup> I commenced getting up a Company of Volunteers for the U S Service at noon We commenced & evening started a letter for Commissions.

*July 24.* I went in buggy with Judge Tannyhill to see about getting Volunteers. Evening attended prayer meeting.

*July 25.* I was out soliciting Volunteers took dinner at Brother James Robinson's

*July 26.* We had a meeting at Centerville to raise Volunteers. Several joined Judges Harris & Tannyhill & Joshua Miller I K Morey & I made speeches 2 Oc Our quarterly meeting commenced 4 Oc I was at gr Conference Evening Brother Pendegast Locle preached text 1st Corinthians 13 th & 13 v My license renewed M H Hare, P.E.

*Sunday, July 27.* At 9 Oc we had a good Love feast 11 Oc M H Hare P. E. preached text Luke 16th 2nd had a glorious time the Lord was with us in power I took dinner with Br Williams 3 Oc the Sacrement was administered & the Shout of a King in the Camp evening Hare preached text Romans 1st 16th I took tea at Brother Rummels

*July 28.* W. Campbell & Wife came on a visit and staid all night I entertained them.

*July 29.* 7 Oc we left in Westley Campbells wagon to attend our meeting at Unionville Several of us made war Speeches & evening returned home had some success. evening attended & presided in our literary Society had a good time.

*July 30.* Afternoon 7 Oc we started to Moravia 12 miles North of Centerville to recruit Volunteers Mr J Miller G Udell & I spoke evening returned Mr T Alexander took us with his team

*July 31.* 7 Oc we started in Sol Fenton's waggon to Iconium to our appointment Mr. Tanneyhill G Udell & I spoke evening we returned & I attended our prayer meeting I recd a commission from N B Baker Adj't Genl of Iowa to raise a company of volunteers

*August 1.* 9 Oc left in Mr Wentworths wagon to our meeting at Bellair Judge Harris Mr Udell, J Miller & I spoke evening we returned home & a while after dark my children got home from their visit to Keosauqua they have been gone near three weeks

*August 2.* 8 Oc we left in wagons for our appointment at Cincinnati the brass band went with us Judge Tannehill J Miller, G Udell & I spoke we had a good time evening got home informed twin Daughter of August Richards Died.

*Sunday, August 3.* 11 Oc Brother Whitman, local preached text

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<sup>1</sup>We have followed the punctuation, capitalization, spelling, except proper names, etc., as they appear in the original dairy.—Editor.



Jobe, acquaint now thy Self with him and be at peace Evening attended our missionary meeting.

*August 4.* 8 Oc we started in wagon to our appointment at Hibsville G Udell J Miller L Spooner & I spoke evening we returned to Centerville

*August 5.* 8 Oc we left home in B Swearingens wagon for our appointment at Hyatts School house L Spooner ——— Fee & I spoke Evening we returned home & attended the Literary Society I presided we had a good time

*August 6.* I have been feeble all day but buisey about town evening Brother Orr & Wife & Child put up with us we had a pleasant time he is a traveling preacher on this district

*August 7.* 10 Oc Brother Orr left & Brother Bunker & I went out 3 miles west of town to help work on camp ground afternoon returned evening attended prayer meeting Rev Mr Fischers child died age 2 months. Night Mr. Lane came to get me to preach the funeral of his grandson tomorrow.

*August 8.* 2 Oc I preached the funeral of T I Stantons son 5 months old in the M. E Church.

*August 9.* We had a war meeting here in Centerville Judge Harris T M Fee, Mr Ellsworth a Cousin to the lamented Col Ellsworth that was killed by the tory Jackson, speakers at our meeting

*Sunday, August 10.* 11 Oc I attended church Brother Whitman preached text Rev 6th 17th v Delay closed both local preachers I started my report with Mr T M Fee to N B Baker Adj't Gen'l of the State of Iowa

*August 11.* I have been buisey in raising volunteers and swearing them in we have some 90 odd sworn in I got Mr. J. Miller & L Spooner to go in my buggy to fill my appointment at Livingston

*August 12.* I have now over one hundred volunteers Sworn in I have administered the oath to most of them I got J Miller & Miller McCreary to take my horse & buggy & fill my appointment at Unionville. evening I presided in our literary society we had a pleasant time

*August 13.* I sent my report to the Adj't Gen'l

*August 14.* there was a large crowd of people in town our ellection for officers in our company was a spirited time D C Campbell elected Capt without opposition Miller [William M] McCreary was elected 1st Lieut & I second Lieut evening George Clark preached text Titus 2nd 14th

*August 15.* I went down to Mo to settle with J Bramhall took dinner with Father Stanton near Cincinnati evening returned home

*August 16.* 11 Oc the Bellair Company of volunteers came to town we formed in line & saluted them I then assigned them their places for dinner which we had arranged previous afternoon we had several speeches our companys then formed in line and paraded on the square

after we broke ranks G. Udell & Talbot took up a collection & got over ten dollars to get our company a flag

*Sunday, August 17.* 8 Oc my 4 children & I started in wagon to a basket meeting in Clemenger grove. 9 Oc Geo Clark Pr'd text Titus 2 ch 11 & 12 vs 11 Oc Oliver Williams P text Isaiah 11th ch 9th v. 3 Oc M. H. Hare P Elder P text 2nd Corinthians 4th ch 17th & 18th verses We then had the sacrement & Dismissed candle light Oliver Williams P in our church Centerville text Hebrews 6th ch 1st clause of 1st verse night Sister Temperance Ann Fisk & my Brothers son Augustus & his daughter Mariah Jane came to visit us before I leave for the army

*August 18.* I have put in the day arranging to go with our Company to Rendevouze

*August 19.* Forenoon I was packing up as we expected to start at 2 Oc but we recd orders to go into quarters here til further orders Some were glad others provoked & all disapointed there was a big crowd in town to see us start

*August 20.* we drilled some the Capt & 1st Lieut absent the 1st Lieutenant has been sick for several days.

*August 21.* Mr Fee our Orderly drilled us today. Oliver Williams a Traveling preacher & Miss Ella Filkin was Married by C Morey

*August 22.* Capt Campbell got home afternoon I have been assisting in drilling most of the day 4 Oc Mr T M Fee<sup>2</sup> our Orderly & I went in buggy to Moravia to a war meeting to assist Dr Sawrers in getting up a company Rev Kain made a whining speech and was invited to quitt and give place for others. I was called out & was cheered every few minutes by deafning shouts. there was 26 volunteered & sworn in & we returned home before morning

*August 23.* I am drousey but on drill part of the day Afternoon attend an official meeting in the M E Church to close up the business of the Conference year

*Sunday, August 24.* 11 Oc & night Brother Oliver Williams one of our traveling preachers who has now volunteered preached for us text Revelation 22nd ch & 11th & 12th verses. evening Matthew 22nd ch & 21st v after the eleven Oc sermon I attended & led Class we had a good time. Afternoon Dr McCoy brutally beat his wife it is thought by the doctor she is fatally ingured

*August 25.* We drilled & elected 5 delegates from our Co to attend in this town on the 28th in Convention with the 3 other Co delegates from this Co in relation to partitioning the Governor to let us select our field officers from our ranks for our Reg. we had 30 soldiers with us for dinner. T Fee Spooner Murdock & I were chosen as the delegates

*August 26.* We are attending to our drill afternoon I was sick at my stomach evening attended the Literary Society I was elected Presi-

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<sup>2</sup>T. M. Fee of Centerville served as captain of Co. G, Thirty-sixth Iowa Inf., and from 1895 to 1901 was a judge of the District Court of the Second Judicial District of Iowa.

dent protem after which Mr Talbot was elected president for the remainder of the unexpired term.

*August 27.* We had 30 soldiers with us for dinner

*August 28.* Afternoon we met in convention the committy from the Belair Co & ours & selected men from the ranks of the various Companies to recommend to the Governor as our field officers Chaplain &c & without my consent they recommended me for Qr Master

*August 29.* We drilled some & took a descriptive list of the boys presant. evening attended a lecture by Proffessor Moffet on wreghtery [rhetoric] I was called out & made a fiew remarks

*August 30.* The Democrats had a Co Convention & nominated G A Bryant for clerk. I had 150 notices struck to announce a grand rally here on tuesday next the four Companey's of volunteers now more than full in the Co are all to be here on that day.

*Sunday, August 31.* 11 Oc C Morey preached text 2nd Corinthians 13th & 14th v afternoon my Daughter & I was at Brother Luteon Bryants, evening they brought back a man that broke jail here some days ago

*September 1.* I sent my team some 10 or 11 miles west to get a fifer & drummer for tomorrow they got in after night & about midnight M H Hare came in in the stage & put up with us & we had a pleasant time

*September 2.* 10 Oc we marched out & met the Bellair Co & marched into town we trained some in town & around it & at noon we marched out north of town & there was a fine dinner prepared & the soldiers eat first then the ladies & then the other men after which M H Hare & Mr Grenell made good speeches then we formed & marched to town & dismissed & I got teams engaged to take us to Ottumwa free

*September 3.* I am unwell so that I did not drill it is the first day that I have not been with the Company 36 soldiers to dinner with us & 4 not soldiers Mrs. Capt Fleck Walden buried her little daughter age 9 months Materials to make our Co a flag arived & the committy selected Miss C Stratton & my Daughter to superintend the making of it

*September 4.* I am better was up with the men but did not drill Suffer some inconvenience with a large boil under my right arm

*September 5.* 9 Oc night Augustus Richards other little twin daughter died the other died Aug 2nd

*September 6.* 3 Oc I started to Salem Church my Daughter & I in buggy & L Bryant along we took supper at Brother Morises Candle lighting Brother Bruce conducted a prayer meeting we staid all night with Brother John Whites

*Sunday, September 7.* 9 Oc we had a speaking meeting L Bryant opened it we had a good time 11 Oc Brother Boyer Local preached text 2nd Corinthians 5th & 1st v I exorted after him we had a good time. I took dinner with Wm Bryants and at 3 Oc started home evening Oliver Williams preached in Centerville I closed after him, text 1st



Corinthians 3 ch 22nd & 23 verse. Brother Benjm Morrisons son died age one year

*September 8.* Mr Murdock Mrs Bell & Miss Claudear Stratton spent the evening with us we had a good time

*September 9.* The Bellair Company came to town & will quarter here untill we are all into Rendisvouse 6 Oc I got Marriage License for Samuel Bunker of Ill & Miss Susan I Porter & at  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 6 Oc I & my Daughter started in my buggy at 8 Oc we arrived at her house some 8 miles south of town  $\frac{1}{4}$  past 8 Oc I married them a house full of persons were there we had a splendid time at 2 Oc we got home

*September 10.* Cloudy & rainy

*September 11.* Afternoon Orders Came for us to go to Rendezvouse at Keokuk & my Daughter & I ware up cooking untill 2 Oc & getting my things ready for to leave at 4 Oc

*September 12.* 10 Oc Miss Claudear Stratton & my Daughter presented our Comp with a Beautifull flag the Ladies of Centerville made for us. at 20 min past 1 Oc we left with our Company for Keokuk at dark we arrived at Blakesburg fed took supper & at 10 &  $\frac{1}{2}$  Oc we started at 3 Oc arrived at the desmoin opposite Attumwa fed horses spred down our blankets & laid down to sleep on the Bank of the beautifull river

*September 13.* At day break we ware up fed & the teams all in line forded the River & eat our breakfast prepared before we left home here we overtook the Unionville Co & at  $7\frac{1}{4}$  Oc we took the cars & started & at  $12\frac{1}{2}$  Oc we arrived at Keokuk we were met at the depot by 2 Comp & marched into Camp Lincon our Rendesvouse I called at 5 Oc to see Cozen M J Kellys

*Sunday, September 14.* 11 Oc I attended Preaching by a Baptist to the 30th Reg Iowa vol'ns at Camp Lincoln Keokuk I took dinner with Coz Kelleys. evening spent an hour pleasantly with Mrs Capt Mat Walden & Mrs Lieut Boston at the Demming house candlelighting attended church at the colered M E Church a local preacher Soldier from Henry County

*September 15.* Heavy rain at night & we got wet Sprinkled in our tent our boys are mostly well

*September 16.* We drilled some are mostly well

*September 17.* We reported Thos Stanton to the hospital he is quite poorly I am suffering with a boil under my right arm. Had part of the Company examined & 6 of the Number rejected night attended Preaching by a United Brethren & exorted after him in the Camp of the 36th Reg.

*September 18.* Finished up the examination of the Company & had 7 more rejected but leaves us a full com they had to be stripped naked & thurroughly examined all over by a Seargeon those that were rejected started home on the cars at noon. my boil is verry bad

*September 19.* I rested none last night with my boil & feel bad. we

drilled some evening M H Hare preached to our Reg at our Rendevouse I closed by Prayer after Service a man in the 30th Reg was shot in the thy by a small pistol catrige & person that committed not yet found 9 Oc I went to mr Pecks & set on a chair all *night bile bad*

*September 20.* I had to remain at tent all day to attend to matters there I had the Co drilled by an old soldier my boil is painfull evening I went in the Citty of Keokuk & staid all night with Cozen M J Kelley

*Sunday, September 21.* I came into camp suffering with my Boil 10 Oc Elder M H Hare preached text fight the good fight of faith candle lighting he preached again in Camp text the Lord hath Magnified man

*September 22.* I am suffering verry much with my boil 8 Oc we went out to drill & drilled untill  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 10 Oc then we commenced mesuring our men evening went out & drilled  $2\frac{1}{2}$  hours again night I went down in the citty saw our Cornal Lieut Col & Mager

*September 23.* Variable & Pleasant 7 Oc I took the cars went to Madison then the packet Kate Cassel for Devenport

*September 24.*  $7\frac{1}{4}$  Oc got to Davenport attended to some buisness with the Adgt Gen'l got my Commission as 2nd Lieut & was mustered in by H B Hendershot 1 Oc started in the steam packet Kate Cassel for Keokuk my boil broke

*September 25.*  $6\frac{1}{2}$  Oc I arrived at Keokuk went to Coz M J Kelleys & took breakfast little Cozen Louis Kelley is quite sick I went to Camp & assisted in fixing mustering rolls &c

*September 26.* Forenoon we drilled 12 Oc seen the 30th reg in Battalion drill afternoon fixed up some affidavits, 4 Oc attended dress parade of the 30th reg  $5\frac{1}{2}$  Oc the 23rd Reg also had dress parade on main street they had their arms and the seen was beautifull. evening I went to see Cozen Louey

*September 27.* We read the articles of war to the Company and are all ready & did expect to have been mustered into the Reg this day evening Mr Murdock & I called & spent an hour pleasantly at my Cozen M J Kelleys the boy is better we staid the night at Mrs Rachael Kendles

*Sunday, September 28.* 8 Oc Mr. Murdock & I came into camp 5 Oc we had our 1st Dress parade in this 36th Reg the Col said it was well performed night we went down to Negro meeting had a good sermon text Mathew 27th 36 & 9th inclusive

*September 29.* We drilled fore & afternoon & at 5 Oc we ware on Dress parade evening I attended meeting in Capt Gedney's Barracks by one Judd & it was a complete failure I do not know what he was but think he was Campbellite

*September 30.* An unusual heavy rain forenoon heavy thunder & lightning Struck one of the tents in our Reg. Capt Joy Co. B It knocked down several men but none seariously injoured. afternoon we drilled untill the rain drove us in. evening K P Morrison preached in the camp of the 30th Reg text for we know if the earthly house &c I exorted &

closed there was good attention Our first Lieutenant arrived the 1st he has been with us since elected

*October 1.* 8 Oc I took Command as Lieuten of the Guard to Serve till 8 Oc tomorrow night Showery & I was a partaker of it being up & around examining guard all night Some of the boys moved a shop that was building for cook shop

*October 2.* 8½ Oc I went of guard duty afternoon I drilled the Co evening I took A R Murdock & Calvert & went to Cozen M J Kelleys the little boy is almost well. I seen N Udell Sergt of the 17th Reg. Iowa vol. & my old friend Henry Wheelen at the Demming house.

*October 3.* We had a verry heavy rain before day wett us in our tents I mustered the company & took them out on Dress parade evening I took L Spooner went to Coz Kelleys then to the Demming house then to an Oyster shop & had a fine dish of Oysters returned to Camp & at 11 Oc nite the rain commenced to pour down & we took it in our tent.

*October 4.* At ½ past 7 Oc the 36th Reg of Iowa Vol. formed in line in Camp Lincoln Keokuk & at ½ past 8 Oc we ware mustered into the U S Service by Lieut Ball mustering officer The boys had a good time over it we had one rejected but have a full company yet every man that we can get in with we had a good dress parade

*Sunday, October 5.* We had a shower while on dress parade I have put in the day making out pay rools for our company & it has not been a source of much comfort to me but knowing the wants of the boys & all the other company being at it I reconcile it as a military necessity. I got K P Morrison to preach in our tent & I exhorted & closed after him text ye will not come to me that ye may have life

*October 6.* About 4 Oc I awoke by the sound of the fire & church bells there was a fine frame building burnt down the blaze looked nice but it was a source of grief to me at 1 Oc P.M. I was in the city getting 2 sick men of our company that were in the hospitals to sign the pay roll & the alarm of fire was given I assisted in running the Ingine to the fire but little dammage done I put in most of this day getting the men to sign the pay rolls 8 in number

*October 7.* I have been working on the pay rolls & signed my name as witness on them seven hundred & 84 times that is 8 times to each man & we have 98 men in our Co I had the pay rolls examined & they are all right & pronounced a first rate job

*October 8.* We drilled some & was on dress parade in the rain. I visited the hospitals & talked to the sick, the Fanny Bulley Steamer arived last night with between 300 & 400 sick & disabled soldiers I assisted some in getting them off

*October 9.* Rainey nearly all day & we had a wet time of it on dress parade I visited the hospitals evening by request I preached in Capt Vermillions tent we got the Blankets for our boys today

*October 10.* Our Company messed of in 5 messes this day we have



all been on mess duty till now. we drew shoes for our boys this day & not before they needed them

*October 11.* Morning cold with heavy frost our Reg was all paid of this Saturday each except the commissioned officers recd \$40.00 the commissioned officers will receive their pay the last of this month Our Captain arived this afternoon has been absent 2 weeks against tuesday morning

*Sunday, October 12.* 11 Oc I attended church on Exchange Street the paster preached text 126th Psalm 6th v 3 Oc I & the Miss Kelleys attended at the Chatham Square Church a discourse by Dr Sturtevant President of Ilinoise Colledge Isaiah 58th & 6th ve 5 Oc we was at dress parade the ladies took supper with us at the camps I then went home with them & attended preaching at the African church

*October 13.* We ware on battalion drill this afternoon for the first time afternoon Company drill & 5 Oc dress parade. Capt John Craig & Judge Knapp in town.

*October 14.* It was the day of our state & county elections & there was little stur in the Camp. I was officer of the guard today & I plased a line of guards across the camp between the two Regiments to prevent any mixing on election day & every thing passed off with little or no disturbance.

*October 15.* I am greatly rejoised my children arived at Camp & we are all now comfortable at Coz Kelleys they were out to see us on batallion drill & dress parade this afternoon.

*October 16.* Deek Spooner Benj Swearengen took their waggon & I & Amandus & our Orderly & Phil Whitzell went over into Ill some 6 or 8 miles took dinner at Dr Griswells they have a baring orchard of fifty acres I got some apples for the Boys & 10 gallons of Sider evening we returned & I am now with my children at Kelleys

*October 17.* I spent the day with my children most of the time in the city 4 Oc we went out to camp & I took command of our Company on Dress parade my children took supper with us at Camp. Ben Swearengen & Deek Spooner started home in their wagon & Lemuel L Spooner & John W Williams started home to Centerville on the cars this morning

*October 18.* There was no drilling afternoon we had batallion drill & Dress parade about noon one of Capt Sawyers men from Appanoose Co Company C died his wife was by him this is the 2nd in our Reg evening I attended a Speaking meeting in the 30th Reg we had a good time

*Sunday, October 19.* 10 Oc I & Emma Amandus & our Cozens Maria & Mary Kelley attended Catholic Church after which we went to the Hospital Boat & from that we went to the hospitals & amongst the sick & wounded 5 Oc I was on dress parade evening I preached in the tent 30th Reg text Gal 6th 1st & 2nd v

*October 20.* Forenoon I was on Camp drill afternoon on Battalion drill & dress parade, evening Brother Burgess Chaplain of the 30th

Reg Iowa vol preached in our tent text Psalms. Praise God. an excelent discourse One of the men of Company D died<sup>3</sup>

*October 21.* Forenoon I was on Company drill afternoon Division & Battallion drill & Dress parade, evening Emma Cozen Maria Kelly & I attended a Medical Lecture at the Medical Colledge we visited some of the sick soldiers in part of the Colledge

*October 22.* Forenoon we ware on Co drill afternoon on Brigade & battallion drill & Dress parade. Our Capt is poorly in his bed most of the day the 26th Reg passed down on a Packet landed a short time they are a fine looking set of men. evening Emma & I attended the African Church & seen some contrabands just from South Carolina

*October 23.* I went with our Capt to the Hospital & gave him his medison & staid with him most of the day afternoon a short time on drill & Dress parade evening Emma & I attended prayer meeting at exchange St Church after that we went into see some of our sick Soldiers in the Hospital

*October 24.* It was so cold we did not drill any this day Emma & I visited the hospitals & tryed to Comfort the suffering evening Emma Amandus & I attended the prayer meeting at the African church

*October 25.* We did not drill but had Dress parade at 4 Oc the 30th Reg left here this day on the Packet John Warner they ware in fine spirits I had the children all with me to see them leave then Emma & I attended the hospitals & evening Emma & Mary Kelly & I attended meeting in the hospital in the lighton house & I spoke from the 1st Psalm one of the 30th died

*Sunday, October 26.* Our Reg got our coats pants shirts & socks & caps & they needed them verry much 9 Oc I was at love feast in the African church then visited our boys in the hospital. then helped to receive & distribute the uniform 4 Oc we were on dress parade evening Emma & Mrs & Miss Kelly visited the hospitals & attended preaching at exchange church

*October 27.* Forenoon I drilled the Co & was on dress parade. 1st Lieut drilled the Co afternoon. I took my children & visited the hospitals. the centance of the Courtmartial on 2 deserters from Co C. 36 Reg Iowa & was read on Dress parade they are brothers each forfeit one months pay & one is put on hard labor for 2 weeks & have  $\frac{1}{2}$  his head clipped & be kept in the guard house at nights. Evening Miss Mary & Miss Richey of Ill spent the evening at Kellys with us

*October 28.* Forenoon we drilled in the manuel of arms evening I took Miss Richey of Ill to the sociable at the M E Church Chatam Square we had a pleasant time

*October 29.* We drilled forenoon in manual of arms & afternoon in battallion drill & dress parade Our Reg took a march through the city & drilled some on main Street evening I wrote our Capt a letter visited

<sup>3</sup>William P. Shipley, age 25, residence Eddyville, nativity Tennessee. Enlisted August 13, 1862, Company D, Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry. Died of disease October 20, 1862, at Keokuk.—"Roster Iowa Soldiers," Vol. V, p. 716.

the hospitals & with our 1st & 2nd Seargent took a dish of Oisters two of the men of our Reg in Capt Vermillions Co. ware sent home to be buried

*October 30.* Forenoon I drilled the Co in the manual of arms afternoon we ware on battallion drill & dress perade & ware down on main street & had our arms inspected I visited our boys in the hospital morning & night some of them are verry sick one of Co [F] Capt Vermillion died he is a brother to one that was sent up yesterday

*October 31.* I was Officer of the Guard & was up near all night it was a beautiful night. one of our boys Josiah Biddison is verry sick & some doubts of his recovery

*November 1.* 9 Oc I dismissed the old guard & I then visited the sick in hospitals till noon evening I was on dress perade we have the pleasure of the arivel of our Chaplain M H Hare

*Sunday, November 2.* Forenoon was down to see the 25th Reg on their way to St Louis they are a fine looking set of men. 3 Oc our chaplain M H Hare preached for us in our Barracks the first sermon he has preached for the Reg since his appointment text Seek first the kingdom of God & c night we was to preaching by the pastor at Chattam Square Church Keokuk I was on dress perade

*November 3.* Forenoon we drilled in manuel of arms afternoon we did not drill we was on dress perade night Capt Noble, Lieut McCreary 1st Seargt Fee & 2nd Searg Spooner our Chaplain & I had a good time at Coz M J Kelleys. we had an oister supper & a good time of it

*November 4.* Forenoon I drilled the Co in the manuel of arms afternoon Lieut McCreary drilled us 4 Oc we were on dress perade night I was at Lieut Balls office I visited all our sick & found all improving except Josiah Biddison & I fear we will loose him

*November 5.* Forenoon I drilled the men in the manual of arms in the Baracks afternoon Orderly Fee & I drilled them Lieut McCreary was officer of the guard 4 Oc we was on dress perade

*November 6.* We drilled none but was on dress perade I visited the sick in hospitals & spent the day mostly with them we have one Josiah Biddison that the doctors say cannot live he is earnest in prayer but has not yet professed

*November 7.* Forenoon the Orderly & I drilled the Co on scirmish drill afternoon I drilled then in the manuel of arms. 1st Lieut absent untill we went on dress perade & night till after 10 Oc he was in town afternoon I went to see our sick in the hospitals

*November 8.* Forenoon I drilled the Co in the manuel of arms we did not drill afternoon. we was on dress perade 1st Lieut & Orderly was absent all day untill dress perade evening I visited our sick in hospitals all seem to be doing well & I have hopes that Biddison will live

*Sunday, November 9.* 10 Oc I called by request of Lieut Ball at his office to answer questions in relation to my physical ability to serve as Officer 3 Oc M H Hare preached to us at the Camp out dores text Acts



17th 4 Oc we ware on dress parade evening I went to Kellys & accompanied the girls to church on exchange st church the pastor preached a good sermon Three of the men in our Reg died this even

*November 10.* In morning the Doctors Opened & examined one of the men that died last evening our Co was out to late to go on Battalion drill & our 1st Lieut drilled the Company in the manuel of arms 4 Oc we were on dress parade Gov Kirkwood was to see us on dress parade & the Col passed around with him & introduced him to the Commissioned officers as they ware on parade. Dr J D Elbert was to see us & I took him around the camp & to the hospital

*November 11.* Last night the 28th Reg passed down stopped a short time in town. I spent most of this forenoon in the hospitals & some of the afternoon most of our sick are doing well 4 Oc we were on dress parade

*November 12.* Our Orderly Seargent left for home this morning. we were on Co drill & Dress parade evening the house we ware in took fire there was some excitement but little dammage done we carried our things out in double quick time

*November 13.* We ware on batallion drill afternoon Company drill & Dress parade Our sick are all mending evening Our Chaplain preached in the Barracks of Co I Capt Gedney. text Come unto me all ye that labour &c

*November 14.* Forenoon I got some things & was preparing to go home afternoon my Children & I started & at 7 Oc night we arrived at my Brotherinlaws Leeroy Merediths in Keosauqua found them well & the neighbors generaly we staid with them the night

*November 15.* We went into our own house & fixed up & I went up to my upper place with L Meredith & we got a load of wood evening I attended the lodge of the IOOF & got a traveling card for six months. we had a good social time.

*Sunday, November 16.* We took dinner with my old friend Andrew Meredith called and seen Brothers M M Myres and C E Yeager had a pleasant time evening went to Prayer meeting at the M E church it was rather a dry time for so much mud I called with Brother Yeager a short time after meeting.

*November 17.* I went over to my place south of Keosauqua to see to having some corn got home Spent the afternoon and evening pleasantly with our old neighbours

*November 18.* Forenoon I rode over to my place south of Keosauqua & out to John Bennets came home in the rain

*November 19.* I rode over to my river farm forenoon and afternoon over to Pittsburg & up Chequest to Valentines mill & home

*November 20.* I spent the day seeing about my crop on my river farm evening Emma & I was at prayer meeting and after meeting we called & spent an hour with Judge Geo Wright<sup>4</sup> I received a letter

<sup>4</sup>George G. Wright of Keosauqua, judge of the Supreme Court of Iowa for fifteen years, and United States senator from Iowa for six years.

with the information of the happy death of Sister Sophia Phillips in Cecil Co Md on the 11th

*November 21.* I got my Brotherinlaw Leeroy Meredith & we put in the day steadily halling corn from my river farm & Mr Legg was also delivering my share of my place south of town. I am verry tired to night but am well bless the Lord but my son Augustus has the mumps

*November 22.* I have been verry busy fixing up matters to leave I have just returned from the Lodge of L.O.O.F. we had a pleasant time and conferred the 5th degree on Bro W Walker

*Sunday, November 23.* 8 Oc the children & I went to the graveyard and had a season of prayer at the graves of my sainted Wife & children 11 Oc we attended preaching by Brother Brodrick at the M E church Keosauqua text John 15th 5th v we took dinner with L Meredith 2 Oc we attended Sabbath School 110 Schollars 3½ Oc we attended class & had a precious time evening Brodrick preached text Luke 1st 78th & 79th Emma handed in her letter

*November 24.* I attended to some business with Judge Knapp, packed up my things & at 4 Oc bid good by to my Dear children Amandus took me in my buggy & at 5 Oc I took the cars at Summit & at 8½ arrived at Keokuk 9 Oc I arrived at Camp Lincoln glad to see the boys

*November 25.* 11½ Oc we marched from Camp Lincoln & took passage in the packet Bill Henderson for St Louis at 1½ Oc we left Keokuk with four of our companies six having gone yesterday we have two barges in tow for 2 of the com

*November 26.* We took 2 more barges in tow at the reck of the packet Denmark which snagged & sunk, I believe yesterday 2 weeks. both barges ware loaded with the machinery & things from the Denmark. while we lay at the wreck a man from Co E walked off one of the barges & fortunately came up and swam & got hold of the wheel of the Packet at stearn & got on board, 8½ Oc at night arrived at St Louis

*November 27.* 8½ Oc we left the packet and formed in line on the levy St Louis 10 Oc we started for Benton Barracks had a verry Dirty time 12 Oc we arrived had stoves put up & found every convenience we could ask in camp life & all agreed that Genl Fremont is worthy of great praise for the excellent arrangements of the Barracks. evening I spent with Friend LeeRoy Mayne at the head quarters & we had a fine oyster supper

*November 28.* Evening it snowed to cover the ground near ½ inch deep. Our Capt T M Fee & First Lieut Wm M McCreary spent the day in the city of St Louis & got us a mess chest & some other articles. I drilled the company fore & afternoon. 4¼ Oc we were on Dress parade

*November 29.* By 10 Oc the snow is all gone. I started from Benton Barracks & went in the street car to the city spent the day in the city & was over the two gun boats building at the upper end of the levy they are formidable looking things 4 Oc crossed into Illinois & at 5 Oc took the cars for Belleville at 6 Oc arrived at Brotherinlaw J K Mullen's

& found him and his Bride well took tea & went & spent part of the evening with H A Mullen found his family well. returned & staid the night with J K & left with Amandus

*Sunday, November 30.* 11 Oc Am Mullen & I attended church at M E C text Simon lovest thou me 3 Oc attended the funeral of Wesley Harison text Ecleezastes 12th 5th, at M E C also evening at same ch. text Prov 3rd 17th all by Rev T P Davis I spent an hour at B I Wests. staid the night with A H Mullen

*December 1.* 7 Oc Mullen & I took the cars for St. Louis arived 8 we then went to the arsenal & to[ok] a view of all the preparations there for war then took the cars & went to Corondelet took a view of the gun Boats building & the big guns. took dinner with Anthony Lobsinger then took the cars for the city then took the Street Cars & came to Benton Barracks I was on Dress parade A Mullen staid with us the night

*December 2.* 9 Oc we went on Battallion drill. after we dismissed I & A Mullen visited the hospital & afternoon he started for home we was on company drill & Dress parade after dismissing I again visited the hospital and endeavored to comfort the suffering. evening we had meeting at the Barracks of Co A. the Chaplain had me to open by prayer he spoke then called on me to exort after that we had a speaking meeting & the power of God was with us & many wept 1st Lieut not able for duty

*December 3.* In the morning I visited the sick in the hospital & at 9 Oc took the street cars and went into the city to procure some things for the mess. I had an interview with Genls Curtis & Fisk. Called at Genl Fremonts residence he is absent. I saw the 118th Illinois Reg on their way to Memphis. evening I spoke in the Barracks of Co F text Matthew 11th 28th K. P. Morrison & our Chaplain followed me we had a good time I visited the 33 Reg Iowa Vol in their barracks to day.

*December 4.* Forenoon we had a fine battalio drill afternoon the orderly & I drilled the company we ware on Dress parade Evening the Chaplain preached in barracks of Co C text prayer is as an anchor to the soul &c. after preaching we had an excellent speaking meeting.

*December 5.* Forenoon we was on battallion drill after noon Co drill, no Dress parade about sunset just when the 23 Mo Inft dismissed their dress parade one of their boys snapped his gun at the croud not knowing it was loaded it went of killed one man dead dangerously wounded one & one slightly Evening I attended preaching by one of the 1st Iowa Cavalry to the paroled prisoners text to be spiritually minded is life & peace

*December 6.* Capt Fee & Orderly Spooner spent the day in the City we had a general cleaning up in the barracks, afternoon I took 3 of the boys & went out & got a fine lot of Sasafrass & we had some pistol target shooting I stood No one. 4 Oc we ware on dress parade I received a letter stating Amandus is verry sick



*Sunday, December 7.* In the morning I visited our sick in the hospital 10 Oc attended preaching by the Chaplain in the 4th ward hospital at the fair grounds, text eternity. 2 Oc our Chaplain preached in Barracks of Co, H evening Capt Mahan preached in our barracks Co G. text the Lord hath given his people a banner we had a good time. I am uneasy about me Dear Son Amandus

*December 8.* Forenoon we had battalion drill afternoon Capt & Orderly went out to try their pistols I visited the hospitals & the Sergeants drilled the Co. 4 Oc we were on dress parade evening Capt Fee & I spent at head quarters of post with Leroy Mayne & Adgaten Horine

*December 9.* 9 Oc Mr. R Murdock & I started to the city was at the gun boats & Arsenal seen one horse get drowned, took our dinner at the Mt Vernon hotel, kept by Bolander Spent an hour with Dr Elliott Editor of the Central advocate. Evening I spoke to the paroled prisoners text now commandeth all men everywhere to repent Butler D Bailey a stout young man of our company died, the first we have lost

*December 10.* 8 Oc I went down into the city to the government undertaker & made arrangements & arranged to have him bury Corporal Butler D Bailey at 2 Oc. I got the Col to release our Company from duty that all might escort the corps to the graveyard. evening our Chaplain preached to the paroled prisoners. I exhorted, text, thou shalt not go with the multitude to do evil we had a good time it turned it into a speaking meeting & there was great liberty

*December 11.* Forenoon we had a good battalion drill afternoon I Drilled the Co 4 Oc we were on Dress parade evening I was at meeting a short time in Co D at 7½ Oc I met with the commissioned officers at head quarters we held an election for Sutler & a Mr Wolf of Albia, Monroe Co Iowa was elected

*December 12.* Forenoon we had a fine battalion drill afternoon we were in Co drill & dress parade evening I spoke to the paroled prisoners in their barracks text Son give me thy heart Our Chaplain was present we had a good time.

*December 13.* Forenoon we had a fine battalion, no drill afternoon or dress parade, afternoon I was sent for to go to the hospital & talk & pray for a Mr Jewell he had lost his evidence, he was enabled to lay hold on the promises & was made very happy. Evening Hare preached & I exhorted. text almost thou persuadest me to be a christian we had a good time.

*Sunday, December 14.* 4 Oc we were on dress parade in the mud & rain 2½ Oc Brother Oiler Chaplain of the 21st Mo Inft preached to us text 1st psalm Capt Morton exhorted he is of the Mo Inft night H D Morrison preached text take the whole armour Hare exhorted & we had a speaking & it was a glorious time.

*December 15.* 9 Oc I went on duty as officer of the Guard had some

rough costumers to tend to in the guard house in the Western division Benton Barracks I got along verry well

*December 16.* 10 Oc I got of duty was up near all night last. this day I spent mostly visiting the sick in hospitals 4 Oc was on dress parade evening attended preaching in Co K Capt Noble Barracks. Dr Ball preached text we love him because he first loved us &c we had a good time.

*December 17.* Beautifull & pleasant. we ware on battallion by light in the morning, afternoon we had Skirmish drill & dress parade 11 Oc Lieut J. K. Morey of the 18th Iowa Vol called to see us. 3 Oc H C Caldwell<sup>5</sup> Lieut Col of the 3rd Iowa Cavalry came out to pay me a visit evening I went with him into the citty we attended the ladies aid society or fair in the Mercantile Colledge there was a house full of the grandees. Brig Genl McKean<sup>6</sup> of Iowa was there at the sale tables they represented the costume of 15 different nations it was grand. I staid the night at the Mt Vernon hotell kept by Bolander

*December 18.* I visited the Rever Vernon Dr Elliott Hiram Fate & saw Mrs Wm Thompson of Keosauqua Iowa I promenaded the citty & visited the Batterries. 4 Oc I was on battallion drill, Noon we had orders to be ready to march by 8 Oc morning with 4 days rations all seem keen to be off, we will have to leave 150 of the Reg in hospital of our company we will leave 7 men

*December 19.* At daylight I visited our sick in the hospitals talked & consoled them all I could bid them good bye at 7½ Oc we took leave of Benton Barracks marched to the packet landing & took passage on the packets Warsaw & Jenny Dean for Helena Arkansaw & at 3¼ Oc we started from the levee at St. Louis. our Co is on the Warsaw we laid up for the night 20 miles below St Louis near the Sulphor Springs

*December 20.* 6 Oc we let loose & started on our way rejoicing 2½ Oc Wm Perkins preached to us text get wisdom &c he is a prisbeterian & Chaplain of the 7 Illinos Infnt on the way to his Reg Walker Chaplain of the 118 Ill Infnt opened servises by prayer. on his way to the Reg. we laid by for the night at Saml Vancils. Cape Girardeau County & 15 miles above the town of that name I went on shore & to the house & spent part of the evening with them

*Sunday, December 21.* At day break we loosed cable & started. 1½ Oc we got to Cairo reported & I had a good chat with my old neigh-

<sup>5</sup>Henry Clay Caldwell of Keosauqua, afterward United States district judge for the Arkansas District from 1864 to 1890, and United States circuit judge for the Eighth Circuit from 1890 to 1903, when he resigned. He died February 15, 1915.

<sup>6</sup>Thomas Jefferson McKean, a native of Pennsylvania, graduated from West Point in 1831, resigned from the army in 1838, followed civil engineering and located at Marion, Linn County, Iowa, in 1840. Became county surveyor of Linn County and in 1844 was a member of the first Constitutional Convention. Was in the Mexican War as a sergeant-major in 1847-48, was sheriff of Linn County in 1861, but resigned to enter the army, was appointed brigadier-general of volunteers November 21, 1861, and was breveted major-general in 1865. Died at Marion April 18, 1870.

hours Genl Tuttle<sup>7</sup> & Capt James Sample. 3 Oc left & 5½ we landed at Columbus. Capt Fee & Orderly Spooner & I got the countersign & visited the batteries & Brestworks &c, had an Introduction by our Col to Genl Davies commanding them, they are expecting an attack tomorrow at 11 Oc night we called our regiment up formed them in line and gave them each 40 rounds of catrages, they laid on their arms till morning 11 A M Wm Pearkings preached for us and at 3 P M Walker preached for us

*December 22.* All seemed quiet in the morning & we started on our way. 12 noon we passed the Noted Island No 10 viewed as we passed the squads of soldiers & their trusty cannon commanding the Mississippi each way. at dark we landed at Mitchaels wood yard and tied up for the night. I being officer of the Guard had the pleasure of placing out the first picket guard of our Regiment in an enemys country Tennessee & relieving it & passing around to see that all was wright

*December 23.* 5 Oc morning I went out and brought in the picket guard and we loosed cable & started, we landed on Island No. 36 Arkansas & wooded Mississippi County, 45 miles above Memphis. 5 Oc we landed at Memphis and at 7 Oc we was called of the boat & formed in line marched into Court Square & formed in columns by companies ordered to load & lay down in line on our arms. it is a beautifull place with new trees & blue grass, so we all laid on the grass and had a good sleep. I wrote a letter in there by the gass light to my children. the people are much excited & are expecting an attack on the city & are rejoicing at our arivel.

*December 24.* At 6 Oc [A] M we were called out of Court Square & formed in line marched to the boats & took our breakfast then formed in line & marched into the navy yard, at 5 Oc we formed again in line & ware marched inside of the fort, it is a strong fort & well arranged for the defence of the city. I took dinner with Mr. Place & Geo Black of the 6th Iowa they are here convelesant George Black took me all over the grounds & explained as best he could the many new things about war to me & my curiosity was much gratified & amused.

*December 25.* We have been fixing up for convenience as well as we can our quarters is a long open stable close on the bluff bank of the river almost perpendicular & from 40 to 80 ft high & close to the shore is to be seen the bottom of skifts sticking out of watter they are fastened to

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<sup>7</sup>James M. Tuttle was born in Noble County, Ohio, September 24, 1823, removed to Farmington, Iowa, in 1846, was a merchant, was sheriff of Van Buren County 1856-57, and treasurer and recorder 1858-61. He went out in May, 1861, as lieutenant-colonel of the Second Iowa Infantry, was promoted to colonel September 6, 1861, to brigadier-general June 6, 1862, and resigned June 14, 1864. He then removed to Des Moines and engaged in real estate business, and later in pork packing. He was the Democratic candidate for governor in 1863, and for Congress in 1866. He was a representative in the General Assembly in 1872 and again in 1884. He was department commander of the Grand Army of Iowa in 1887. In 1886 Governor Larrabee appointed him a member of the Iowa Soldiers Home Commission, and he was chairman of the commission when the home was built. His death occurred in Des Moines October 24, 1892.



2 Rebel gun boats that our guns sunk in the navel fight & their crews are in them

*December 26.* I am the officer of the Guard & have to be on duty all night. I have charge of the Military prison & prisoners in this Fort Pickering there is one rebble who claims to be a deserter from their army and wishes to take the oath & be sent north. I have charge of one 2nd Lieut of Co A 130 Ill Inft charged of being absent without leave

*December 27.* 10 Oc I was released I have been on duty for 24 hours without any sleep, there is strong expectation here of an attack & our officers are having the buildings near our embankment torn down & to hurry it on the Negroes set fire to two and burnt them down, there is perhaps from one to two hundred houses will be torn down and some verry costly ones. 9½ Oc night we recd an order to report our company at Head quarters in 15 minutes armed and equiped ready to go into action many of our men was asleep but before the time we ware on hand & Co H of our Reg & 2 companeys of the 120 Ill were put in line & marched by our Major Woodward to the south Sallyport of this Fort Pickering & there awaited an attack & as they did not come Genl Asboth & Major Woodward marched us about a mile outside & posted our comps in different plases to watch & open on them if they came & we divided our Co & Cap Fee took one and I the other platoon & we posted some rods apart, he & a part of his men got a sleep but I & my men did not sleep any I awoke him & some of his men twice. one of his men got down in front of us & we commenced firing on him

*Sunday, December 28.* A light frost in the morning & our Co was in it all night guns in hand & no blankets with us & no rebels came to let us try our guns or grit and it was lucky for them. I am now sleepy, have slept none since thursday night it is at least 65 hours since I slept & I believe I could go 24 more. I took dinner with G N Udell of Centerville, Appanoose Co Iowa at his Boarding house in the citty of Memphis with the family of the Seargent of the 17 Reg Iowa Vol afternoon we rambled through the citty viewed A Jackson's monument in Center of Court Square & seen the work of traitor hands the defacing of his words that ware cut in his monument (The Federal union must be preserved)

*December 29.* I had the pleasure of seeing a number of friends from Iowa that came in from Holly Springs for supplies in Hamilton & Quimbys divisions that arrived this afternoon

*December 30.* 8 Oc a detail of 10 men from each Co was made for fatigue duty & I was put in command & went & commenced to clear up & set our tents; 10 Oc an order came for us to prepare rations & get ready to march at 8½ night we ware called in line and marched to the landing in Ft Pickering 9½ Oc we went on board the packets Anglo Saxon, Ida May & Lebanon for Helena Arkansas.

*December 31.* At 8½ Oc we started from our moorings at the boat landing in ft Pickering Memphis Tenn we left Seargent R Murdock &

6 privates from our Co G in hospital & our 1st Lieut Wm M McCreary was taken from the hospital last evening & put in a packet for St Louis where he intends going into hospital he has been quite poorly since the 1st of Dec not one day able for duty & from our election of Co officers on the 14th of Aug he was not one hour with us until the 1st of Oct & was quite unwell by times between the 1st of Oct & the 1st of Dec. He has now resigned & there will be another Lieut to appoint at  $\frac{1}{4}$  to 3 Oc afternoon we landed at Hellena Arkansas it is a low muddy place with numerous ponds of filthy green looking watter, it is small villedge built of frame

*January 1, 1863.* I received a letter from my daughter with information that my son Amandus is much better, the fever broke & he is in a fair way to recover, letter dated the 20th Dec 1862. I have a verry severe cold & my lungs are verry sore, but I am on duty as Officer of the Guard. at  $9\frac{1}{4}$  Oc morning our Reg 36th Iowa was ordered of the boats & formed in line by companyes & ware marched to our Campning grounds on the bank of the river at the lower end of the town of Hellena Arkansas. Our camp is between the Levy & the river there is some 10 or 12 Reg of Cavalry & infantry in & about the place, the bottom is perhaps  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile wide with numerous ponds of standing watter & some of them covered with a green scum, the bluff is verry broken, high point of timberland at the foot of the bluff & opposite to us is the residence of the Rebble Genl Hindman

*January 2.* Night verry high wind with incessant heavy rain, our canvas tents shelter us well from the storm but the storm of wind gave us some uneasiness, we feared our stakes might draw & our tents capsize About 2 Oc a Rebble boat Bracele came up with a flag of truce & anchored opposite town to exchange the crew of our boat Blue Wing which they captured a few days since. Mr. Oldfield who knows the Capt of the Blue Wing told me that he David Huggle was at heart a traitor & he believed that the taking of his boat with government stores was as Huggle wished it to be, & Oldfield shook hands & talked with Harry Nolen of Cincinatti who was one that came on shore to see about an exchange & his wife is in Cincinatti sewing to Support herself & family & the city helps to keep her. At 4 Oc we ware on dress parade

*January 3.* Rain. Continued untill past midnight. We drilled in manuel of arms from 11 Oc to 12 Oc

*Sunday January 4.* Clear & Pleasant with frogs jumping about the ponds. This place, Hellena is almost impassible for persons on foot, this day at 10 Oc I started alone & took a ramble up to Col Busseys<sup>s</sup> head quarters found Horis Cutler on his Staff he is an old acquaintance in Keosauqua, I then rambled out back of the town over the poor broken points that skirt the place, was in & viewed the fortifications they seem well arranged to defend the place against any attack by the

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<sup>s</sup>Cyrus Bussey, a merchant of Bloomfield; state senator, 1860; colonel Third Iowa Cavalry, 1861; brigadier-general, 1864-65.

enemy. at a frame building on one of the points I heard a black man preach text if the earthly house of this tabernacle &c. at 1 Oc same place I heard another black man preach text John 1st ch & 1st v. 2½ Oc our Chaplain preached out in the midst of our camp text 36 Psalm 11th & 12th v. evening I wrote some to my daughter. 4 Oc we ware on Dress parade

*January 5.* We was out this morning by request of our Col & had a tryal at target shooting with him the commissioned officers of us, pistol shooting. Capt Hale made the best shooting. forenoon we had company drill & at 4 Oc we ware on dress parade. night I continued my letter to my children. I recd a verry interesting letter from Ellis Burch of Ia.

*January 6.* Our Major was grand officer of the day which makes him for this 24 hours next highest in Command to Genl Gorman who is commander of the post T M Fee is officer of the day for the Reg. I drilled the Company fore & afternoon & took them on Dress parade. at 11 Oc last night the long roll beat & some 2 Reg of Inft & 2 or 3 parts of Regments, Cavelry went out in anticipation of an attack on the pickets, but there was no attack.

*January 7.* Morning clear & cold with heavy frost & ice on the little ponds thick as heavy window glass Capt drilled the Co & I attended to getting things for our mess the 1st Mo Battery 6 guns came down on the Black Hawk & are camped here. afternoon the 28th Wisconsin Inft came down on ——— & the company grounds being all taken up they passed down

*January 8.* We drilled a short time after our scirmish drill & was on dress parade I received a letter from Emma with the good noose that Amandus is better

*January 9.* Forenoon we drilled some in skirmish drill. 4 Oc we ware on dress parade I was in town a short time afternoon & priced some things Flour is \$4.00 per hundred lbs corn meal 2.50 per hundred Dried peaches 50 cents per lb Dried Apples 40 ct per lb cheese 30 to 40c per lb Butter 30 to 35c per lb Honey 40c per lb Chickens 50 cts each potatoes \$2.00 per bu Onions 2.00 per bu Green apples 5.00 per barrel or 2 apples for 5 cts

*January 10.* Forenoon I rambled down the bottom & through a cotton plantation & to a burning cotton gin & back to camp afternoon M H Hare our Chaplain & I rode out some 2½ or 3 miles was to see the Kansas 5th Cavelry we viewed some fine plantations went to a cotton gin & I got a sack of seed to send to Iowa, we returned & I was on Dress parade. the afternoon & night is echoing with the clatter of buisey men preparing & moving by Companies & Regiments, Cavalry & Infantry & Artillery & going on board of the fleet of steamers here, the tramp of man & beasts the ratling of wagons the hollowing of teamsters men & officers, the musick of the buglers, the fifes & drums, & the hoarse cough of the steamers with their keen shrill whistle makes the



atmosphere in this valley tremble with the mingled sounds & reverberate along the hills

*Sunday, January 11.* 10 Oc I took part of the Company & went out on Picket  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles from Camp posted my Pickets & plased my videtts, we occupied a picturesque place the ground was verry broken deep gulshes & high knobbs, heavily timbered with Beach Oak & Poplar tall trees in the gulches, the tops but little above the points & the length of the tree would almost or quite reach across from point to point. there was a perfect chattering with squerrels the videtts saw in the afternoon I koon several foxes & a great number of squerrels, we passed the Sabbath watchfull & pleasantly, the pickets to our right was of the 3rd Iowa Cavelry & the Lieut & several of the men ware from Davis Co Iowa. Afternoon our Reg had orders & moved to the fort for its defence the Reg that was there having gone with the fleet that leaves this day & night.

*January 12.* After A night of watchfulness in which I did not alow myself to sleep the morning dawn is welcomed with glad harts by us all & the merry chatter of the squerrel & the multitude of the various kinds of the fethered songsters mingling in sweet strains of musick & verberating on hiltop & in the valleys so delight the ears that with the pleasing sight of their buisey wings in flight from limb to limb & their frolicksome persuit of each other on swift wings almost removes from us the thought of our wearied night of watchfulness. At 11 Oc our relief came & we return to town & find the Reg moved & more pleasantly situated than we have been since we left Benton Barracks. Capt & I have a cabbin about 12 by 16 feet floored & a good brick fireplace & we feel at home & know that for soldiers we are well fixed

*January 13.* Rained moderately untill 12 Oc night, when it comenced to pour it down in torrants & continued incessantly all the night long At  $9\frac{1}{2}$  Oc morning I was required to report with 10 men & a Corporal at head quarters for Picket duty & at the hour we started out I stationed my pickets & placed my videtts I then took a little exploring ramble beyont to see if I could make any discovery but discovered no enemy & returned by the way of my post on Sunday night & found my watch kee that I then had lost the last time I was on picket At 10 Oc night Lieut Stanton & one of his men of the 3rd Iowa Cavelry came to apprize me that there was a squad of rebble cavelry had aproched his videtts but their horses had neighed & the rebbles put back my man & I was in anxious expectation from that till day but they came not at 3 Oc afternoon I was at the burrying of Thos W Coddington private from near Hillsborough Iowa Chaplain Ingalls informed me that he died verry happy

*January 14.* At 11 Oc forenoon we ware relieved from our post & started in rejoicing in hopes of getting to the fire & dry ourselves for we had no shelter from the pelting rain of the past night & this day, & we know how to simpathize with the poor fellows that have to stand

the ballance of the day & night At about 3 Oc this morning one of the videtts of the 3rd Iowa Cavelry fired 3 shots at something he supposed to be an enemy but done no execution & he posibly might have been mistaken the night was verry dark but from the time of the firing we ware in expectation all the time untill day light, & even then many expected there would be a dash upon us by Cavelry, we ware the advance pickets through the night & after daylight the pickets of the 3rd Iowa Cavelry again posted themselves beyond us

*January 15.* At midnight last night it commenced to sleet & continued for about 12 hours then commenced snowing in earnest & continued to snow hard untill near the middle of the afternoon it abated with snow from 6 to 8 inches deep & the ground in a perfect slush of mud & watter under the snow, & it continued snowing moderately the ballance of the afternoon & night untill now 8½ Oc & yet snowing with a fair prospect of continuing through the night I am suffering with a severe pane in the small of my back but not to prevent me from duty

*January 16.* Freezing in the shade Icesicles to our cabbins eves 18 inches to 2 ft long the ponds of water covered with thin ice, forenoon snowing moderately & afternoon occasionally spitting snow I am suffering with pane in my back the snow is from 6 to 8 inches deep with a perfect slush of mud & watter under it

*January 17.* Ice on the ponds in Helena is barely sufficient to beare up a man & some are sliding & occasionally one breaks in & gets wet, some to the waste & there is a good time of the lookers on to chear, by noon it was thawing so that none went on it afternoon I received two letters bearing me the sad noose of the deep affliction of my Dear son Amandus he has been sick for several weeks & now inflammation of the brain & the letter states the Doctors say he only has one chance out of eleven to recover, Oh how my hart is smitten. Oh that God would spare my precious boy & grant us all the privilege of again enjoying our family alter together.

*Sunday, January 18.* Morning a fiew boys ventured on the ice some broke in. the day was mild & the snow melted fast, & the mud is in great abundance, at 2½ Oc I attended meeting in a log chapple without floor seats or pulpit save the ground there was a doore up and 2 holes for windows & a hole in the clapboard roof for a stove pipe but no stove or pipe there Our Chaplain preached & called on me & I closed after him text Come & let us reason together &c I am afflicted with paine in my back

*January 19.* My back is yet suffering I fear it is rheumatism Our Capt T M Fee has gone out with a squad of men on picket his first adventure here

*January 20.* My back is not much better Evening Capt T M Fee & I took a little tramp, & visited the fine former residence of the Rebble Brig Genl J C Tappan it is a verry elegantly finished two story frame building. the furniture is elegant & there remains the remnant of an

extensive library I discovered on the book the Orderly had marked me unable for duty without my knowledge I had him stop it I have been marked four days the first and only time since I enlisted

*January 21.* Streets almost impassible for footmen. I called in a verry pretty residence surrounded with beautifull shrubery & had a social chat with two young ladys by the name of Head they have a brother in the Rebble army. I received a letter from Emma with encouraging information about my son Amandus, he is seeking the Saviour & is in a fare way to be up soon, though I have been much depressed in mind I feel greatly relieved & am hoping & praying for my son I answered the letter. A fleet passed down from Memphis with parts of Grants Armeey the 15th & 16th Reg Iowa Vol was on board & the fiew minutes they layed here I improved & enjoyed with the boys some from Keosauqua & vacinity

*January 22.* I took a ramble out to some of the pickets. Capt T M Fee was officer of the day Brother Oliver Williams of the 24th Reg Iowa Vol passed the evening & night with us he & I slept together in my bunk & we had a good time generaly

*January 23.* Rainey with mud beyond description I have been boxing up some cotton seed &c to send home Rev Oliver Williams called & spent the afternoon & evening with us & is going to bunk with me this night, he is from Appanoos Co Iowa & is in the 24th Reg Iowa Vol

*January 24.* Steady raine from 9 Oc morning untill now 11 Oc night, I went on picket this morning & expected to remain until tomorrow morning but our Brigade got Orders to march & I was relieved tonight I took one Rebble with his horse &c about noon & sent them in by a sargent to the Provo Marshal

*Sunday, January 25.* The place is in a buisey mood Genl Fisks Bregade is buisey preparing to go on board the fleet tomorrow for some place south of this we think Vicksburg I expressed a box of cotton seed some cloths books &c to Keosauqua Iowa

*January 26.* Raining almost incessantly we ware all ready & packed up, & expected to be ordered in line to march down to the boats at early dawn, the teams ware buisey moving down Com[missary] Long[']s store & about noon they ware stopped & a short time after, the orders we had received to march with our brigade was countermanded & fortunately for us we are this rainey night comfortable in our cabbans I received a letter dated 12th from my Daughter & I bless the Lord, my son is some better & I feel more at ease in my mind

*January 27.* I am suffering with pain in my back, I dobed some on our cabbin & visited Genl Washburns Head Quarters in the Rebble Brig Genl Tappans house

*January 28.* Morning cold the mud froze so it bears a man up, The Cavilry took a skout yesterday afternoon & about 200 of them went out to a Rebble ball at Lagrange 15 miles west of Helena, they took 5 Rebbles Soldiers & spies in our uniform & 8 Citizens & some of them ran



when the cavelry rode up, & John Westenberger from near Centerville Iowa who is in the 3rd Iowa Cavelry dismounted & ran after them hallowing halt but they did not heed & he shot down a Reb Capt Gib or Gibbs he died in a few minutes. Westenberger tended me<sup>e</sup> when I built Wadlingtons house at Centerville. I finished pointing up our cabbin I feel very unwell my bones all ache & my back is verry painfull.

*January 29.* The hospital boat Henry Von Phul came up from Vicksburg with sick soldiers, the Chaplain of the 24th Iowa Inftry Rev Corkhill was along they went on up to Memphis no news of importance from below except the watter is passing through the cut of & our men are enlarging it I have been verry feeble this day We drilled in bayonet exersize I wrote a letter to the Rev Cyrus Morey at Atica Marion Co Iowa

*January 30.* I am suffering with pains in all my bones & am indifference to moving when seated We drilled some in bayonet exersize, the volts; passades &c Our Major Woodward was unfortunate his servent Frank a white man road his fine horse to town & in jumping a ditch the horse broke his leg & they had to shoot him, the Major is quite sick & they have not yet let him know it

*January 31.* I was on drill in bayonet exersize but I feel feeble with great indifference about moving around I recd a letter from my Daughter dated 19th & 22nd It greatly relieves my mind, my son is better, but was not able to turn or help himself & had been verry low for nine weeks, & while I know the Lord will do wright & I feel like trusting him, having dedicated my children to him by baptism in infancy, & trust I now have everything upon the alter, but my mind is some way so ocupied about my children that I cannot rest, & fear unless I can in some way more fully trust the Lord with the care & protection of them my body will sink & I become prostrated. Oh that the precious Saviour would help me. I was at Genl Clinton B Fisks head Quarters & had a pleasant time with him he sent one of his orders to our Chaplain by me & promised to be with us tomorrow for preaching<sup>10</sup>

*Sunday, February 1.* 10 Oc I went down to the 3 Iowa Cavelry in hopes of hearing their Chaplain, Brother Ingalls preach but he had no meeting 2½ Oc Our services was opened with prayer by Capt J B Casebeer of the 24 Iowa the sermon one of power Preached by John T Simmons Chaplain of the 28th Iowa, text Ist Psalm then our Chaplain M H Hare read the order above referred to & commented some & then invited our Brig Genl Clinton B Fisk to close he sung Come thou fount in the old methodis stile then gave us a feast of fat things in his exortation in which he remarked he would rather go into battle with 10

<sup>9</sup>The writer was a brick and stone mason by trade.

<sup>10</sup>Clinton B. Fisk of St. Louis, became colonel of the Thirty-third Missouri Infantry September, 1862; brigadier-general in November, 1862; and was breveted major-general in March, 1865. He was soldier, business man, educator, reformer, and philanthropist. Fisk University was named in his honor. In 1888 he was the candidate of the Prohibition party for president of the United States. He died in 1890.

devoted unflinching Christians than 100 wicked profligate, demoralized men. he closed by an able prayer, we ware all enabled to say it was good for us to be here Evening I attended worship in Co F & spoke from these words, Work out your salvation with fear & trembling &c. after which we had several warm prayers & then had a good speaking meeting.

*February 2.* We drilled in Bayonet exersize & at 4 Oc we ware on dress parade I have been quite feeble but am on duty, this night I took 2 pills the first medicine I have taken since I have been in the Service. One was a blue mas & the other an Opium pill

*February 3.* The mud was stiff enough to walk on this morning & a thin ice around the edges of the ponds We drilled in bayonet exersize & at 4 Oc ware on Dress parade I have felt verry feeble & after Dress parade I was quite sick & vomited severely evening I took a dose of oil & have powders to take every 4 hours through the night A soldier shot & killed a black man this evening cause not yet known

*February 4.* The day was so stormy we did not Dril nor have Dre parade I made a call at Mr Long & excepted a pressing invitation to take dinner, although I am not well & had been to dinner before I made this call, but the large dish of Lettice, fine Redishes baked potatoes & beef stake ware not to be slited by one so modest as I, & I enjoyed the call verry much, next I called on a Mr Holcomb himself & Wife with two union Officers ware playing at cards I soon took my leave I feel better this evening

*February 5.* Snow 3 to 4 inches deep 4 Oc we ware on Dress parade I feel more comfortable than for several days I have two powders to take tonight. A Mulatto servent of one of the Captains axidentally shot & killed an Orderly of Brig Genl Washburn

*February 6.* 8 Oc A M I went on the street to superintend about 150 men on fatigue duty making corduroy road from the fort to the levvy, we lacked teams, but done reasonably well, the injeneer or man that directed the cutting of the timber done a bad job by cutting it to short being much of it only 8 feet long & waggons bounce & slide off. I have been rather feeble but made no complaint, I did not eat a morsel of vituals this day not even a sup of tea or coffee, & early in the morning I vomited up what I ate last night for supper

*February 7.* We ware on Dress parade in the mud I believe I feel a little stouter today & have some apeteite There was an alarm of an attack this morning but I think none of our Reg knew it until it was announced on dress parade in the evening A Soldier shot a black man it is thought the wound will prove mortal, cause they ware taking all negro men found near to unload boats & the soldier halted the Negro he passed on he fired at him 3 times with a pistol missing then he loaded a gun & fired shooting him through the boddy

*Sunday, February 8.* Our Chaplain M H Hair took dinner with us in our cabbn 2 Oc Brig Genl Clinton B Fisk had an appointment to

preach to us in the fort, there was a large congregation & Brother Ingalls Chaplain of the 3rd Iowa Cavalry commen the discourse after Our Chaplain had prayed. Ingalls nor the Genl took no text but pitched in with great earnestness & deep feeling, & we had a good time the Genl, scored the officers that would stoop so low as to swear & they must have felt mean under his scathing remarks. 4 Oc we ware on Dress parade I am better today & have some appetite Evening I went down town to the Baptist Ministers house, whare Mrs. A Wittenmyer<sup>11</sup> stops at this time & spent an hour pleasantly, took tea & got some information about the Iowa soldiers, as her mission is seeing after the sick.

*February 9.* We drilled some in bayonet exersize. Our Capt went out on picket about 11 Oc 4 Oc I took the Co on Dress parade I wrote some in a letter I had commenced to write to my Daughter on the 7th I also wrote her one today desiring her if she could to send me some honey & butter

*February 10.* I received a letter from my Daughter dated Jany 29th also a few lines, from each of my two eldest son's Amandus & Augustus & my heart rejoices that Amandus has got able to sit up again Night I wrote a letter to my son Amandus, & also a little one to each of me little boys.

*February 11.* We drilled in the manuel of arms & bayonet exersize with the volts, there was no dresperade

*February 12.* Our Capt was Regmental officer of the day, I drilled the Comp & at 4 Oc P M took them on dress parade I started a letter to my sons This evening attended meeting spoke from Isaiah Who are those that fly as a cloud or as Doves to the window I followed, we had a speaking meeting & a good time, after dismission Lieut Swigget & I had a social religious talk & a feast of love I understand Genl Prentiss has this day taken command here

*February 13.* At 10 Oc one of our company was marched out between two of our soldiers with Bayonets fixed & in the center of our regiment formed in a hollow square he was reprimanded as the centance of a Cort martial held yesterday directed, he was tryed & found guilty of stealing one pare of shoes from the Qr master, I drilled the Co & was on dresperade at 4 Oc P M I had the pleasure of a short interview afternoon with Genls Prentiss, Ross, Fisk & Washburn.

*February 14.* 4 Oc we ware on Dress parade Genl Fisk was out to se us I wrote a letter to my good Brother C E Yeager Keosauqua Iowa. eight full pages of foolscap

*Sunday, February 15.* 10 Oc I spoke to the contrabands from 1st Epistle General of Peter 1st ch 24 & 25 v. Our Chaplain closed after me we had a good time services out dores 1 Oc I spoke to them from Rev 20th ch 12th v it was the funeral of a black man I presented the alter

<sup>11</sup>Mrs. Annie Wittenmyer of Keokuk was a noted Civil War nurse and a writer of note. See Vol. IV, p. 277, ANNALS OF IOWA. A large collection of her correspondence is on deposit in the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.



& over 30 came forward & many were converted it was a time of great power Evening I spoke to them again out doors, from Matthew 11th 28 & 29 & 30 I invited mourners & near 40 came to the altar & many were made happy in a Saviours Love, it was a time of great power the behaviour of the soldiers present was excellent, thank God. 4 Oc I was on Dress parade In the afternoon I took a little Boy & Girl Jessey Ann & John Turner Brother & sister, with straight hare & hazel eyes & skin nearly white, live specimens of the boasted institution of the south. I took them about amongst our officers & men, some of whom justify the cruel thing. These were the chattles of John Woodburn of Madison Ia.<sup>12</sup> & his father old John Woodburn deceased the wench sais is father to the little boy & she sais he promised to free the child, but he was late slave to his half brother

*February 16.* 9 Oc A M I reported at head quarters as officer of the day, attended guard mount & gave the necessary instructions to the Sergeants & Corporals 1 Oc I went down on the steamer Emma to see Cozen Albert Aflick Capt of Co A 12 Mo Inft had a short pleasant chat. I then went on to the steamer Imperial Head Quarters of this post, to see Genl Prentiss had a short interview with him & accomplished my mission. I then went to the provo Marshal attended to some business & then had an interview with Judge ———

*February 17.* 9 Oc I attended guard mount & dismissed my old guard & delivered my report, I broke the cristle out of my watch & went to town through the raine & got one in, at 50 cts. 4 Oc we were on dress parade. afternoon Capt Albert Aflick of Co A 12th Mo came up & was to see us on dress parade he speaks verry flattering of our Reg. he amused us with interesting incidents of their fighting, especilly of Pea Ridge, he only lost one man out of his Co at Vicksburg, he staid all night with us & shared my bunk with me. we had a pleasant time.

*February 18.* 4 Oc we were on dress parade there were some Resolutions gotten up by the field Officers of the Iowa Reg at this place read & a vote taken on them, every commissioned officer voted for them & all the men of Our Reg except about ten & over half of them was in our Co Seargt A I Boston Corp's Lowery & Willis Higgenbothan Privates John R & William C Hodge, they are brothers. Phillips the Iowa Regts are all to vote on them & they are to be sent to Iowa papers to be published.<sup>13</sup> Also an order by Genl Gorman against gambling by Officers or men & also an order by Genl Fisk for us to hold ourselves in rediness to march aboard the packets in short notice

*February 19.* I washed some & done a little tailoring in the way of mending some rents in my Cloths evening I attended meeting in our log Chapple the Chaplain of the 46th Iowa opened the exersizes he took no text, gave us a good talk he is an Old Baptist Brother. Rob is the

<sup>12</sup>"Ia." is the old abbreviation for Indiana.

<sup>13</sup>For text of these resolutions, see *Burlington Hawkeye*, March 2, 1863, p. 2, col. 5. (In the newspaper collection of the Historical, Memorial and Art Department of Iowa.)

name. Our Chaplain followed & commenced a general speaking we had a good time bless the good Lord Wm. Pearson Co K 29 Iowa Infntu died in hospital in Helena Arkansas I believe he was from Guthrie Co Iowa & is son of John Pearson & is remotely connected to me

*February 20.* Coz Albert Aflick & his Lieut Col came up & spent an hour with us, forenoon and insisted on Capt Fee & I going down & dining with them & to be Sociable at noon we went down on board the steamer Emma & partook heartily of their good things, Afternoon Albert came up & spent a social hour with us, after which I went to Genl Washburns head Quarters, next to Genl Rosses head quarters & then to Genl Fisks, head Quarters at 4 Oc we ware on Dress parade & Genl Fisk & Lady ware out to see us

*February 21.* Lieut Wm M McCreary came down this morning he has been absent from us since December We ware on Dress parade at 4 Oc in the raine & mud, there was heavy thunder & lightning this day I recd a letter from my Daughter & bless the Lord my son is recovering.

*Sunday, February 22.* This has been a day of thrilling interest to the soldiers here in Helena Arkansas, & I think to all the soldiers of the union this the birthday of Washington, How can traitors hold up their guilty heads this day. At 2 Oc a large assemblage of soldiers met in fort Curtis to have a patriotic religious time. Mrs Genl Fisk the only female that grased the meeting, took part in the singing. A J Kynett of Iowa opened the exersizes with an able prayer, M H Hare read the 24th Psalm Genl Fisk then read som extracts from Washingtons Farewell address & his speeches & made some warm & appropriate remarks, then the Post Chaplain ——— Freeman gave us a warm exortation Genl Fisk then introduced Genl Prentiss to the audience & he gave us a spirited Patriotic speech & was often interrupted by the roar of clapping hands, he promised to soon lead us to victory when a shout rent the air, next Col Bussey of the 3rd Iowa Cavelry made a telling speech & in keeping with those that proceded gave the northern toreyes or copper-heads some scatheing rebukes. the exersizes were closed with the Benediction by A J Kynett Secretary of the sanatory committy of Iowa  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 4 Oc we ware paid by Government pay masters for 27 days Oct 4th to 31st evening we had a patriotic love feast M H Hare opened Genl Fisk was with us & we had a good time of it.

*February 23.* We ware expecting orders all day, & about 9 Oc at night we received Orders to be ready to march or board the Moderator by 7 Oc in the morning. On dress parade there was orders read as to how we ware to do on the expedition I wrote a line to Adt Genl Baker, Davenport Iowa

*February 24.* At about 8 Oc our Co moved to the Boat Mariner & went on board Cos B. I. G. K. & E. the ballance of Our Reg went on board the Levina Logan & about 3 Oc we left the town of Helena Arkansas & started for the yazoo pass about 4 Oc we entered the pass a

narrow shoot on the east side of the river making into the state of Mississippi just after you enter the pass a square angle makes to the left just after the angle is passed we go through the cut our boys made in the levee then the shoot is about  $1\frac{1}{2}$  miles long & but little wider than the boats, then, we enter moonn Lake it is  $\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 mile wide by five miles long, it is beautifull but the ground is low, we tied up at the lower end of it for the night in front of a fine plantation a yard nicely set with evergreens, the mansion & niger quarters all about the same, poor things There is some 16 boats in all here 2 iron clads, Baron De Calb & ———— & some 4 or 5 of the mosketo fleet gun boats. I am Officer of the guard, the Chaplain & I room together. I was officer of the guard & relieved at 9 Oc

*February 25.* Dark with heavy raine hard thunder, & sharp lightning. it commenced about midnight last night & has continued almost incessant since. After 9 Oc last night we had orders to return with the stea Mariner to helena immediately to take on more comisary stores, & by 11 Oc we ware there loaded up & at 9 Oc this A M we started back & tied up again in Moon Lake by 11 A M the boats of the flecte kept fired up & some of them was plying about in the lake all day, & the Iron Clads & 1 transport & one of the Mosketo flecte gun boats passed out of the lake into the cut off At 5 Oc P. M we ware again Ordered to Helena. Our boat is the comisary for the division, we started at once & arived at  $\frac{1}{4}$  before 7 Oc. Afternoon I took a ramble out through the rain & mud & down to the mouth of the cut off.

*February 26.* Rain all last night & untill 12 Oc noon 11 Oc we left Helena Arkansas & went down to where our boys cut the levvee & passed through into Moon Lake, & at 10 Oc P M we entered the pass & the afternoon we put in winding our way down the crooked little branch, through the heavy timber. I believe we only saw one small plantation since we entered the pass it is on the right as we came down there is no sine of enterprise about it. I believe the cut off or pass runs to every point of the compass, & as our fleet moved along often several tuching each other at the bow & stearn, but no place since we entered has it been wide enough to pass or get along side & no place wide enough for a boat to swing around, & often the boat is being rubed by the brush & timber on both sides, & braking limbs & trees, & also guards & wheels of the boats but men ware on hand with poles all the time to bare off against trees & swing the boats. the ground on both sides is from 6 inches to 3 feet above the watter, some under.

*February 27.* At day break our flecte commenced its onward move & moved with all the speed it was posible under the cercumstances, the part of the stream we have navigated today was crookeder if possible than what we came yesterday, but fatigue duty men ware constantly at their posts on each deck with poles to bare of against the trees to prevent damage as far as posible to the boats. Our surroundings have been similar except so far as we could see the land is nearly all under watter,



evening we passed the place where the Rebbles had blockaded the stream by falling large trees into & across the stream, but our advance had raised the blockade by fastning large roaps around the butts of the trees & from 6 to 12 hundred men walked them out whole & cleared the stream but had some Skirmishing with the rebbles in which our boys ware always victors evening we tied up  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile below the blockade in front of a fine plantation on our right, & about the first land we have seen on that side this day there is also one in sight on the left besides this we passed a place same side all under watter but about 1 acre & the folks ware gone & now chickens also

*February 28.* At day break we losed cable & moved down in front of Reb Genl Alcorn's beautifull plantation, by 10 Oc A M & here we stoped a short time, Brig Genl Washburn was here with a small force of our boys, he was in fine spirits, Genl Alcorn is now a paroled prisoner, & refuses to be exchanged or take the oath of allegiance but claims to have repented & sais he is for the federal government, & by his acts gives evedance that he is sincear. his Residence is a one storey frame with an ell & poarch in front, the only evidence of enterprise is the front yard nicely set with evergreens & surrounded with pailing fence, the Negro cabbins 20 in number has a high paling fence in front, at the other & upper side of the planters house is a smal orchard of Peach & Apple trees, with hedge fence in front & above this is a cotton gin & press & an old horse mill which our boys are running with mules at present. the land is more elevated than any we have seen since we left the Mississippi but it overflows The stream runs about a stone cast from the main bank, but the Hamilton which has thus far accompanied our fleete made her way among the trees & landed against the bank at the yard. She used to be the ferry boat at Keokuk. I believe she is to return from this to Helena with soldiers after an hours delay, we moved on winding & twisting & dashing among the timber until dark when we tied up for the night, Some distance from land on either side. We aranged our muster rolls & had our men & selves mustered this afternoon by Col Kittredge.<sup>14</sup>

*Sunday, March 1.* At dawn of day we loosed cable, & wound our way hither & thither among the big timber that stands over this low wet country. the land appears a little more elevated & we have witnessed a number of plantations, some with the cotton standing unpicked in the fields, & but very fiew persons to be seen. the peach trees are nicely in bloom. 9 Oc night & beautifull at dark we tyied up for the night after a days run full of mishaps. 11 Oc A M the John Bell tore down his smoke stacks, the Black Ram struck a tree, & broke the tree & a part of it fell on the ram but with what effect I do not know, again they struck a tree & creeled one of the smoke pipes. at 1 Oc P M one of our smoke stacks struck a large limb & kinked it about the center,

<sup>14</sup>Charles Woodman Kittredge, a merchant of Ottumwa, Iowa, captain of Company F, Seventh Iowa Infantry 1861-62, and colonel of the Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, 1862-65.

we tyed up & took down our stacks & while that was going on I got a detail of men tore down a cabbin & floated the logs in & took them on to make a protection to our boilers. I am officer of the guard from 9 Oc the Morning until 9 Oc tomorrow morning, where the banks ware in sight today they are levied.

*March 2.* I went onto the Levina Logan & got our mail I received [several letters from home]. I thank the Lord my friends are mostly in good health, & Oh how I ought to praise the Lord in that he has spared the life of my son At 8½ Oc I was relieved as officer of the guard & was put in to superintend a detail of fatigue men to barricade the boilers to prevent canon shot from damaging them & we got what rails & hewed legs we could get from drifts as the steamer passed down to the Coldwater & at about 4½ Oc we got into it & tyed up as soon as we got into it. I then took men in shifts went out through the timber & cane until we got to land some carried rails, some cut timber some floated it in & some took it on & arranged it I am tired & hope to sleep good this night as I have not laid down one moment since night before last. Well we have passed through a desolate looking place this day, heavy timber, canebrake, brush & vines, the land verry nearly all under watter & no plantations have we seen this day. the rails I mentioned above were to form a pasture of cane perhaps as no house or improved land was to be seen, and no one could have told where we got into the Coldwater, but some that had been here before told us it has no different appearance from the rest of the slews or ponds. Here the watchman & carpenter of the boat that was captured at moon lake came to us on a raft.

*March 3.* At about 10 Oc after repairing brakages &c we loosed cable & started down the Coldwater, which in size & appearance is some improvement to our navigation thus far after a few hours run all the boats in sight tyed up an hour, & I at once took some men in skiffs & went on shore & put them to work getting more railles to barricade with. I then went to the house found a women & three little sons, two wenches & several little negroes. She claimed to be a widdow said her husband Anderson Crane died before the commencement of the war, & while I know the trechery of the southern women as well as men, not knowing but she mite be a widdow, I took my men a little farther to judge Loves fence & got better rails without any feeling of sympathy. again we loosed & moved on till dusk where we tyed up. I again took my men & landed sent on board a load of railles went to a cabbin found it diserted except by one bale of cotton which I brought on board & reported it to the Lieut Col in command on our boat.

*March 4.* Soon in the morning we loosed cable & passed down the rappid little stream girt on each side with heavy timber & extensive cane Breaks with low banks & perhaps half our travel this [day] there was no land to be seen I was in charge of a fatigue party of 20 men, at about 10 Oc A M our boats tied up I took my men, & went to boating

in railes. I discovered the men from other boats ware getting some beef & pork I hasted on board with my men they got their guns & we crossed over to land on the opposite side passed out into the cane I climbed up a tree some 30 or 40 ft & saw some cattle directed the men from my elevated position & they killed two we quartered them & hasted on board when the boats started & moved on till dark & we are now tyed up out of sight of land.

*March 5.* We loosed cable early & moved on through a dismal desolate looking country uninhabited, and nearly all under watter that can be scanned from Coldwater. we have not seen any person save what is with the fleete this day & no place that any one could live we saw some otters swiming in the stream. We have torn the boats considerable, the stream is crooked & not more than 30 to 50 yds wide & the timber hangs over the watter. if it was not such a wet country the heavy timber & thick cane brakes would give the garilles a great advantage of us, but we have seen none yet & only could put guards on shore once since we left Helena.

*March 6.* We passed several good plantations on each side this day & saw quite a quantity of cotton most of which was taken on to the boats we took on ten excellent iron hooped bales marked ——— there was about three hundred bales in the same pile as I was informed, & it was all taken on to the boats. Genl Fisk took quite a quantity of it on to the boat he was on. Our boats had to stop a short time at a place where there was some fine beeves & before the commander could prevent it the men was on shore & had some ten of them killed Our Col Kittredge was thrown from his horse yesterday but not seriously hurt We saw a great number of holley trees that looked beautifull & the mistletoe has been more common to day than before. There was quite a number of negrows wanted to come on board but they ware refused by the boat cleark & crew some of who I believe are rebbles Have out a small guard for the 2nd time we could have any on shore since we left Helena Today there was one of the 33 Mo Inft buried in the mud & watter.

*March 7.* At about 10 Oc we ran out of Coldwater into the Tallahatchie the stream makes some advantage to our boating the river is now barely wide enough for our boats to swing around by fastning end on shore & once this day the only time since we left moon lake has our boat been stearn down stream. I was in charge of the fatigue men, we saw considerable of cotton but we took none on, other boats did My sitem has been much out of order this day but I have not let it be known. I was waid & 150 lbs is my weight. I hurriedly closed a letter I was writing to My Daughter, & also one I was writeing to My Brother M K Pearson, Cecil Co Md. the reason I so hurriedly closed them, the boat that is to take them has just come up & only stoped a fiew minnits & if I did not get them on it mite be several days before they could go.

*Sunday, March 8.* Early in the morning we started & moved down



the crooked Tallahatchie this days travel it was more crooked than before & we could not move fast in the morning we saw some 3 or 4 improvements or I should say plantations in dixey. from 9 Oc until nite we saw no place that people could live it all being under watter cane verry high, some of the timber beginning to leave out. we saw some fine looking white oak.

*March 9.* We had some of the straightest river that we have had since we left moon lake 2 or three places from  $\frac{1}{2}$  to one mile long & we had some as crooked as it could be, we saw more good plantations than we have seen any two days before & some 2 or 3 nice frame one story buildings painted white & for the first since we left the Mississippi we saw a little land that I think does not overflow, mowns of 2 to 4 acres we saw cotton burning at from 12 to 20 places, some had been moved to save the buildings & some was fired in the buildings & one building had just been fired & the gurrillars must have been hid in the nigger huts, we saw some white women & children no men, we stoped & took on a lot of rails at Allen Pates some 25 miles from the yazoo, he has been in the rebble army a year the negroes say, there was a splendid Pianno in his house but the Col would not let me take it on board.

*March 10.* Hard rain all last nite & most of this day. I brought in the pickets early as I was officer of the guard that night, & we started on as we had for the first time now been tyed up alone, being in rear of the first brigade & in advance of the second we ware soon up to the boats in front they had stoped to demolish a bridge over a creek or slew, here was a fare looking sawmill & here we increased our lumber, we learnt here from the negros that one rebble gunboat & two steamers had left this the evening before & we hasted in persuit we saw some fine plantations & a great cotton country & saw cotton burning almost all the day & at times a dozen places at a time we could see the cotton on fire & we pressed the rebble boats so hard that the fired a large side wheel steamer loaded with three thousand bales of cotton left her & skedadled soon after we passed her at nite we tyed up & the floating bales of burnung cotton & the burning steamer & our fleete as a citty on the watter was a delightfull sight. we saw two or 3 little hills that looked nice after so much flat country. we saw a few white women & children a host of negroes & some perhaps  $\frac{1}{2}$  dozen white men, 2 of which fired into the Levinia Logan & wounded one man of Co H in the head not serious & one of the musicians Co B verry slightly in the face the ball knocked of the smoke stack these are the first of our Reg hurt by the enemy.

*March 11.* We started early had some straight river and done some good running, we had to stop for the boats in front to get out of our way & we ware just in front of a cotton gin I took the skift & went on shore with  $\frac{1}{2}$  dozen men roled out & sent to boat 30 fine bales, I put it in rafts of from 4 to 8 bales & they towed them in with the skift Soon as the boats in front started we had to go & left a fine lot of it in the

house it had been fired in several places but had gone out, we saw a great quantity of burning cotton & hundreds, if not thousands of floating bales of it perhaps much of it had been put in the river & fired to annoy us or burn our boats but it done neither, we passed through some fine country all low but I think perhaps a little that does not overflow before noon we landed at——Curtis a beautiful farm & a large round mound about 30 ft in hight back of the negro quarters there is riges of shells between this & the river. we marched off formed in line & moved down towards the fort there was some skirmishing with other Reg & some killed & wounded & a ball from the fort struck a ball from the gunboat Chillicothe in a few feet of the mussel of the gun & killed 4 & wounded 10 on the Chillicothe & the rebble shells whistled by us a few steps to our right taring the timber & splashing the watter at a great rate

*March 12.* At 7 Oc I was ordered to take part of our Co & go out on picket, & guard the river road on the bank of the Tallahatchie, one mile above its junction with the Yalobusha river, the two being the source of the Yazoo. we ware within canon shot distance of the fort, & ware expecting hourly to hear the fight commence but the day passed & no fighting, save an occasional picket shot there was only one fire by our squad & that was by me in the night. Something aproached & I halted, it gave no heed, I called out halt the secon time & could not see what it was, & I shot at it, & it sprang of rapidly I know not what it was. I was annoyed with savillians trying to get out, toward where the fight was expected to commence every hour. my men that was of duty amused themselves cutting rattan canes & pam leaves for fans & swinging on grape vines &c one of the vines broke of up one hundred & twenty three feet, it was on a sweet gum tree without a limb for about 80 or 90 feet the vine was as thick where it broke as at the but, & a string the length of this black line [Here he draws a black line three inches long.] reaches around the but & this is but a fair sample of them. the Rebbles fired two cannon shot but our guns did not answer. they throwed them to hunt a battery we had planted last night but I guessed they failed, but will find where it is on tomorrow. the Doctors amputated a leg for one of our union soldiers that was wounded yesterday. it has been a good day for cotton from the appearance of the river it has been floating by all day.

*March 13.* The day has been most beautifull & the scenes & sounds about us have been grand, & sublime, if it may be said that great efforts for the destruction of human life are grand. At 10¼ Oc A M our gunboats & land battery, opened fire on the Rebble fort at the junction of the Tallahatchie & Yalobusha & ware responded to by the rebble batterys & the fight opened in earnest & was kept up with scarcely a moments intermission for one hour & 40 minnits when there was 10 minnits resess except one shot. After which the fight was renewed with seeming new energy & kept up with but little intermission until about

sunset, when the music ceased & at this writing 9 Oc nite all is quiet, except it be preparations for a renewed battle in the morning, the casualties on land to us have been nothing so far as I can learn save the knocking of a bale of cotton from our land battery, which was soon replaced, they shot over us most of the time, & shelled the woods but not where we ware, the damage to the gunboats are light, but they killed one man mortally wounded one & slightly wounded another. The elements & the earth trembled, & the belching thunder from the cannons & mortar, the wild screaming shells & bursting bumbs taring through the timber was most terriffick & sublime musick, but of maney it mite be said that distance lends enchantment to the scene, but not so with all for I was posted with men as pickets & hundreds of straglers wanted to pass within the lines to witness the fight at short distance, I was relieved this evening & having slept none last night must now retire. H N Swallow Orderly of Co F 36th Iowa died & was buried at the base of the large mound.

*March 14.* At 7 Oc A M we ware ordered in line, had a batallion Drill, at 10 Oc stacked arms, prepared & took dinner at 1 Oc P M we ware ordered into line & marched down by the Gunboats some distance from the fort. rested a short time, picked up some pieces of rebble shells & saw their marks amongst the slivered timber, & Capt Alb't Affick came of the gunboat Romeo & spent a short time with us, we ware ordered back to our boat landing stacked arms & pitched our tents. The 33 Reg Iowa Vol made a reconoiance over the river took one rebble picket & killed another. At 3 Oc P M our battereys opened fire & gave the rebbles a few shots our Major told me it was to prevent them from mounting a large gun our battereys had dismounted the day before. 7 Oc night we ware ordered out in line & ware sent out as picket guard. The name of the Rebble fort here is Pemberton, Genl Lor-ing is said to be in comand

*Sunday, March 15.* I was out on Picket with our Co went out at 7Oc last night & was relieved at 7 Oc this night. Our soldiers buried a Rebble about 1 Oc P M in a burrying ground on a nice mound in the woods close to where I was stationed. he was the one the 33 Reg killed yesterday, he was verry deacently buried. I am quite tired being posted on a road I have been on my feet almost the intire 24 hours & never slept a moment. There was no fighting today but both sides have been preparing.

*March 16.* At 8 Oc we ware ordered into line stood a short time ordered to stack arms, & hold ourselves ready to march at a moments notice at 1 Oc P M we ware called in line marched onto the Levenea Logan & landed on the opposite side a little above where we are camped we sent out 2 Cos as skirmishers before us & we marched through the cane across near to the river below the rebble fort but found no rebbles; as we ware halted I seated myself on a log & looking down near my right side I spied a large cotton mouth snake which I killed it comes



next to rebbles of any thing I have seen yet; Co A as skirmishers got lost & 6 or 8 of Co B & we returned to the boat and awaited their arrival at dark, the boat Chillicothe & our batteries opened afternoon the Chille reed 8 shots in 14 minnits from the reb guns & one of the 46 Indiana boys got one arm shot of at our batterys by a 6 lb rebble ball that passed between the bales of cotton, & 2 rebble balls 64 lbs fell close to our battery & Genl Fisk told me that Genl Ross immediately shot them back to them

*March 17.* Uncomfortably warm, the gnats & musketoos are troublesome. I have felt rather feeble & fortunately for me our Reg was not called out today & no fighting or skirmishing so far as I know.

*March 18.* No warring but Unfortunately one of the 43 Indiana boys shot himself through the left arm while on picket last night. at 8 Oc A M Capt Albt Affick called on me & spent the forenoon & took dinner with Capt Fee & I. Immediately after dinner I was ordered on picket, & had charge of a line of pickets over a mile long, I have felt rather feeble, but kept on my feet nearly all night, & I slept none I was out to our land battery about 9 Oc night, & they took the guns back to the boats in the night, & most of the artilyery was put on the boats in the night, Lieut Birnbaum of Co [D] 36th Iowa was put under arrest for being caught asleep on his post on the adjoining picket post to me this night After I went out on picket our tents & acoutrements ware ordered on board the boat & all ware aboard before night except us on picket

*March 19.* At about 2 Oc P M I was relieved from picket, I was verry tyred One of Co A shot his thum through this morning he was throun out as a videt from a picket post & carelessly or some think intentionally shot his right thumb I had just been at the post & started on to the next, when the report of the gun arrested my attention & I ran back, & started him to the seargent. One of the pickets shot at a moving light as he reports in the night.

*March 20.* Last night preparations ware made to fall back with the fleet for reinforcements & at a little after sunrise we ware in motion going up the river, & a more dissatisfied set of men I never saw every soldier & line officer that I heard speak of it was indignant, & would willingly have stormed the fort rather than left without a more thorough effort to take it, & we all felt an ashurance that we could have taken it if our leaders would have but gave us the oppertunity. there was some gurrillas fired into the fleete this day. I took of some men & supplied fuel from a rebbles fence. We made a good days travel & met at nite our male boat & by 10 Oc the male was distributed I recd [several letters]

*March 21.* We moved on in the morning up the Tallahatchie our fleete was fired into several times & I saw the garrillars that fired on us at one point & a part of the 36 Iowa boys fired after them but with what result I do not now know I with fatigue men supplied the fuel

from fences After noon we met reinforcements coming under Genl Quinby & we tacked about, to the great satisfaction of nearly all of the soldiers & line officers, it is remarkable to see the difference in the sperits of our men. they are now full of animation & believe they will have a fight & conquer the foe.

*Sunday March 22.* I have spent most of the day retired in our state room, Our good Chaplain M H Hare & I room together, I have felt greatly blessed in spirrit through the day in meditation & prayer Our fleete moved on down the Tallahatchie all day & I think our boat was more abused this than any day since we have been out I had as usual charge of the fatigue men & took on rails sufficient to run our boat Some of the boats were fired into but I do not know whether any one was hurt or not John Myres of our Co G dyed this night of Typhoid fever. I will only say he is in the hands of a mercifull God. He died on the Hospital Boat Goody Friend. Our good Chaplain M H Hare attended to the religious services.

*March 23.* It rained all last night & nearly all this day, part of the time very hard, we loosed cable & started on down early & landed at our camping ground on Curtises plantation, & above the fort Pemberton at about 1 Oc P M the first boats that landed sent out some scouts & they caught 14 rebbles & soon after a deserter & negro from the fort came in Our gunboats fired a few shots at the fort. The rebbles fired some artillery at our men as they ware putting out our pickets & one ball struck a tree in 4 ft of our Lieut Col Drake<sup>15</sup> Several of our boats were fired into as we came down & one of the 48th Indiana boys mortally wounded they think they killed some of the garillars they fired a volly at them & also 2 cannon but did not stop. At 5 Oc P M in military honour we buried John Myers at the base of the beautiful mound [Shell Mound] Mch 24th Orderly H N Swallow of Co F lays close on his right & a nice large rose bush between them.

*March 24.* I went on duty as officer of the guard at 8½ Oc A M & will be released at 8½ tomorrow morning. Shell Mound is the name of the beautifull artificial mound on the plantation of Dr Curtis on Tallahatchie River a short distance above the Rebbel ft Pemberton. the mound is about 40 ft high by about 150 ft across at bace & about 35 ft across on top level curface the mound appears to be in a perfect circle with a path commencing at bace & winding around handsomly as the screw of an auger until it reaches the top, the mound from the old stumps upon its sides would indicate that it had been built senturys ago. it is now dotted over with peach pare & plumb trees full of bloom. it has taken its name from the high ridges of shells near it, now partially rotton but seem to have been clams, some are yet whole

*March 25.* Early in morning the Hospital boat Goody Friend started up to Helena with sick soldiers There was no fighting so far as I know

<sup>15</sup>Francis Marion Drake, lieutenant-colonel Thirty-sixth Iowa Infantry, 1862; colonel, 1864-65; breveted brigadier-general, February 22, 1865; governor of Iowa, 1890-98.

this day At 8½ Oc A M I was relieved from duty I have sept none for 36 hours I have suffered all day with pain in bowels & bloating Albert Aflick came on board this morning & staid & took dinner with us, he is well & in fine sperits afternoon I walked out & down with him & some of his Officers to below the first picket lines getting the officers of the guard to pass us. Afternoon we had our tents put up & most of the men went off the boat into camp.

*March 26.* Afternoon at 9 Oc we ware called out & I took our Co & went out on Picket. Afternoon the 29th Iowa boys had a little skirmash with the enemyes pickets & took three prisoners & had no one hurt on our side Afternoon I reported the position of our picket line to Genl Clinton B Fisk & had judicious changes made in it, much to the aproval of the Genl & also Col McGlaughlen who has charge of the picket lines The Masketoes & gnats ware verry troublesome among the cane especilly.

*March 27.* There was a few shots fired along our picket line & at day this morning one of Co I in our Reg shot his thum perhaps axidentally. at 11 Oc we ware releaved by the 33 Iowa Reg. Genl Quinby made a faint attack on the enemy & discovered the position of their batteries down on the Yalobusha river & retired without any loss. he planted a battery across opposite the mouth of the Yalobusha to prevent their transports from getting down I have been afflicted with pain in my bowels, & swelling of them, Through the night it was difficult for me to make the boys keep out their fires the mosketoes & gnats ware so troublesome they wanted the smoke to keep them away

*March 28.* A sad occurrance happened to some of the 47th Indiana boys. A tree fell across their tent while they ware in bed or I should say laying on their blankets there was 6 of them in the tent & the tree fell diagonally across them hitting the 1st on the head the next on the brest & killing the 4 first & breaking the legs of the other two, & it is feared they will not recover John E Walker of our Co G Died verry sudintly in the night he had reported sick in the morning but was around all day & ate supper as usual & laid down with his brotherinlaw Joseph Leonard & as it stormed they talked & he made no complaint, & directly he made a strange noise & Leonard arose but before he could get a candle lit Walker was dead

*Sunday March 29.* Cold & cloudy with raine hale & snow & high wind On the 26th & 27th it was very warm & muskitoes troublesome but they are blockaded now & their batterys all masked. At 2 Oc P M we buried John E Walker by the side of John Myers. Our Chaplain attending to the religious services he was buried in the honours of war. 3 Oc P M I attended religious services on the Lebanon No 2 Genl Fisks head Quarters.

*March 30.* At 1 Oc this Morning I was put in Charge of the Camp & boat guards & was relieved at 3 Oc P M.—the last night was verry dark, cold & spit snow some. Our Second Lieut L L Spooner was Out



on picket 24 hours ending at noon & he had a cold introduction it being the 1st time since his promotion.

*March 31.* At 9 Oc A M our Reg was called in line & I took Charge of our Co & came out on Picket & expect to be here until noon tomorrow, it is now sunset & Cold the 33 Mo are on fatigue duty building a bridge over a slew to enable us to take our heavy guns over The 28th Wisconsin went past after dark with guns spades & axes to erect batterys & dig rifle pits. In the evening we killed a large timber Rattle snake it was cralling near some of their feet at their picket post, it had 10 rattles & a button

*April 1.* We ware not relieved until just before sunset, being 2 days & one night, we have been on duty & I have not slept any, Our picket lines ware not disturbed But now 9 Oc night the Rebbles are firing Cannon at our fatigue men but I cannot tell with what result. Morning of the 2nd they intirely over shot & our men worked on unharmed the Rebbles fires 12 shots at them in the night The Rebble Genl Tillman sent in a flag of truse, pretending to be verry anxious to have one of their men by the Name of——Fernando released on the act of his children who are at home & niggers there to take care of them & our folks have been there & given them sugar coffee, tea flower &c & went into the woods & carried to his house his clothing, books, dishes, carpets papers, & furniture which the traitor had hid in the woods

*April 2.* At noon we ware ordered in line & taken beyond the picket line & discharged our guns. At 5 Oc P M we ware on dress parade. The Rebbles have been firing at fatigue parties every fiew minnits this day & they fired a number of shots at them last night, but thus far their shells have done us no harm & the men have worked as though they ware intirely out of reach of them. Our Genl went up on a musketo gunboat to see Furnandoes children & took them a lot of provisions, so that I have no doubt but that they live better than any of their neighbours.

*April 3.* Our Reg went on picket & for once I escaped going Capt Aflick spent part of the day with me. Genl Quinbys reinforcements or the ballance of his division arived 6 men ware killed by garrillars as they came down, & a number wounded. The 5th 10th & 17th Iowa Regments are with them. The 29th 33rd & 36th are here in Genl Rosses division, so Iowa is represented well here. Mch 4th Special order No 35 by Brig Genl Ross is that all the Transports of his command be ready to move at 4 Oc tomorrow morning. Morning of the 3rd Our Reg was ordered out on picket with 2 commissioned officers, with our company & Capt Fee & Lieut Spooner went being the first time for Capt on picket since we have been here & the first time that I have not been with the Co when they ware out since we left Helena save once & then I was Officer of the day & guard in camp & on boats, & that time Lieut L L Spooner was with the Co for his first time after promotion

*April 4.* I went over to Genl Quinbys Divission & saw a number of

old friends from van Buren Co & Appanoose Co Iowa & had a good chat with Dr Biser of Keosauqua now seargent in the 17th Iowa. I took Dinner with Capt——Newton in the 17th he is from Keokuk George Tool of Keosauqua is Orderly Seargent in his Co. While I was over there word came to me that our Brigade was ordered to have everything on the boats & be ready to start up the river I hurried over & found our men verry much dissatisfyed with the Idea of leaveing without taking the rebble fort Pemberton. The Rebbles have been firing heavy guns every 10 to 15 minnits all day & until this hour 12 Oc night they have done us no harm except wounding Quartermaster Downey of the 46th Indianna in his hand with a peace of shell & wounding one other of the same Reg & killing one same Reg a shell burst & one peace it took of the front of both his knees & one peace entered his right side & came out of the left making a hole large enough to put a mans fist through & part of his livver was hanging out on the left side when I saw him. I was Officer of the guard & sept none last night.

*Sunday, April 5.* We are tyed up & no land to be seen on either side. The Citizen passed down, to meet Genl Quinby & reported to us that the Capt of the Cheeseman & two soldiers on her ware shot dead by garrillars, & others wounded they are above us & ware on their way down to us W[e] acasionly heard the crash of guns in front & rear but do not know the results or whether our men got to return any fires, but we passed by a plantation where the buildings ware all on fire, the furniture, women, & negroes setting about, & we know that our boats had been fired at from thereabouts. Names of the transports that I notised in Genl Quinbeys fleete. Tecumseh. Pike. Ad Hine. Primadonna. Dianna. Argyle. Rose Hambleton. J. S. Pringle. W W Crawford. Anglosaxon. Lady Jack Lasalle. Jesse K Bell No. 2. Armada Bell Creole. White Rose. Brazil. & Dianna. Gurlew of Evansville. Freestone.

*April 6.* We heard several plattoons of rifles about 3 Oc A. M. but could not tell whether they ware up or down the stream & we ware to far from land to be shot at with rifles there was a fiew garrillar shots fired at the boats but I have not heard of any of our men being hit We tyed up Our boats a little before sunset at the plantation of the Rebble Major Randolph Nelson. Mr Sims his Overseer & negroes say he was killed in the fight at Murfreesborough, the boats took on a fine lot of railles, & we got quite a number of cattle killed to supply our Commissary department After I had attended to supplying our boat with rails I went to the house of the Overseear & got some excellent butter & milch from Mrs Sims, she had refused, or denied to others of having any but she let me have all she had & refused to take pay, but I carried it on the boat & took her some coffee & him some tobacco which they would prefer to gold. I took out Capt Fee when I took the coffee & also some army bred & we had a feast of milch & crackers she thought them excellent I got a nice loaf of corn bread & chunk of bear meet from one of the darkeys enough to last my mess a day or

two. we are 5 miles below the mouth Coldwater. Tallahatchie Co Miss.

*April 7.* The Misketoos have been some troublesome at 4 Oc this morning we started & have made a verry steady & good run & are now at dark tyed up in the yazoo pass about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile above the junction of the pass with Coldwater

*April 8.* At 4 Oc A M we started & made a good headway about one hour before sunset we got through the pass into Moon Lake & at about  $\frac{1}{2}$  past 7 Oc P M we landed at Helena Arkansas, Lieut Col Drake authorized me to go for the male for Our Reg, after distributing it I received [several letters including] 2 from Amandus enclosed in them Baring me the joyfull tideings of his convection to God And I praise the Lord for his infinite goodness & unmerited mercy to me, Surely I will praise him

*April 9.* At 10 Oc A M we ware Ordered off the boats formed in line & marched to camping grounds on a high point near the center of the town our tents soon arived & we put them up & prepared for a sleep on the ground We found most of our men that we had left here sick much better but One of Our best men that we sent up here from the yazoo Expedition sick Died in hospital at noon this day Wm Davis he was 5th seargent. The Levenia Logan had on the right of our Reg was fired into by gurillars & three soldiers slightly wounded. we of the left wing ware not fired at on the intire trip I wrote a communication to the Keosauqua Republican discriptive of our Tallahatchie expedition.

*April 10.* Capt Fee & ten of our men went out on picket, Afternoon & night I suffered with headache In morning I took a black man that had come up on the Yazoo Expedition to the contraband hospital I spent some time forenoon with Capt Albt Aflick I wrote a letter to my Niece Miss Maria Pearson Davis Co Iowa & sent a lief of Magnolia & a sprig of Arbavita

*April 11.* Afternoon we ware ordered in line & marched down into the bottom, & mustered by our Col I was in command of our Compa I felt rather feeble this day some of the 17th Iowa boys visited us

*Sunday, April 12.* 5 Oc P M we ware on Dress parade. 2 Oc P M I attended a religeous, patriotic, meeting Services Opened, by Chaplain Forman, Our Chaplain followed by singing Chaplain Kirkpatrick preached text 1st John 5th Ch & I verse Chaplain M H Hare follow, & Col Pile who by his career in his countrys service has got the name of the fighting Preacher followed with great earnestness & after him Col Bussey spoke giveing northern Copperheads some heavy thrusts after which Chaplain Forman closed I had a pleasant interview with Mrs Cutler formerly Miss Clare Young of Keosauqua Iowa

*April 13.* I attended to some business in town, done some shopping & was on Dress parade at 5 Oc P M I had a long talk with some prisoners that have the bounds of this town three of them claims to have deserted Genl Hindmans army five months ago & say their Wives have been carrying their provisions to them, hid in the woods since



they are brothers & desire to be permitted to take guns & go as guides to a skouting party another deserted with them & is also anxious to go along, their was 8 of them & all claim to hate the rebellion & its leaders & I believe 6 of them are honest & the other two may be. they say Hindmans army are nearly all conscripts & are sick & tyred of the war. Lieut Spooner was Officer of the guard

*April 14.* I had command of a detail of fifty men on fatigue duty moving oats from a warehouse now 9 Oc night & raining

*April 15.* 5 Oc P M we ware on Dress parade evening we had some good religeos speaches & some papers & little books distributed to the soldiers I wrote a communication for the Keosauqua Republican, to inform the friends of the 29th 33rd & 36th Iowa Vol Infantry of the infamous slanderous falsehoods published about those regments in the treasonable tory sheet the Chicago Times of April 10th Vol 8 No. 200, which sets forth the idea that there is an anti war feeling in the army & that there was an expression given that way by those Reg'st on the Tallahatchie which statements are as false as Saten is wicked.

*April 16.* We have quite a stur about our Camps, Uncle Sam has been paying off his boys; Our Reg was paid off this day,

*April 17.* It has been some like a time of feasting with our regiment this day, I have remained at Camp all day except while we ware on dress parade as Capt Fee & Lieut Spooner have been in town nearly all day.

*April 18.* Now 9 Oc night & raining hard with verry heavy thunder & almost a constant blaze of lightning, with heavy wind At 4 Oc Our Chaplain & I started out to the 4th cavelry & I Lodged with the Major Edward F Winslow,<sup>16</sup> he is Dr Berreys, son, in law I recd letter from F S Burt of Mount Pleasant dated Dec 22nd 1862 it has come by the way of Centerville Iowa & is in relation to our pump patent

*Sunday, April 19.* At 6 Oc A M a detachment of one hundred men from from each of the Regs, 4th Iowa Cavelry & 5th Kansas Cavel started out on a scout At 11 Oc A M. Our Chaplain preached to the 4th Cav & I exorted text What is man that thou hast magnified him. We had a good time, several trees blew down about the camps last night but done no harm. I spent part of the morning with the 5th Kansas the above two regments have beautifull camping grounds some 3 miles back & rather below Helena, At 2 Oc P M we attended a religeous patriotic meeting in fort Curtis, we had a verry good time a number spoke & Genl Fisk gave us a most excellent talk In the evening we had a verry good regimental meeting about the center of our camp.

*April 20.* At 9 Oc A M I took the picket guards of the 36th Iowa Infy & went out on the picket line placed my posts & videtes, & wrote some in a letter to my Daughter I have been greatly impressed with

<sup>16</sup>Edward F. Winslow was engaged in railway construction, living at Mount Pleasant in 1861, when he went out as captain of Company F, Fourth Iowa Cavalry. He was promoted to major in February, 1863, to colonel in July, 1863, and was breveted brigadier-general in December, 1864.

the goodness of God to me, this & my unprofitableness to him & his cause in return. This day I am 48 years Old, & when I see the little good I have done I tremble, By request of the Officer in charge of the Contraband camp, I attended & performed as best I could the burial services of 4 negroes, as their burrying place was near my post. I also tryed to preach at their camp for them in the evening & there was a time of great power. At about 3 Oc P M there was a number of shot exchanged between the reb gurrillars & our outer pickets within about  $\frac{1}{4}$  of a mile from my post I saw the curling smokes at about 4 Oc P M there was some other shots exchanged none of them harming our men & we do not know whether any of them ware killed or not, as the ground is so broken that it was out of the question to follow them

*April 21.* At about 8 Oc it commenced Clouding up & by 11 Oc A M it commenced raining & rained hard until about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$  Oc P M. when it broak away & at night was pleasant. Our Sutler, James S Wolfe Started at 4 Oc P M for Iowa taking the money for most of the men in our Reg I sent a letter by him to my Daughter & also some green backs. I was relieved from picket with my men at a  $\frac{1}{4}$  past 10 Oc A M. At about 5 Oc P M Our Chaplain & I called to see Chaplain Simmons of the 28th Iowa who was detailed here for a time to superintend the Contrabands, he is now unwell. after we left him we saw a man driving 6 fine mules to a waggon & he swinging back & forth, so we got in the wagon & soon he fell from the mule in the mud & they started to run the Chaplain jumped over the front end of the wagon & ran & caught & stoped them, the driver had got partly up & pitched of into the ditch at the side of the road, where he would have drouded had others & myself [not] draged him out, we draged him up the bank in the mud & to the wagon got him in & the Chaplain drove & I held him in until we took the team & driver up to the fort & then turned them into other hands.

*April 22.* Capt Fee was brigade Officer of the day & now 11 Oc at night just received a dispatch from Genl Fisk stating they had important information from the picket lines requireing his immediate attention & for him to report at head quarters at once for instruction I was in charge of the Company we had a good turn out on Dress parade Evening Our Chaplain & I held meeting in a Church in town we had a pleasant time I received letter [from] Emma of April 16th a flower came in the letter from our garden

*April 23.* I was in charge of the company we had a good batallian drill fore & afternoon & dress parade at the close of the afternoon drill. Lieut Spooner is Officer of the picket guard this day Evening we had religeous services about the center of our camps we had a pleasant time Our Chaplain Opened the meeting & I was called on & followed him.

*April 24.* I was Officer of the day

*April 25.* Afternoon we had battallian drill & dress parade At 8 Oc

night an order came for Our Co. G & also Co D to down tents in the morning at 6 Oc & pack up our acutraments & march out some 3 miles to the Camping grounds of the 4th Iowa Cavelry who are ordered to Vicksburg

*Sunday April 26.* In Morning Cos G & D dound our tents & loaded our acutroment got in line & started Col C W Kettredge commanding & we reported at Genl Ross'es Head Quarters, & after an hours detention we ware marched back & pitched our tents as they ware in the morning. At 2 Oc I attended a religeous patriotic meeting in the fort & Col Pile of the 33 Mo Inft made a telling discourse, & at evening the Chaplain of his Reg Joseph Brooks preached for us near the center of our Camps he gave us a good discourse from these words, Come holdly to the throne of the heavenly Grace, &C About 3½ Oc some 3 gun-boats passed down

*April 27.* Heavy rain showers frequently until now 10 Oc night & raining with a good prospect for a nights raine. We had Dress parade 4½ P M & did not get rained on

*April 28.* Capt T M Fee was Officer of the day & I in charge of the company we was on dress parade,

*April 29.* At 9 Oc A M. I took charge as Officer of the day & had a verry pleasant time I suseded in having our catrage boxes raised of of the ground & properly secured which ought to have been done some time ago, & I reported the condition of it to the Col. the last day that I was Officer of the day. Our men drew hats, pants & blouses & boots this day. Our 4th Seargent James Calvert had his pocket book & about \$18.00 dollars stolen out of the Captains tent, while he was in there making out rolls

*April 30.* Two large cannon ware taken up to each of the two new brest works being erected on two different points on hills At 9 Oc A M I was relieved as Officer of the day by Lieut L L Spooner. & at 10 Oc A M I was out with the Co we had a Regamental Review Inspection & Muster we got through about 2 Oc P M. all tyred. On this day we reed the first Official account of the death of Josiah Biddison who died Dec 27th 1862, of Typhoid Newmonia in hospital at Keokuk. At 5 Oc P M the 29th 33rd & 36th Iowa Reg's & the 33 Mo Reg met on our parade ground & broke the battallions into collums at close distance formed a hollow square, in the center of which was a waggon prepared for speakers & after the troops had stacked arms Brig Genl Fisk arose stated the object of the meeting & read the Presidents proclima[tion] in regard to a National fast, humiliation & prayer this day. Chaplain M H Hair of the 36th then made the opening prayer Chaplain Conrad of the 29th read the——chapter Isaiah. Chaplain Joseph Brooks of the 33rd Mo preached text Isaiah 23rd Ch 11th & 12th verses

*May 1.* Capt Fee, was in command of a fatigue party working on new brest works to place heavy guns in, the guns ware taken up yesterday 2 into each of the two new brest works. Afternoon there was



much excitement in Camps, A scouting party of about 180 of the 3rd Iowa Cavalry went out & got into a fight & what of them was not killed wounded or taken prisoners came in like sheep that had been chased by dogs, from one to a dozen in a gang & some with no hat, & some loose horses & they came by roads, & by the woods, & broken hills just as best they could get in. three regments of Infantry & 2 or 3 Reg of Cavalry hastened out to the battle ground but the rebbles had mostly fled, they took one of them prisoner & got three of our dead men & some 8 or 10 that was wounded, the killed ware [John] Macy of Davis Co Iowa & sergeants [Arthur K.] Ewing of Blakesburg & [James H. W.] Riggs of Knoxville the 2 last were both Seargents in Co K of the 3 Cavalry

*May 2.* We ware called in line for battallion drill & just as we got in line it commenced raining hard & the Col marched the regiment to quarters & dismissed them, I went with our Chaplain to the burrying of Seargent Ewing of Blakesburg Iowa & Seargent Riggs of Knoxville Iowa M H Hair performed the religious services

*Sunday, May 3.* At 8½ I was at guard mount after which I took the Picket guards & went out as officer of the guard, visited all the posts on my line twice, giving the instructions carefully at each post, & visited the posts on the right wing in the night, they fired once at a rebble about 10 Oc night At 11 Oc A M David Worcester of the 29th Iowa preached to the contrabands within 100 yds of my post I exorted text Ephesians 2nd Ch 19th v, & at 3 Oc P M he preached from Mark 10th Ch & 46th 57th inclusive & I exorted. In the evening I spoke to them from Revela 22nd 17th v. The night was beautiful & clear & the moon fullled at 9 Oc 56 minutes morning I talked to them about 30 minutes with my sword & pistol girt upon me I stood in fare view of my vidette & also my post & within between 80 & 100 yards of my post, smooth, clear, level ground between, & about 30 yds inside of my picket line & one vidette yet inside of where I stood & endeavoured to preach Jesus & the resurrection & the fullness, & freeness of Salvation to all. the 1st Indiana Cavalry had a post about 25 yards outside of my post, with a lieutenants head Quarters there, & their videttes out beyond mine, & I had a seargeant on my post, & for the first time since I have been in the service I ast of the Officer of the day the privilege of sleeping some that night & he told me I might sleep ½ the night & let the Seargt keep on the alert & then I could let him sleep & me be on the alert. but I did not sleep nor did he untill just before daylight. he went to sleep & slept untill sunrise, I have never yet slept when I have been Officer of the guard & never before asked the priviledge.

*May 4.* At 11 Oc Now 9 Oc night raining hard with a perfect storm of wind which we fear will take down some of our tents, there is heavy thunder & sharp lightning At about 10 Oc A M the picket guard came out to relieve me & at about 11 Oc we reported back to the Col with the old guard. Afternoon I visited all our boys in hospital & cheered them

all I could at 1 Oc P M I attended a Union prayer meeting in town, only 3 of us present, it was at the Episcopalian Church

*May 5.* Capt T. M. Fee went out as Officer of the picket guard at 8½ Oc A M. At 5 Oc P M Our Reg sent out other picket guards to relieve another Reg & Our Lieut L. L. Spooner went out with them as Officer of that post of the picket guards.

*May 6.* Cloudy & cold with raine snow, & hale, in the morning & disagreeably cold all day Afternoon I took out the Company & we ware formed in line, & marched by the Col out on the bottom & the 29th Iowa Reg & our Reg practised targon shooting for some two hours, then we marched to Quarters & ware dismissed & Col Pile of the 33 Mo Reg took out their small artillery & practiced targon shooting for a short time, at 5 Oc we ware on dress perade, My Spiritual Father Thomas Kirkpatrick who rode the Pittsburg Sircouit Van Buren Co Iowa at the time of my Convection, called this morning to see me at my tent, & we had a pleasant interview, & talked over the maraculous presentament that Mrs Williams had who died in Pittsburg which was the cause of my conversion & of a great revival, he is now on his way to Pittsburg for his Son & Son in law who are down there sick, Our Chaplain was in with him to see me, our Captain was Ordered to report with his sword to the Col & put under arrest, for negligence on Picket

*May 7.* At ½ past 6 Oc A M I went out with a detail of 50 men with axes & we felled timber out of the way of our Outer batterys, we done a big days work & killed some Squerrels by falling timber & cut one beetree, & had all the honey I could eat, & I got a nice bunch of Snakeroot

*May 8.* Lieut L. L. Spooner was officer of the day I was in command of the Company Evening Dr [Sylvester H.] Sawyer gave the commissioned Officers of the 36 Reg Iowa vol. an Oister Supper, & we had a good social feast of good things, & the Chaplain was with us, & I am proud to say that I did not hear a wicked word or see a rong act while there we dispersed at ½ past 10 Oc night, the Dr has been assistant surgeon, & has just received his commission of promotion to first surgeon of Our Reg

*May 9.* I am Officer of the day & will be on duty until 8½ Oc tomorrow morning Our men are all on fatigue duty & we could not fill all the details this morning, to fix batterys fell timber & poliece grounds on the river bank where we expect to move to the first of the week One Negroe Regiment the 1st arkansas, under Col Wood, who was of the first Indianna Cavalry, left here for Milikens bend this afternoon & James W Calvert Seargt of our Co has been Ordered by Genl Ross to report to Col Wood, I think to act as Orderly Seargt in the Reg he is a good young man I visited the hospital & found some of our men verry sick & fear some will soon die

[To be concluded]

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