

BENJAMIN F. PEARSON'S WAR DIARY

[This diary, beginning July 22, 1862, and extending to April 6, 1864, was published in the four preceding numbers of the ANNALS. The present installment extends from April 7, 1864, to November 16, 1864.—Editor.]

April 7. Variable with frequent sprinkles of rain & at dark it commenced in earnest with heavy rain, hard thunder, & sharp lightning & continued until after midnight. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 7 Oc A. M. I reported & took command of the foraging Guards of the 36th Iowa it was a brigade foraging party & we had a train of 36 wagons & the Maj of the 43rd Indiana was in command of us all, we went to the rear & passed through our battle ground crossed the Little Mo River at Elkin Ford & took down on the Roane road & went some $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles & within $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of Roane we succeeded in loading most of our waggons with corn hogs beef & C & returned safely before sunset having traveled some 18 or 20 miles we routed one Reb Picket post & took & brought in one prisoner. On arriving at Camp to my sorrow I learnt that Wm O Garl Corp who was wounded on the fourth & had his leg amputated had died & was buried & also Henry Reitzel of Co A died of Lung disease & they were buried together. I got dinner this day with Mrs Julia Ann Welch a widow, she has a good frame residence on a hill her farm land in view on the bottom land of the Little Mo this River between banks is from 75 to 100 yds it is now low & where we infantry crossed is now about 18 yds across the water the teams all ford & at the ford it is about knee deep

April 8. It rained hard nearly all last night, & raised the Little Mo River so that they had to send our Pontoon train back to Elkin ford $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles from where we are bivouacked. Genl Thayer from Fort Smith got up to the ford with his army & we have been waiting for his arrival & our Pioneers have been putting down cordoroy road across the bottom for his artillery & train, we expect his forces will get up to us tomorrow. At 1 Oc P M we were ordered in line & our Regiment, the 43rd Indiana & 9th Wisconsin under command of Genl Salomon with two Peaces of Artillery, & the 1st Iowa Cav with their little howitzers & the — Mo Cav advanced some 4 or five miles to the front & expected a fight but returned by sunset without even a skirmish. We passed through the best, pine timber I have yet seen in the South the land is but a bed of gravel & sand the gravel constituting almost the entire body, they vary in size from the size of a pea up to the size of goose eggs; there are many dog wood trees & bushes through the woods & they are white with bloom, & where we are stopped on Mrs. Cornelious place the apple trees are nicely in bloom, this is an old place the buildings are hewed logs chinked & not pointed the fire places & chimneys built of logs & sticks smeared over with clay Just here at the road side on the ground I am seated to write I have now returned from a ramble

around the rebbel brest works of dirt & logs they are about 1½ or two miles in extent on the hil tops & sides as the road enters them from Elkin ford here they expended considerable of labour but retreated on our advance without doing us any harm they fired a few shots only & did not hurt any one to my knowledge

April 9. There was some skirmishing in front on our picket lines but I did not hear that any one on our side was hurt, Genl Thayer & his forces came up to us this P M & I had a short interview with Capt Joseph Morey of the 18th Iowa now act Adjt Genl on Col Edwards Staff. I also had a short interview with Capt Bunner of the 7 Mo Cav & young Mr Deeheart & Hancock, who just arive from Little Rock with dispatches they had no trouble on the way came through in 3 days

Sunday; April 10. At day light we had orders for our Regt to be ready to march at 7 Oc & the army had already commenced some of it to move & it was ½ past 2 Oc P M when we ware ordered to move & the roads being bad the Artillery & traines moved slow & our Reg was divided in two wings to guard the train but soon we began to hear the sound of Artillery in front & we ware ordered forward on double quick & we reached the batery just at dusk, & the artillery had just quit firing for a few minutes, we had double quicked near or quite 3 miles we ware formed in line in rear on our right flank & ordered to lay down; in a few minutes the skirmishing with rifles commenced & then the artillery again opened with renewed fury & the blaze from the artillery & guns & the flying & bursting shells was a beautiful sight; we ware then ordered forward on the left but we did not get any chance to fire this night on the rebs between 9 & 10 Oc night the rebs made a desperate effort to drive our forces from the high prairies where our forces driven them from before night but our men repulsed them & held their ground with verry little loss on our side.

April 11. Prairie De Hand Hempstead Co Ark It is now 7 Oc A. M & the skirmishing has just commenced a little in front The forenoon of this day was beautifull clear pleasant evening cloudy with heavy raine through this night. About 1 Oc P. M. we ware moved forward to the front & center on a beautifull eminance on the Prairie when the view was grand, & the surrounding sublime our brigade ware in line in the center Genl Rices immediately on our right & Col Inglesmans Brigade immediate on our left other forces extending out on our flanks & heavy reserves in the rear & the skirmishers line in front of us in nice view for near two miles in length the reb skirmishers in front of them & beyond their skirmishers their line of battle but little of which we could see, being mostly in the woods the afternoon was spent in trying to draw them out & finding their position; in the first we failed but in finding their position, & fortifications we succeeded Privates Abraham Humble died this day & N F Mottoo died this night, they ware good men & brave soldiers & ware both wounded in our fight at Elkin Ford on the Little Mo on the 4th Inst. They are burried together at the edge of Prairie De Hand

April 12. The day was most delightfull Clear & pleasant after a night of almost steady raine, at 12 Oc morning our company moved forward as the front Picket or skirmishers & placed in line about 10 feet apart on the high prairie the men all set or laid down with a vigilant eye in front but no Reb appeared in reach of us, at about $\frac{1}{2}$ past 5 Oc we ware relieved from the front to get our bite of breckfast, & the skirmishers ware now beginning to move forward on both sides & the firing commenced by them; & before 7 Oc A M our line of battle was formed our brigade on the center Genl Rices on our right & Col Inglemans brigade on our left with other forces stretching far beyond on each flank with the batterrys properly distributed along our line, & heavy reserves in rear of us, of infantry & cavelry & when we ware all in motion it presented to my view one of the grandest scenes my eyes ever beheld truly the scene was grand, & sublime, & the cracking of rifles by the lines of skirmishers with an ocasional fire from the artillery & the bursting shells added to the sublimity of the surroundings, & in the bright morning as we could see our forces stretched for miles on the prairie & all in motion every man of us believing a fight certain & a victory sure, all ware jubilent but the rebs took a scare & stampeded from their formidable brest works of timber which ware near or quite a mile long, with additional earth works from which they fled in haste without waiting to fire on us from behind them, they took towards Washington on the Washington & Camden road, & after our forces had persued them some 5 miles they returned & we all moved on towards Camden with rejoiceing haveing witnessed the most sublime and grand move of military display that any of us had ever witnessed & had routed the enemy from their brest works & riflepitts without any loss scarcely on our side, after passing from this beautifull prairie we came into low wet poor land with heavy pine timber, the little town of Moscow with some 6 or 8 log houses & 3 remaining familys is just in the edge of this timber & some wounded Rebs & one of the 18 Iowa wounded was there, we traveled some 10 miles this day & camped near — Mill on a small stream

April 13. At 6 Oc A M we had orders to be ready to march at 7 Oc, but it was 11 Oc before the order came to march, the night had passed & no disturbance about our lines, & our delay in marching was from the extreeme bad roads in front that had to be repaired by our pioncers our brigade was in the advance Our Reg in front & our Co the advance guard marching left in front. Our march was through a low marshy Country mostly heavily timbered with pine the country poor we bivouacked near Cane Creek after 5 Oc P M haveing marched perhaps from 5 to 8 miles in mud most of the time, we crossed about the middle of our days travel a Creek called Caroose it had a bridge over it about 20 steps across it. Our forces ware attacked in the rear & quit a sharp little fight was had but we ware out of hearing of the artillery, & I cannot learn any of the particulars only it was Marmadukes forces &

Genl Thayer drove them clear beyond their fortifications that we had drove them from on yesterday on the northeast side of Prairie Dehand. I have a day of suffering with rheumatic paines caused perhaps by the heavy drenching we got nite before last, but I am on duty & will be while I am able to walk

April 14. Early in the morning we had orders to be ready to march at a moments notice; but it was 2 Oc P M before the order to march came, & we started through the swamps & over Cane Creek a stream with a bridge some 18 yds across; & we waded on through the mud until we came to the bluff of Sand the first hill was covered with a brown Sand Stone & our march was for the ballance of the afternoon over hills of almost pure sand, the timber nearly all pine, we passed through a village called Lone Grove just at sunset & camped just south of it on the farm of Mrs Alcey Davis we gethered the little cornstalks spread them on the sand in the field & reposed the night on them One of this Widdow Davises sons is one of our commanding General Steele's body guards, he spent the night with his Mother & Sisters had not been at home before in five years belongs to the— Ills Cav & has two brothers, conscripts in the Rebs army. Dr Wm R Rook lives on an adjoining farm has been a Reb but not in the army but now gives it up & intends to leave his farm & take his wife & go with our army to Camden. The town of Lone Grove contains 4 or five houses one a decent looking one story frame is said to be 23 miles from Camden I have not heard of any fighting this day our Cav took a few Rebs.

April 15. We received orders at 1 Oc in the morning to be ready to march at 5 Oc, at 3 Oc we ware up got our breakfast & at ½ past 5 Oc we ware in motion, we marched this day left in front; at about 7 Oc A M we heard the artillery in front we moved along until about 1 Oc P M when we came to a mane road coming into the Washington & Camden Road from the Spring river Country, here we unlimbered 2 pieces of artillery & posted them so as to rake that road on the approach of an enemy, & the left wing of our Reg was left to protect the artillery, until Genl Thayer's forces would arive, it was 6 Oc before they arived & Genl Thayer relieved us, & we started gladly for camp & arived after 1 Oc in the night & bivoucked on the Red Camping grounds about one mile north west of Camden the country through which we came is poor & but little less than sand banks the traveling heavy like wadeing in snow, the timber mostly pine the undergroath Dog wood, this day we saw numerous patches of cacktus or Prickely pear along the road, & for miles the trees bear the marks of war being in places riddled by shots & shells from the artillery as well as rifle balls; as near as I can learn there was 3 men killed & 6 wounded on our side & 14 killed on the Reb side & the number of wounded more than double that number they killed one & captured one of Genl Steele's Scouts the name of the one killed was E Bard They came meeting the scouts & had on our uniforms & they took them for our own men until they ware close to them & one of the Rebs drew his revolver & shot

Bard captured the other & shot a horse under the third but he escaped our forces being at hand

April 16. After Breakfast Capt, Fee & Hale went down into the city afternoon Our brigade moved into the edge of the city of Camden & I took a general ramble over & around the city & its various fortifications, which are in good positions to protect the city 4 of them on the highest points of land & overlooking the city & country about it the largest one Ft. Genett on our right as we enter the city is the largest & there are 3 to our left as we go into the city The one on the extrem left is Ft Matilda, there is also a small fort on the bottom at the lower end of the city, but the shivelry chose to flee from these formidable brest works rather than risk their chances by trying to hold them; there was a few running shotts fired as our advance came into the city but none from the fortification, & I believe there was no one hurt in taking the city this place which once contained a population of near 7 thousand has not over that many hundred people in it now Camden is the county seat of Ouachita Co there is a good brick Court house large & commodious with two good high storys & is far the best court house I have seen in the state the city contains some good residences most of the buildings are frame there are soome good brick dwellings & buisness houses, but no buisness done in them now & no goods in the place; it is on the bluffs on the west bank of the Ouachita River the bank of the river immediately in front of the city is very abrupt & about 30 to 50 ft high, it slopes off at the upper edge of the city & there is a small level piece of bottom land on the Camden side

Sunday, April 17. At 8 Oc A M. I was ordered to report as Officer of the day & after attending to the various dutys, at 10 Oc I attended preaching by our Chaplain in front of Cols head Qrs on the little prairie in the limits of the City of Camden he preached from John 1st Ch & 17th v & he called on me to close by an exortation & prayer which I did in the best manner I knew how, with my sword girt upon me. Capt Fee being sick with ague I took the Company out on inspection at 3 Oc P M. & at 8 Oc night we received Orders to be ready to march at 7 Oc tomorrow morning

April 18. At 7 Oc A M we ware ordered in line & our regiment marched out on the road south east, 6 miles from Camden with a traine of 45 wagons loaded with Corn, to James M Britton Steam mill, after unloading the corn the traine went back to Camden, we put out our guards & detailed men to cut & carry wood others to run the mill & others to shuck & shell the corn, we ware pretty near all on duty, & for the first time since I have been soldiering is it that there was a universal dissatisfaction with Officers & men for the position we ware placed in 6 miles from any support, & within 14 miles of Shelys head Qrs & 18 miles of Prices head Qrs & 15 miles only from the main Rebble army & we without even one piece of artillery & only 20 Cavalry out with us & a part of the road almost impassible for a regiment to travel over being over 2 bad streams to cross & some swampy ground the

bridge over two Bayou which has been about 150 yds long over the creek & swamp is now impassable even for footmen, the Rebs having fired it in several places & burnt some parts of it; at 9 Oc night a dispatch arived ordering us back Camden, we had only one wagon & no Ambulance we packed our duds, called in our guards & started, but soon met Col McLean our Brigade Commander with the ballance of the brigade & a train of wagons to take in the meal & corn & we ware marched back put out our guards & loaded up the train & again started for Camden & got in just at day light of the 19th weary & provoked, but glad that we ware back safe from the exposed position in which we had been placed. For several hours this forenoon we heard heavy canonadeing but did not know who ware engaged until the dispatch arived ordering us to Camden, when we recd the sad news that a forage train of some two hundred wagons & about one thousand mules & horses & four pieces of artilery, & thrc companies of the 18th Iowa Infy & the 2nd Arkansis Inf A D ware mostly captured by the Rebs

April 19. At day break we arived back to Camden from where we marched at 7 Oc A M of yesterday, tyred & weary & soon we ware composed upon our blankets spread upon the ground & enjoying repose to wearied nature, the forenoon was spent by most of us about camp, afternoon I went into the city visited the hospital conversed with the sick & wounded &c. I then went to the river viewed the side wheel steamer, Homer that our forces captured some miles below Camden the day after we took this place, she is a good but small steamer, I next went to the printing office of the States Rights Eagle by Hobson & Linscott Camden Ark I could obtain no late paper as the press had suspended but I got one date Mch 12th 61, Vol IV, No 6 it contained some spicey articles & notices among which was the following which I will here give verbatim:

"RUNAWAY NEGROES CAUGHT

Having a superior pack of well trained Negro Dogs, I will catch Negroes at the following prices; \$5, for chasing a negro, and \$25, for catching them. I can be found at all time at my residence, North-west of Camden on the Aradelphia road.

W. M. Bratton."

I insert here that the above road is the Arkadelphia & the k has been omitted by the printer or Bratton.

April 20. At 1 Oc P. M. the supply traine from Little Rock by the way of Pine Bluff commenced to arive Col Clayton of the 5th Kansas Cav was in Command they arived safely without any mishap, brought also a heavy male, to the joy of us all. I received some dozen letters several from my Daughter one from my Brother in Md. & from sundary other friends & correspondants. Soon as the traine commenced ariveing I heard that my son was coming & was among the rear guards, I got permission & started I passed through the city of Camden; crossed

the Ouachita river on a pontoon just above the city & soon I had the pleasure of meeting & greeting my patriotic son, a recruit to our company & now in his 17th year, & I this day enter into my fiftyeth year, after our meandering march from Little Rock to this city some two hundred miles by our rout every foot of which I walked, & at night lay upon the ground & in the raine without tent & I took my part in every skirmish or battle in which any part of our Regiment was engaged all of which I have cheerfully done & stood it as well as most of the boys or officers & I weigh this day 168 lbs.

April 21. At 7 Oc Capt Hale of Co D & my Son & I went to the Ouachita river & fished a short time with but little success afternoon we recd notice that a male would leave for Pine bluff in the morning & that our letters must be in by 3 Oc P M so we wrote some in haste

April 22. At $\frac{1}{2}$ past 8 Oc A. M. I reported & took charge of the Picket guards & marched out to our line. North of Camden & relieved Lieut Birnbaum of Co D. & at 5 Oc P M the Officer of the day came out & ordered me to report with my men immediately to Lt Col F M Drake; as our Reg was ordered to march immediately I reported as ordered & left the line without Pickets, & immediately on my arival at Camp we marched through Camden & crossed the Ouachita river on a pontoon bridge & camped in a low cane patch among the swamps about one mile east of Camden it was near 9 Oc night when we ware ordered to stack arms & unsling knapsacks, & it was sprinkling raine. I will designate this Camp No 1 on this trip. Our brigade the 2nd Brigade of the 3rd Division of the 7th Army Corps consisting of the 36th Iowa 43rd Indiana & 77th Ohio Infy are along & a small detachment of Cavelry making in all about fifteen hundred troops & are all under command of Lieut Col F M Drake of the 36th Iowa. & also two sections 4 pieces of the 2nd Mo Batery & 4 Casions & there are 240 Government waggons 8 Ambulances & between 50 & 75 Sutler & Citizen refugees wagons to guard making a train near ——— miles long

April 23. Camp No 2 we have marched some over 20 miles this day the roads are muddy & the traveling heavy we have had no fighting & have heard only of some 20 rebs in our rout & they succeeded in capturing two captains one, was discharged & the other going through with us on business & neither belong to this Brigade, & are both in fault, as they went ahead of our advance, & the rebs ran upon them & took them at about 4 Oc P M We heard heavy firing in the rear, & we thought it was at or near Camden; we are bivouacked in a pine woods. The day has been cold with frequent showers & the forepart of the night showery & cold, we went into camp about 5 Oc P M The Country is poor low & flat, mostly covered with pine, & cyprees the ground is very sandy & livery or shakey, & no improvements to amount to any thing; & nearly all the women claim to be widows a few acknowledge their husbands are in the rebble army, & when their Negroes want to follow our train they sometimes cry aloud & say that if they go away, that them & their children will be left to starve but their tears & intreatys

have but little impression on the negroes they seem to have a thirst for freedom

Sunday, April 24. Camp No 3 among the pines near the Mona River, we have marched 16 miles this day through a flat sandy country mostly poor land, & bad roads, we ware verry much detained by the traine, we have not been molested, & saw no rebs, that claimed to be such; there is much more improved land along the road of this days travel than we have seen since we crossed the Ouachita, the land poor & the improvements give no evidence of enterprize buildings almost intirely of logs with stick & mud chimneys & not a building in 50 in this country pointed the institution of Slavery has blighted the whole Country & demoralized nearly all the people,

April 25. I had been ordered to report at day break to Capt Coles with one Corporal & 2 men from each Co to take charge of the wagons that halled our knapsacks & at 5 Oc the traine commenced to move the 43rd Ind was the front guards & our Reg in the center & the 77 Ohio the rear guard & 2 peaces of Artillery front & two with the rear guards the Moro bottom is but little less than a swamp for some five to six miles & teams stalling & mules mireing caused great difficulty in keeping the train closed up, & after the front of the train had got some 2 or 3 miles beyond the bottom & while the rear was yet floundering in the mud the Enemy with six to eight times our number & with eight pieces of artillery attacked our advance guards at about 10 Oc near Marks Mill Bradley County Red Land township Ark. They ware commanded by Genls Fagan, Dockney, Shelby & Cabell, & also Col Crawford Commanded a brigade; they had selected their position in a heavy woods having much under groth, they had one brigade in front to attack & one brigade out on each flank out so that our flankers did not discover them until after we ware attacked they had one brigade in readiness to dash across in rear of the advance guards & cut the train in two which was done soon after our regiment got into the engagement & other forces they had posted at different points to move as they mite see necessary the battle was short & desperate & more than one fourth of the two forward Regiments ware killed & wounded before they ware taken, but we ware over powered by numbers Early in the engagement our commander Lieut Col F M Drake was severely wounded early in the engagement the command then devolved on the Majors that ware with us this being next highest in rank, the 77th Ohio was commanded by Capt McCormick & before they got up from the rear the 43rd Ind & 36th Iowa ware taken & this no doubt dishartened them & they did not fight as perhaps they would under other circumstances, but no effort on their part could have saved the day to us, the rebs took the intire traine & most of the troops or near one thousand prisoners, my son & about 30 others of our Reg cut through their lines & made their escape The rebs robbed nearly every man of us even to our Chaplain & many of our dead they striped of every stitch of clothes even their shirts & socks & left them unburyed & the woods on fire & many of the wounded

they jurked of their boots, blouses, pants & hats, & as they would plead to have their garments left they would damn them for abolitionests or niger thieves, & they also took from many of the prisoners some of the garments they had on some they took their boots, some blouses, some pants & some hats & they had no respect for persons rank nor age, Old Capt Moss of the 43rd Indiana Infy they took his hat, & marched him bareheaded with his bald head & white locks & beard in the burning sun, there was not an armed negro with us & they shot down our Colored servents & temsters & others what ware following to get from bondage, as they would shoot sheep dogs.

April 26. At 7 Oc A M, I got a written permit from A T Robertson & also from Hamit Pinson, Confederate Seargs at Dockerys Hospital & Robertson at Cranes hospital; to go over the battle field & to the different hospitals; to look for my son, & I put in the day with diligent search, & an anxious acheing heart & witnessed the fearfull results of carnest war & the picture was a sad one. I saw nor heard anything of my son but the mangled bodys of the dead lay in every imaginable shape over the woods & many of them striped of every stitch of cloths & many of them burnt into a crisp next to the ground as the woods was burnt over, I think the woods took fire from the burning wagons as the Rebs burnt about half of them there are some 60 odd dead horses over the battle ground, & 30 odd dead mules, & the number of Negroes I could not get I saw perhaps near 30, & the Rebs pointed out to me a point of woods where they told me they had killed eighty odd negroes men women & children this is their report to me & it may be true & it may not, I did not see it nor was I in that part of the woods, but I fully believe they are hartless enough to do any act that wicked men or devils could conceive, they left our dead on the field until a flag of truce came out from Pine Bluff & burried them some 3 or 4 days after the battle & the negroes are not & never will be buried until the rains wash the sands over their bleached bones

April 27. I buseyed myself in visiting among the wounded in hospitals and comforting them what I could by words & deeds I wrote a line & sent it open with the flag of truce to the Bluff to be forwarded to Emma.

April 28. I busey myself this day among the wounded at James Cranes & Mrs Hunters in Red land township Bradley Co. Ark, the men that came out from Pine Bluff with a flag of truce to burry the dead returned this day to the Bluffs & I wrote a line to my children & sent it open with them. Lieut John W May of Co F 36th Iowa died of the wound he received in battle on the 25th he was shot in left leg below the knee & the bone shatered too pieces & not amputated, he was resigned to his fate & requested me to write to his Father John May at Confidence Wayne Co Iowa he was a brave man & beloved by all his comrades & men he died at Cranes hospital in the room where Lieut Col F M Drake is confined of his wound Lieut McVay of Co B & myself assisted in burrying Lieut May

April 20. I buisied myself in doing all in my power this day to relieve the suffering & dyeing of our brave men, by attending so far as I could to them & assisting in every way I could to relieve them in body & mind Oh what a blessed thing it is to be religious in health & in prosperity surrounded by kind & loveing friends, & Oh what an inestimable priviledge to have the enjoyment of religion the smile of God & the abideing presence of the precious Saviour in the hours & weary days & nights of deep distress of sickness & death as is the case now with many of us here in this strange land in the hands of our bitter enemy & surrounded with the enemies of God & man, but even here where the blighting curs of Slavery has blunted the finer sencibilities of humanity the precious promises of God are realized by his people & we are permitted to rejoice even here bles the Lord for his abundant goodness & mercy to us in our sad situation.

April 30. Verry heavy thunder sharp lightning & hard raine before day. forenoon showery, afternoon almost a constant drenching raine until after night. At 7 Oc A. M. Dr Castleberry of the 1st Ind Cav & Chief Serg of our Div sent for me at the Crane Hosp to report to him at Marks Mills hospital I immediately went & he & the Reb Sergt Jas M Holcombe requested me to report with some request from them to Col Clayton at Pine Bluff for Supplys & medicines for the wounded & at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 9 Oc A. M. I started on an old stiff Battery horse, & swam the Saline river at Mt Elba between 12 & 1 Oc arived at Pine Bluff & reported to Col Clayton just after dark, I took supper with the Col & by his instructions delivered the hors to the Maj. of the 1st Ind Cav, to be sent back to Castleberry at first opportunity I then went & passed the night with Rev Furguson Chaplain of the 1st Ind Cav, he has charge of the post office & we spent the night in it but I was so wet & tired that I slept none. I rode a stiff old battery horse almost 50 miles swam the Saline river & the horse blundered & stumbled along all day keeping me in constant suspense least he fall; I came through alone & saw no rebs but heard fighting with artilery the country. is poor sand gravel & clay with pine timber. The town of Mt Elba at the Saline has one family in it & there are over $\frac{1}{2}$ doz log houses

Sunday, May 1. I am verry tyred haveing slept but little in the last week, being amongst the wounded & dyeing ever since the battle of Marks mills, & yesterday haveing road a hard rideing old battery horse from beyond the battle ground at Cranes hospital, to pine Bluff a distance of near 50 miles & a torrent of raine falling on me all the afternoon & evening & in the forenoon drenching showers & I swam the Saline river at Mt Elba a town now containing one family; at this side of the river the horse mired & got down in its edge & I got almost intirely blotched over with mud & for a time was fearfull I would have to leav the horse to perish with some 30 odd that lay dead on the bank just above him that the rebs had shot a short time ago by the had management of a capt who was guarding the ferry & had hitched their horses on the river bank & the Rebs cralled up in the brush & timber

on the opposite bank & shot them. I took breakfast this morn with chaplain Ferguson of the 1st Ind Cav & at 8 Oc A M came on board the steamer Leonora & at 9 Oc A M we started for Little Rock the 12th Michigan Infy Col Wm H Graves are on board they are a fine Regt of veterans now over 900 strong I got a stateroom & kept my room most of the day being so verry near done out at night the boat laid by.

May 2. At dawn of day the boat again started & we landed at Little Rock at a little after noon & to the joy of my heart found my son there well haveing with a few others of our Regt escaped being wounded or Captured in our desasterous fight on the 25th at Marks Mill where the most of our brigade ware killed wounded & captured by an overwhelming force

May 3. I spent most of the day among the boys, who had made their escape from the rebs on the day of our battle in the evening my son & I went down into the city. Steele's forces have been ariveing all day, that came through from Camden, & they like myself are almost used up, by marching & fighting

May 4. Lt Col F M Drake Lieuts Hurlburt & McVay of our Regt, arived from rebeldom they came from Pine Bluff on a steamer I accompanied the Col in the forenoon to Genl Salomons head Qrs & we remained with him sometime, & then went to Genl Rices & found him suffering from the wound he received in his foot at the battle on the Saline river at Jenkins ford on Saterdag last April the 30th I heard the firing some of the time & it is said to be one of the most terrific battles of musket firing of the war, the Rebs attacked Genl Steels rear with some 15 to 20 thousand troops & on our side there ware some 5 to 6 thousand & the 2nd Kansis Coloured troops charged a rebble battery & took three pieces of Artillery & they dare not bring any more into action least they loose them also, our boys used all the ammunition that our killed & wounded in their boxes & also all that the dead & wounded & captured rebs had that fell into our hands & the 2nd Kansis Colored took three stands of Colors from the Rebs & had the honor of marching into this city in front of the army.

May 5. I visited the hospitals & was among the wounded, spent an hour with our Lt. Col. F M Drake visited the Camp of the Squad of the 3rd Iowa Cav that are here & saw some old friends my son was with me & at evening we attended prayer meeting in the M E Church I partially bargained with Robert Patterson for a horse at \$15 which he is to bring over in the morning & if I can turn it over to Lieut Mound our Qrs Master I am to take it & credit the Amt \$15. on notes & acts due me from Paterson

May 6. Morning I was at the opening of the legislator in the State house in Little Rock Ark & after spending some time there I got a pass of the Provost Martial Col Chandler, & my son, & I visited the Penitentiary I took some paper & envellops to Scott T Crow of my Co & also some newspapers, at noon I wrote a request to Maj Genl Steele

asking permission to go home until I am exchanged. afternoon I attended the legislative hall as they had adjourned to elect delegates to attend the National Convention to be held at Baltimore to nominate a candidate for the Presidency. the following were chosen James A Butler of Phillips County, Geo Case of Independence County Valentine Dell of Sebastian County S T Frost of Pulaska County W. M. Matheny of Pulaska County Wm T Marywether of Independence County Lieut Patten of Washington County Josiah Snow of Jefferson County L C White of Crawford County H B Allace of Jefferson for the State at large with instructions to all to go for A Lincoln.

May 7. I spent most of the day in the cenate Chamber & legeslative hall with the members listning to their Speaches &c. I spent the evening with the Rev Crowl local agent of the city of Little Rock at his Office

Sunday, May 8, 1864. Variable with showers after night at 10½ Oc A M I attended the Colored M E Church Falton Hardon preached & I exorted At 3 Oc P M, their Preacher in Charge Wm Wallace Andrews preached & I exorted after him text Psalms 23 ch 1st & 5 verses inclusive. Remark, Since my return from capitivity with the Rebs where I was robbed, these coloured people have insisted on me letting them take up a collection for me, & as I had been in charge of them all winter & until we left in March & would not consent to let them take up a collection for me, they insist now that they will feel it a great privel-edge to take a collection now & I couniciled several white preachers about it & they all said I ought to consent & so I permitted them to take up a collection for me & they done nobly Evening I tried to preach to the Colored people from Matthew 23rd 37th & 38th I tried to show the applycation in the case of rebbls now & showed that final dessulation would come on all who reject the Saviour My Son & I took dinner with the Rev John Payton a Colored preacher & it was the best meal I ever ate in this State I took supper with Brother Holman a member of the legislator now in Session

May 9. I visited the hospitals & I also spent some time in the cenate chamber & in the legislative hall where they had some spirited speaches

May 10. Amandus reported to Lt K P Morrison Mustering Officer for the State of Ark. he Amandus received an order from Maj Genl Steele to report at that Office to Clerk, we spent a part of the day in the Cenate Chamber & in the Legislative hall they had some warm Speaches.

May 11. At 7 Oc A M. I visited Rev Brother Williams Chaplain of the 43 Ind he is suffering with Rheumatism in his left brest & sholder I then called to see Rev Oliver Williams fife Maj of the 29th Iowa & Lieut Elliott of Co E 29th Iowa, & there I was taken with dizzy head & sinking of my sistem I started for my quarters & I had no pain nor ache & was not sick but I came near sinking away from time, when I recovered so I could walk, I went to our doctor & he examined me, I was not the least sick, soon after this I was taken verry sick & vomited

the Dr gave me medicine to settle my stomach & at evening they gave me a powder but I soon vomited it up then they put a mustard draft on my stomach & after that I took an other powder, but it did not stay down long. At 6 Oc A. M. I went in the Ambulance with Mrs Capt Lambert & Lieut Hurlburt of Co K to the levey & assisted them on the ferry boat, I sent a letter & a box of my old cloths books & C to my daughter by Lt Hurlburt

May 12. This date I was verry sick & not able to write any & now I come back from the 20th & write

May 13. It was with difculty that the doctors prevented conjection in my Case this day as yesterday & some almost dispaired of my liveing

May 14. The day was extreemly warm & at times I was almost as sick as death

Sunday, May 15. I felt some better part of this day but verry sick at times

May 16. At times the air was almost hot as if it had come out of an oven At times I was much received & then would become almost fainting with sick stomach & weakness

May 17. I was verry sick most of the day but was able to sit up a few minutes I was in hospital of the 36th Iowa Infy I received an Official order from C. W. Kittredge Col of the 36th Iowa to report at his head Qrs by 1 Oc P M of tomorrow the 18th for duty; his was an extract of another order

May 18. I was better then I had been since the 11th but was verry weak & sometimes quite faint. My Col called to see me & spent some time with me & explained to me about the order I received on yesterday & advised me in relation to it, & regreted that he had sent it to me in my presant condition fearing it might have a bad effect upon me in my debilitated State

May 19. They moved the hospital tents of the 36th Iowa down near where the fragmant of our reg are camped in a beautifull grove on the bank of the river a few blocks above the state house & the hospital is on Markham street in a beautifull grove between the state house & the Governors residence & near to his residence. & the sick of us ware moved down & it nearly exausted me There has been great rejoicing caused by the favourable news from Genl Grants army about Richmond in Virginia The 40th Iowa acted as mean as they could with our Doctor in trying to prevent him from moveing his dispensing office or any of his little buildings away after we have given up our camp barracks kitchen hospital buildings church & C.

May 20. I am quite feeble, but I think improving solely

May 21. I am a little better this day, but quite feeble. The reports from the Potomac are incourageing There is considerable stir in antiseipation of an attack on this place.

Sunday, May 22. Clear & verry warm I have felt some better, but am verry weak, A Steamer arived from Pine Bluff bringing near one hundred of our wounded that came from the Mark's Mills battle ground,

most of them are doing well. Mr Peattenburgh the campbellite Preacher of this city who lives clost to our regimental hospital came & took me to his house on the adjoining lot gathered me a fine bunch of flowers & offered me the privileged of his library his wife was also verry sociable soliciting me to call often,

May 23. Afternoon Mrs Chittingden of Keosauqua favoured me with a Call & it refreshed me to see a friend & neighbour from home in Iowa she is looking well & is engaged in the sanitary department Brother Wm Wertz from the Mo Conference arived at Little Rock this day & takes charge of this district as Presideing Elder of the M E. Church & on his arival Rev Brother Crowl of this city brought him to see me & we had a pleasant interview

May 24. Morning Dr Strong 36th Iowa examined me & made out a certificate of disability in my case I took it & walked to the Co's tent a distance of perhaps 150 yds was exausted & had to be brought back to the hospital in an ambulance & it was with some difculty we kept off another conjestive chill

May 25. Mrs Chittingden started this morning for Iowa my son assisted her in getting off & accompanied her to the cars over the river I have been verry feeble all day had a tedious night last night but Christ is presant & verry precious to my soul.

May 26. I was feeble all day Mortimer Nelson a Sergt in the 40th Iowa Inft heard of me & called this day to see me he used to work for me in Keosauqua Iowa some 12 years ago, I was truly glad to see him, the last I had heard of him was some 6 or 8 years ago he was then an everseer in Texas. at \$400. a year. he left that & went to Ill before the Rebellian was first in the 3 months service next in the 1st Ills Cav was wounded in the left shoulder April 30th 1864 at Jenkins' Ferry.

May 27. I am feeling a little better today but am verry weak Brother Wm Wertz P Elder of this Little Rock district called & spent an hour with me this day & also Mortimer Nelson & Henry Grages called & spent some time with me

May 28. I have felt some better today I reed a letter from My Capt T M Fee. Of Centerville Iowa & also The Loyal Citizen a paper published at Centerville May 18th containing a letter of mine written to Mrs Capt T M Fee immediately after my arival here from Captivity among the Rebbles I did not write it for publication & was astonished to see it in the paper, but it may have calmed the minds of many while it bore sad news to others. Mrs Fee in her letter expresses the deepest gratitude to me for the information I sent her in the time of her deep suspence. Rev, Saml F C Garrison a Sergt in the 40th Iowa Inft. & now by them reccommended for promotion as their Chaplain called & spent an hour with me today he was formerly of the Iowa Conference I answered Mrs Capt T M Fees letter & sent a full list of our killed & wounded of the battle of Mark's Mills Apr 25th to D L Streckler, Ed of the Loyal Citizen Centerville Iowa

Sunday, May 29. Day more pleasant than for some time but the flies are more numerous than I ever saw them any place before in every direction as far as we could see they are numerous as bees swarming I have been quite feeble but have walked around the hospital some Rev K P Morrison call'd & spent sometime with me he is 1st Lieut in Co C of the 36th Iowa & is mustering officer for this State my son is clerking for him in his office

May 30. Clear & verry warm & flies in swarms I have been quite poorly this day sick stomake & vomiting & verry feeble & feel intirely exhausted. I recd by the hand of Dr Smith assist Surg 36th Iowa A letter of inquiry about a horse I rode from Mark's Mills to Pine Bluff from Dr Isaac Caselberry Surg 1st Ind Cav & I immediately answered him at Pine Bluff

May 31. My stomach has not been so iritable today & I have had a little more strength than for some days previous

June 1. At 6 Oc A M Jacob A Duckworth of Co F died in hospital near me, he had flux & measles, his brother who was wounded at Jenkins' Ferry in battle April 30th is also in the hospital, & is able to go about on cruches his wound is in his foot, Jacob leaves a wife & four children, he was a recruit & he had a brother a recruit also for the same company came down with him to Memphis Tenn & there he took sick & died & two other recruits for the same Co died on their way here I believe I am gaining strength a little

June 2. I recd Notice that my papers asking leave of absence ware before the examining Surgt at the St John Colledge now U S A. Post Hospital Little Rock Ark & that it was necessary for me to be present at 2 Oc P M & at One Oc the Ambulence takeing Capt Wm Mahon of Co E. 36th Iowa; before the board of medice examining committee on the same business, they called & took me along, & we ware examined & our papers approved My health has not improved any this day & I am weary from the ambulence ride, & going among my wounded men while at the Post hospital

June 3. I was quite feeble & write this page & the intermediate until the 6th on the A M of the 6th

June 4. Clear & warm & the country literly swarming with flies, I was very weak & faint with sick stomake & frequent vomiting.

Sunday, June 5. I was attacked with frequent vomiting but am better than I have been for two days past. The Lord is my shepherd & ever near me Oh how precious to my Soul in the time of my deep affliction

June 6. At 10, Oc A M the cannons in Little Rock commenced firing Salute guns in honor of the Arival of Maj Genl ——— Sickles & he commenced a review of the Army of Ark in Company; with Maj Genl F Steele, & Brig Genls Carr; West, Salomon & Andrews & Bussey they made quite a display with their trains of Orderleys & body guards in their wake I stood on the edge of the street & Saluted the dignitares as they passed Genl Sickles right leg is taken off clost to his body. At 12 Oc noon the ambulance came for me & I started from Little Rock

crossed the river & got in the Carrs & at 2½ Oc P M. I shook hands with my son kissed him & the train started we ware detained at Brownville until after night & it was after 11 Oc when we arived at Devall Bluff & I was almost exasted Sergt ——— of the 33rd Iowa who was wounded at Saline Ap 30th now on his way home & my Servent fixed me a comfortable lodging in a shed & the Sergt & I laid together & got some rest thank the good Lord

June 7. Capt Wm Mahon of Co E 36th Iowa arived at Devall Bluff from Little Rock on the morning train of Cars, & we took a Stateroom on the Steamer Westmorland, for Memmphis Tenn Capt Mahon & I ware weighed & he weighed 135 lbs & my weight 124 lbs scant having lost by my sickness 33 lbs weight.

June 8. The streets about Devall Bluff are in a bad condition & the mud slipery as if it was all soaped The 1st Nebraskey Came on board the steamboat Westmorland on their way home as veterans to recruit I took dinner with Capt Snider of Davis Co Iowa he is Capt of the Co H. 54 U S Infty Colored & he is stationed at this point with his Co for fatigue. I had an intruduction to his 1st Lieut Saml P Pearsons from northren Iowa formerly of Maine & his 2nd Lieut Thos N Trickey of Maine.

June 9. I took Breakfast with Capt Snider. Evening Maj's Genls Sickles & Steele reviewed the troops at this place I was not able to go out to the review, but spoke to the dignatorees at the platform near the Levee Early in the morning the Steamer Kate Hart & Venus arived from Memphis Tenn bringing the male & government stores I will here note that there are now laying at the landing at Devall Bluff including the above two, 17 transports & one gun boat at a cost to the government of from \$250 to \$400 par day for each boat & no effort is made to unload & dismiss or start them off Names of the boats are Westmorland, Gladiator, Pocahontas, Silver Lake Empire City, John H Dickey, Stephen Decator. Prairce State Kenton Celasste, Tillie Martin, Sham Rock, Albert Pearce Tycoon. & Altamont.

June 10. At 4½ Oc morning we loosed cable & started from Devall Bluff on the steamer Westmorland at about 7 Oc A M we passed Clarenden & at noon we passed St Charles noted in this war as the place where the rebs shot into the boiler of a steamer & scalded many of our men & those that jumped into the river to keep from being scalded by the steam they shot & them calling for quarters. Nothing of interest occured & the scenery along white river is very monotonis. Genl Sickles came down from the bluff on a gun boat just in advance of us & we met Emma No 2. Golden Era & the gun boat No 37 & we got out of White River into the Mississippi & landed to wood at Pritchettsville just below the mouth of white river at 6 Oc P M.

June 11. We traveled slow this day it was after 12 Oc noon when we landed at Helena Ark & I went immediately to head Qrs & reported to Genl Buford he was very cortious this time & came up & shook hands

with me, quite different from what he appeared when I reported to him last Nov.

I got my papers signed & dated & returned on board the Westmorland she went up to the woodyard & put in the afternoon in wooding & left at 7 Oc evening.

Sunday, June 12. We landed at Memphis Tenn at 10 Oc A M & being anxious to make better time than we had thus far on the Westmorland I at once shipped onto the John D Perry for St Louis, & after seeing our things safe in our stateroom Capt Mahon & I walked up into the city & found great anxiety among the citizens & soldiers for the safety of our troops who had gone out some 4 or 5 days since under Genl Sturges & who have been badly cut up by Forrests forces yesterday & the day before some 50 miles from Memphis between Corinth & Jackson, I saw a number of the infantry as they came in white & colored & they have all a sad tale & all have bitter complaint against the Genl for the manner in which he managed to have his troops cut up & captured by detail it refreshes my mind of other days, & to see the poor weary boys my heart was melted with sympathy at ½ past 7 Oc P M we loosed cable & started for St Louis.

June 13. We got along well passing a number of boats we passed Ft Pillow noted for the horrid Masacer by Forrest & his heartless murderers at about 7 Oc M everything there is destroyed & desolation raines complete, among the Points passed ware New Madrid, Island No 10 & Columbus Ky. it was late at nite when we reported there.

June 14. Cool breeze makeing it uncomftrtable to set in the shade out of the cabin of the steamer. At 5 Oc A M. we landed at Cairo Ill. I reported & had my papers signed & dated & at 6 Oc A M we loosed Cable & started on our way.

June 15. At 1 Oc A M we left Chester Ill & landed at St Louis at 12 Oc noon I at once shipped onto the St Louis & Keokuk steam Packet Warsaw for Keokuk & I walked up into the city a few minutes, & at 4 Oc P M we loosed Cable & started for Keokuk, at 6½ Oc we tuched a few moments at Alton Ill.

June 16. At 7 Oc A M landed at Louisiana Mo & put off the body of Capt C I Herring of that place who was recently killed in Ark by bushwhackers, we ware sometime at Hanibal Mo & Col Summers of the 7th Iowa Cav got on there for his home at Ottumwa Iowa. At Quincy Ill Mr McDonald got on board for Canton Brother McDonald is now Chaplain of the 67th U S Infty Colored.

June 17. At 8 Oc A M. I took the cars at Keokuk for the Summit Station & arived at the station at 11 A M & took the hack for Keosauqua & arived at home at noon & had the pleasure of finding my children & friends & Neighbors well, & many of my good neighbours called to see me. I was very sick a short spell in the morning & suffered severely all day with acheing all over me

June 18. I was much better to day than yesterday but at night am weary haveing had so much good company to see me & talk with

Sunday, June 19. At 11 Oc My soninlaw hiched his horses to the buggy & took me to church Brother Latham preached & after dismissing I had the pleasure of a shake hands with many of my Keosauqua friends after which I rode home in the buggy & many of my friends called to see me night finds me weary

June 20. I have been feeble & quite a number of friends called to see me

June 21. Quite a number of friends have called to see me I am quite feeble

June 22. I was quite feeble all day & a number of friends called to see me & among them was my sister & Brother & his wife from Davis Co & my Nephew Clay Pearson

June 23. At 8 Oc the hack called for me & I got in & rode to the Summit & there took the cars for Keokuk Capt Wm Mahon & Rev Wm Hanes was on & we arived at Keokuk at 1 Oc P M Capt Mahon & I reported to Dr Tailor Chief Surgt of the post ware examined & recd a certificate of disability for duty Surgt H T Clever made out our certificates, I felt too feeble to return on the cars this day

June 24. I felt comfortable in the morning & done a little tradeing & aranged to have the dailey Gate City sent to me at Keosauqua for a Couple of weeks & the weekly sent to Little Rock, Ark to me for the next six months & at 3 Oc P M we took the cars & I arived at home at 6 Oc P M & was very tyred found my Daughter buisey canning cherrys & currents

Sunday, June 26. At 11 Oc I walked to Church Brother Latham preached a Missionary Sermon from Joshua 13 Ch & last clause of the 1st verse, A collection was taken up. I went home with old Brother Thos Miller & took dinner & at 5 Oc went home & found friends awaiting my arival, I was weary but had a pleasant day of it This is the first day I have been in any house in the city of Keosauqua since I arived except my own, & the M E Church but hope I will soon be able to call on many of my kind neighbours

June 27. I was feeble & remained in dores had a number of friends call to see me, I assisted some in stemming currents for jelley & for canning

June 28. My Daughter & I went & spent the afternoon with my Chaplains Family Mrs Hare Brother Rowley & his wife also was with us there for tea Rowley is Presideing Elder for this district we had a pleasant social time Evening we returned home & I was very tyred & feeble.

June 29. I have been quite feeble all day & have been quite sick & had two spells of vomiting.

June 30. I was better today than yesterday & I walked to Col Caldwell's & to sister Hares but was quite feeble at night.

July 1. I was quite feeble & sick at stomack & vomiting some

July 2. At 11 Oc we had a swarm of bees come off At 5 Oc P M My son in law & my children & I started to my Brothers on a hack &

arived at 8 Oc evening & found brothers family all well I was much wearied but otherwise felt better

Sunday, July 3. At 9 Oc A M we my Brothers daughter Maria & my son in law & daughter & I got in the hack & went over to Troy to church & at $\frac{1}{2}$ past 10 Oc Rev T Miller preached at the M E Church & I closed after him, we took dinner with Brother Arehart a Presbeterian we remained there until 4 Oc P M & accompanied them to their church & heard their preacher the Rev Mr Dyer preach & then we returned to Brothers

July 4. At 8 Oc A M my Brother & some of his children & I & mine got in the hack & went over to Troy & formed in the procession & at 9 Oc we all started for the old camp ground in the grove south west of Troy & after ariveing there was martial music & singing by the glee club then the declaration of Independence was read & the Oration delivered by the Rev T Miller of the M E Church then a speach by the Presbeterian minister & next by the congregational minister then adjurned for refreshments at 2 Oc we all reassembled at the stand, the martial music & glee club discoursed some fine music & good Patriotic songs after which the Martial of the day introduced me to the audiance & I addressed them as best I could for one hour & 20 minutes & nearly exasted myself & the shouts came from every part of the crowd to speak on but I had to desist. I found many old friends & had a good time generally. & many of the citizens of Troy & vicinity wanted me to leave an appointmnet to speak again but I declined I went & staid the night at sister T A Hopkins

July 5. At 7 Oc A M we left sisters for Centerville Appanoose Co Iowa & arived there at 6 Oc P M we first called on Mrs Capt T M Fee & we spent the evening & night there we had a pleasant social time & this evening I was grected by many warm friends, I am quite weary by my ride although we have a good spring hack. I called on Lt Col F M Drake a few minutes & found him able to go about on crutches.

July 6. This day we spent very pleasantly making calls on old friends, we took dinner with Col F M Drake 36th Iowa Infy & he & his lady & us took tea with Brother Sturgeon & I spent the night there & Emma went home with Miss Claudean Straten & staid all night & my Nephew Clay Pearson staid at Bery Swearengens we had a pleasant time but I am quite weary.

July 7. We spent this day pleasantly calling on old friends & many ware hunting us up from the town & country, we took dinner with Mr Rummel & tea with Mr Wooden both merchants & Emma spent the evening & night with Mrs Capt Fee my Nephew & I attended prayer meeting & he staid the night at Benj Swearengens after meeting I spent an hour with Col Drake & then went & staid the night at Mrs Capt Fee's I was well nigh give out. & was hard pressed by many citizens of the town & country to make a speech, but my health forbid it & I would not consent to speak.

July 8. At $6\frac{1}{2}$ Oc A M we left Centerville for home, at noon we

stopped near West Grove with a discharged soldier & fed and got dinner, we called a short time in Bloomfield & at 6 Oc P M. we arived at Pulaski. I had consented to make a speach here on my return as I went up, & so altho feeble they insisted & at candlelighting I spoke to a large audiance after I spoke David George a citizen & formerly a pro Slavery Cop Democrat was called out & responded, indorsed my intire speech denounced the proslavery democracy & the instution of Slavery & the present vrganization of the so called democracy, & indorses the nomination of A Lincoln & urges a united vote for him. at the close he was cheered heartily, & I & my folks went & staid the night with Sister T A Hopkins, north of Pulaski one mile.

July 9. At 8 Oc A M we started from Sisters & arived at Brother A L Pearson's for dinner & at 4 Oc P M we left Brothers & arived at home in Keosauqua a little after sunset, I was very tyred but I attended the Lodge of the I. O. O. F.

Sunday, July 10. At 11 Oc A. M. I attended church in this city Kcosauqua Brother Latham M E Preacher in charge read a Ch & made a few remarks & D B Smith closed by prayer, & at 1 Oc P M my son in law hiched up to Fee Meredith's hack & took Miss Mullen Miss Tolbert & I to Qr meeting at the Lodom [Lebanon] Church on the Pittsburg work & at 3 Oc P M. Brother Friend Preacher in charge preached & a collection was taken up & the sacrament of the Lords supper administered after dismissal many old friends greeted me heartily & after a time the Elder Rowley & Brother Friend Father Miller their women & our croud went & took tea with Brother Painter

July 11. Afternoon I went with my son in law over to my river farm, & I took tea with George Duffield & returned home, almost sick

July 12. Morning I rode up to Dr J D. Elberts he was in town & took dinner with us examined me & gave me extention of sick leave; Brother Rowley the P Elder & his wife & sisters Hare & Tilee spent the afternoon with us, I suffered severely with my back from my morning ride perhapse

July 13. At 6 Oc A M. I went in wagon with my son in law to my place $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile south of town & I returned by noon quite weary. & from 1 Oc to 4 Oc P M I had quite a high fever.

[From July 13 to October 5, Mr. Pearson continued very unwell, but in spite of that he visited among his relatives and friends in his neighborhood and at Ottumwa, Oskaloosa, Mount Pleasant and Keokuk, entertained them in his home, looked after his farms, crops, and livestock, attended religious meetings, including camp meetings, preached frequently, made patriotic speeches, and led a life of much activity. During this interval we are using only those entries apparently of most interest.—Editor.]

Sunday, July 24. At 9 Oc A M we had a speaking & a good time in the grove Rev Amos Yeager opened 11 Oc Rev Bradrick preached, & at 3 Oc P M Brother Lawback pastor preached, & the sacraments of Baptism & the Lords supper were administered & we had a good time,

Evening. Lawback preached & I exhorted & invited mourners several ware forward, & the Lord was with us after dismissal I got in Brother Browns wagon & went home with him & staid all nite nearly wearyed out.

July 25. At 7 Oc I left Brother Browns for home & met my son in law at my place & we went to town I felt much revived in body & spirit I took some cloth to Mr. Dawsons & had him take my measure to make me a suit of cloths.

Sunday, July 31. 8 Oc A M my Brother A S Pearson & his son Kirk & his two Eldest daughters & my Brother Washingtons son Harris from Idaho all left for brothers & Brother C E Yeager E D Shepherd & I started in my buggy to center Chapple & we broke the king bolt & had to leave our horses & buggy one & 1/2 miles this side the church at 11 Oc A M I tryed to preached from Jobe 14th 14th & brother Shepherd closed after me I took dinner with Brother John Bennett & at 4 Oc P M we had general speaking & Brother Yeager opened the meeting & we had a glorious time after dismissal we started for home I withed up the buggy & it brought us back safe but I was almost exausted.

Aug. 1. Brother John Bennett & I looked at my upper farm, afternoon I spent in town around a show among the people untill I became so exasted that I had to go home Old Ben Starkey was one of the proprietors of the show he was in our Jail hear a few years since

Aug. 5. At 9 Oc A M. I got in buggy & took Miss Aby Meredith & went to the picnic in the grove near the McCrary schoolhouse & there was a fine audience of parents & children males & feemales & they had the seats in the grove & had a swing in Order & a splendid dinner & I had been selected & solicited some weeks before to make a speach & had consented if I was well enough to comply with their request so I gave them a sort of religious lecture I read the 4th Ch of Proverbs & used the 7th verse as a foundation we had a good time & I enjoyed myself very much for a sick man & we returned home by 6 Oc P M I was almost give out intirely

Aug. 6. At 7 Oc A M my son inlaw & I got in my buggy & went over to George C Duffields & he went with us up to my place & I bought a point of land off him on the river adjoining & laying partly in front of the south corner of my land the place contains about 5 acres.

Sunday, Aug. 7. 11 Oc A M we attended the funeral sermon of Mrs Charls Bonney at the M E Church Rev Latham Pastor preached from 1st Cor 15th Ch & 20th verse at 4 Oc P M at the same place the Rev McCarther of the presbeterian order preached from Rev 1st ch at candlelighting Rev Ingles delivered a discourse in the M E Church in favour of the soldiers Orphans home & there was \$400.00 subscribed Harvey Claton & wife each took a life membership & I also took a life membership \$25.00 & took an annual membership for my son Amandus \$5.00

Aug. 10. 8 Oc A M Capt Mahon & I started from my house in hack rode to Summit & took the Cars for Keokuk arived safe & reported to

medical Surgeon got our certificates put up at the Dudley house both very nearly exasted & I suffering with severe panes in my back & legs We met our good Chaplain M H Hare at the Summit on his way home he is a perfect skeleton weighing 150 lbs when released by the rebbles his common weight is 215 to 30 lbs & no surplus flesh he was taken when I was at the battle at Mark's Mills Bradley Co Ark April 20th 1864

Aug. 17. 7 Oc A M Brother Augustus & I got in buggy & rode over to Sylvester Henrys took dinner & started back in the buggy with us & his little son on a horse behind us he had on a few apples in a sack & just after we started his horse skared & jumped between the wheels & the bed of the buggy on the near side & sprung the spokes all out of these two wheels & he fell & the boy also the horses legs in towards the buggy & brother & Mr Henry fell out among the horses feet I was driving & stoped the horse in the buggy immediately & fortunately none of us got hurt, Mr Henry then hitched his horses to his wagon & put the buggy in it & brought us home I was nearly give out but not suffering so much with rheumatism.

Aug. 18. At 8 Oc A M Mr Davis & his Lady came in a buggy to my house & would have my brother & I get in with them & go to Birmingham to a Soldiers dinner gotten up more especily for the returned soldiers of the 5th Iowa Infty whos time is up & they have been honorably discharged the dinner was a good one, but great dissatisfaction prevailed among the soldiers & most of the girls also as by the arangement a soldier could not have his wife or girl eat with him unless he paid 75 cts for her meal & many of the soldiers took their girls & went to the tavern & got their dinners Brother & I returned before the speaking came off we ware very weary of our trip

Aug. 20. Brother & I went down in town & I bought a young mule of Mr Bennet at \$55.00 Evening I attended the lodge of the I O O F & presented to them the 1st & 2nd geological surveys of Arkansas by R D Owens. James Ferry was initiated into the Order my rheumatism has been more mild today

Sunday, Aug. 21. At 9 Oc A M I attended Class at the M E Church & at 11 Oc Rev Coleman from Mt Pleasant preached the funeral discourse of Charles Plat a young man who died at his fathers in this place some two weeks since The text was Rev 14th 13th his discourse was good but too long 1½ hours I was not able to attend meeting afternoon nor Evening the paines in my back & limbs being so severe

Aug. 30. 11 Oc T Miller preached & I exorted text Psalms 5th 12th I bought a mule colt & paid cash in full at camp meeting for it seventy Dollars

Sept. 7. 8 Oc A M the hack called for me & Brother Hare & I started for Ottumwa to see our Col we arived at noon & took dinner with him found him & his family well

Sept. 8. 9 Oc A M Brother Hare took the cars at Ottumwa for his home in Keosauqua & at noon I took the cars at Ottumwa for Osk-

loosa & arived at 2 Oc P M & I stoped at J M Byerses evening the Miss Byers'es Sarah & Anna & I called on Brother Wm Ketchums family found them well Brother Ketchum & us then went to the M E Church & heard a lecture by an agent of the Freedmans Aid Society

Sept. 9. A M. I Called on the Rev Dr Clipper & his Lady in Oskaloosa found them well I also saw Rev Hardy P E on that district. at noon I took the stage at Oskaloosa for Knoxville County Seat of Marion at 4 Oc P M we crossed the Desmoim River at Bellfountain 12 miles from Oskaloosa a poor place is bellfountain, at 7 Oc P M we arived at Knoxville 26 miles from Oskaloosa & I put up at Hiram Ealeys the stage house evening I had an introduction to Gov Wm M Stone

Sept. 10. At 7 Oc A M I called on the Gouvernor Wm M Stone & had a short pleasant interview & acompanied him to the Court house in the City of Knoxville where the Republicans had a convention at noon I went again to the Ealey house & took dinner I had the pleasure of seeing several old friends among them Wilson Groom, at 1 Oc P M. I took the stage for Oskaloosa at 3½ Oc we arived at Bellfountain, we changed horses & again started crossed the Desmoim River & at 6 Oc P M I arived at J M Byers Oskaloosa, took tea & Miss Sarah P Byers & I called on Rev Dr Clipper & also on Brother Wm Ketchum

Sept. 12. 12½ Oc P M I took the Buss at J M Byerses Oskaloosa Maj J W McMullen was in charge of the Buss E P Tracy of the 7th Iowa was to have called for me in the morning but some girls prevailed on him to leave me until the noon train. At 4 Oc P M I arived at Ottumwa & spent a pleasant evening at Capt Wm Mahons Fathers Miss Elizabeth & Miss Fanny Mahon sang some beautiful war songs & plaid elegantly on the Piano Forty I was quite feeble & remained there all night

Sept. 13. At 7 Oc I called on Col Kittridge of my Reg he was unwell & he thought it best for me not to go South in my presant state of health although he expressed some fear least I mite be mustered out at 9½ Oc I took the cars at Ottumwa & arived home about 1 Oc P M. I was nearly worn out.

Sept. 15. The Vanburen Co fair commenced & there was a fine exhebition of stalk & home made manufactured goods in great varieties & also fruits granes vegetables &c afternoon I got into Brother Stephen Frazees wagon & rode home with him & staid this night

Sept. 16. At 8 Oc A M we started from Brother Frazees in his wagon his family & I for the fare & arived between 10 & 11 Oc A M There was a fine exhebition of things & everything passed off pleasantly & seeing very many good friends & acquaintances but I became very weary, my Brother Augustuses two eldest Daughters & eldest son & Brother Washingtons son & Brother Kelys son came down to my house yesterday to attend the fair & left for Brother Augustuses this P M & at 4 Oc P M I started for Keokuk & took the Cars at 7 Oc & arived at Keokuk about 9½ Oc night & I put up at the Dudley house nearly used up from the fatigue of the day. Our Lt Col F M Drake went

down on the cars to Keokuk with me. He put up at the Demming house he yet has to use one crutch he advised me not to go south until I got better or the wether got cool

Sept. 17. I visited the hospitals in Keokuk & attended the Anual conference of the M E Church Bishop Janes presideing at evening Rev F W Evans made a war speech at the Estes hospital there was quite a storm & a shower of raine & I felt to much wearied to attend

Sunday, Sept. 18. Variable & Cool at 7 Oc I called on Lt. Col F M Drake at the Demming house & met Dr C C Byser A S of the 17th Iowa there at 9 Oc Chaplain M H Hare & I went to love feast at 11 Oc A M Bishop Janes preached he Opened by singing the 306 hymn then read the 25th Psalm & 12 Ch of Hebrews then sang the 288th hymn text 53 Ch of Isaiah at 3 Oc P M Crane Editor fo the Central Ch Advocate preached an excellent sermon & at night we had an excellent experience meeting.

Sept. 19. At 7 Oc P M the appointments ware read out by Bishop Janes to the ministers at the annual conference of the M E Church & it was candlelighting when the conference adjurned. Brothers James Hanes, Robison F W Evans Cole & I took supper with Judge Thompson after which we went to the court house in Keokuk & heard war speeches by Rev Powers Coles Teters & F W Evans, all of which ware patriotic & telling ones

Sept. 20. I am quite unwell haveing been very sick through last night at 7½ Oc A M took the Cars & arived home at noon quite poorly at night I went to the Encampment of Odfellows by their solicitations

Sept. 26. At 8 Oc A M we left Brothers came by the way of Troy & Pittsburg & arived home at noon afternoon my Nephew Clay Pearson & I got in the buggy took our guns & rode over the River I killed & sent home 4 squirrels & killed 4 more & took with me to Brother Stephen Frazces Clay killed two & one wild goose or he broke its wing & it swam to the shore near me & I shot it in the head & killed it

Sept. 27. After noon J K Hornish of Keokuk the democrat nominee for congres from this district spoke in the court house there was 13 females & 53 males all told presant & about one fourth of them was loyal Linconites Hornace made a poor speech for his treasonable cause

Sept. 30. There was a meeting of the district Stewarts of the M E Ch at 2 Oc P M the Rev E L Briggs P Elder called the meeting & at candlelighting there was an Official meeting of the members of the Qr conference of this station at which time & place I was recommended to the anual conference for Deacons Orders.

Oct. 5. At 8 Oc A M the hack called for me & I got in & started for the Summit 11 Oc A M took the cars at Summit for Keokuk & arived at 2 Oc P M went to the hospital found some of my men found them improvcing & there is much feeling among the soldiers about the murdering of the two Provo Marshal Capt Bashore of Centerville Appanoose Co & Woodruff of Knoxville Iowa they were murdered in Powe-sheek Co on Saterday last by a band of Copperheads

Oct. 6. I visited the hospitals forenoon & at 2 Oc P M I crossed over from Keokuk & at 3 Oc P M took the cars at Hamilton Ill for Chicago & at 5 Oc we ware at the junction at ——— on the Keokuk Junction & we started & ran all night

Oct. 7. At 5½ Oc A M we arived in Chicago I went at once to Cousin Moses I Kelly's No 32 Quincy Street after breckfast I went to the conference of the M E Church & Capt Eli H Coddington & I received Deacons Orders by the hands of Bishop Calvin Kingsly afternoon I attended the conference a short time then M I Kelly & I took the street cars & went out to Ft Douglas & viewed the Reb prisoners about 8,000 I went up on the Union Observation & took a view of the lake, City & surroundings we then made the acquaintance of Capt C K Frankenfield of Dayton Pa he is in the 196 Pa Vol one hundred days men they are guarding Reb prisoners we next went up to the resting place of the lamented S A Douglas he sleeps on a beautiful elevation on the bank of the lake south of the city there is no stone yet to mark the spot. I put up this night at the Prescott house

Oct. 8. I attended Conference forenoon afternoon viewed the City & attended the Clark St Church & heard several relegeous discources to the Children of the City, evening attended the Conference room, & heard several missionary discourses & had a good time although I was very unwell. the wind being very high this day the scenery on the Lake was beautifull, I put up this night & got a room at the Paynes No. 20. on Quincy Street

Sunday, Oct. 9. At 9 Oc A M we had a conference Love feast & truly the Lord was with us. at 11 Oc A M Bishop Kingsly preached to a crowded house of attentive listners first hymn 163. first lesson 14 verses of the 42 Ch of Isaiah 2nd lesson 22 V of the 4 Ch of Luke Text Luke 19 Ch & 10 verse he preached the truth with with the Holy Ghost & with power I was to sick to attend meeting in the afternoon & at 9¼ Oc evening I took the Cars for Keokuk & left the proud city of Chicago

Oct. 10. At 9 Oc AM we arived at the Keokuk junction we had got breckfast at Mendota I was sick & vomited severely & at the junction I got another Cupof Coffee at 12 Oc noon we arived at Keokuk I took dinner at Cissans & put up for the night with Henry Barron of my Company I was very feeble

Oct. 11. At 7½ Oc A.M. I took the Cars at Keokuk for home & arived at noon found my children improved much in health since I had left home but my own health was not so good

Oct. 12. At noon I hitched to my buggy & took my Niece Ann Pearson home & at night Mrs Pearson & her daughter Maria & I attended a temperance lecture at Troy by Mrs ——— Shepherd a lady whose husband killed himself with drink She gave a very good lecture

Oct. 13. At 8 Oc A M I started from Brothers near Stringtown for home & came by the way of Troy & brought my niece Maria Pearson

Oct. 14. At 8 Oc A M I got in my buggy & took in Wm Minear

brother to my son inlaw & we went up to my river farm & on up to Brother Stephen Frazee & took dinner there & then we returned home by the way of Pittsburg

Oct. 15. I was very poorly all day & remained at home nearly all the day

Sunday, Oct. 16. At 9 Oc A M I attended Class meeting at 11 Oc Chaplain M H Hare of the 36th Iowa preached we took dinner at Brother Barnses at 3 Oc P M My children & I went to the graveyard & we had prayers at the mounds that covered my beloved departed wife & children at candlelighting I tryed to preach from Jobe 14th v the Chaplain M H Hare closed after me

Oct. 17. At 9 Oc M H Hare Chaplain of the 36th Iowa Infy & I took leave of Our home & our friends & Started for the army at Little Rock Ark. Henry Grages took us out to the Summit Station in my buggy at 11 Oc A M we took the Cars & arived at Keokuk at 2 Oc P M we put up at the varanda house May McCrary & Chapla Jas W Latham of the 3rd Iowa Cav & —— Skinner a commissioner to take the vote of —— Iowa had also stoped there Chap Hare & I done a little tradeing & he was so feeble that the Sergant Clever advised him to return home I went & saw some of the boys in hospital & the Chaplain & I & Chap I P Teter took tea with Rev E H Wareing who is in charge of the Chatham Square M E Church, they got up a recommendation & signed for me to go in as Chaplain in the army. I staid the night with Henry Barron a Private of my company

Oct. 18. At 7 Oc A M. I took passage on the steem Packet C Cheaver for St Louis, Judge H C Caldwell former Maj & then Col of the 3rd Iowa Cav, but now Judge of the State of Arkansas, is on board on his way to Little Rock Maj McCrary & Chaplain Latham of the 3rd Iowa Cav & commissioner Skinner & my old friend & neighbor of other days J N Lewis from Clark County Mo are all on board but my health has been so bad this day that I have but little comfort & all advise me to return home. I have no appetite

Oct. 19. The Mississippi River is very low & our boat moves carefully along she has two large Barges in tow they are freighted with potatoes It is now 8 Oc night & we are tyed up at Smiths landing Mo about 35 miles above St Louis, & it is rumered that we will lay here until morning the river is so low I have been very unwell all day

Oct. 20. At day break we losed cable at Smiths landing & at 11 Oc A M we landed at St Louis at 5 Oc P M I crossed to East St Louis & took the cars for Belleville Ills & arived at my Brotherinlaws Alex H. Mullens at 7 Oc P M & found my friends all well

Oct. 21. At 8½ Oc A M Mrs A H Mullens & I got in their buggy & we went to Oliver Mullens found them well took dinner & had a plesant little visit & returned to Belleville by 6 Oc P M, I suffered severely with gripeing pains this day

Oct. 22. At 8 Oc A M Mrs A H Mullen & I got in buggy & we went out to David & Mrs Lydia Ogles & to Mr John Ruddock's son in

law's found the folks mostly well had a pleasant visit & returned by 5 Oc P M & I then called & took tea with Joseph Ogles Family in Belleville, there was quite a throng in Belleville on the account of the Great European Circus which I expect is a great American humbug.

Sunday, Oct. 23. At 7 Oc A M I took the Cars at Belleville for St Louis & at 11 Oc A M I attended the Union M E Church heard a good discourse by the paster Dr ——— from these words examine your selves know your own self & my Old friend Elonza O Standard took Judge Caldwell & I home with him in his carriage & we had a pleasant time & we attended the same Church & had a good sermon from the Pastor text 18 v of the 119th Psalm I returned with friend Standard & spent the night pleasantly

Oct. 24. I spent the day in viewing the City, markets &c & put up at night at the Galt House on 4th St. Judge Caldwell & I roomed together, I was very tyred I bought me a gum Coat \$5.50

Oct. 25. I spent some time with E O Standard & some time with Charles S Kentzing wholesale Grocer on Corner of Vine & Levee Sts he is an old acquaintance & used to sell goods in Keosauqua Iowa Afternoon Judge H C Caldwell & I went on board the steamer Saint Cloud & took passage & secured state rooms to Duvall Bluff Arkansas I then bought the following bill of froot &c of Charles S Kentzing

3 Doz 2 lb cans Peaches	\$13.50
¼ " 3 " " "	1.50
1 " 2 " " Tomatoes	3.75
½ " 2 " " Strawberrys	3.00
1 " 2 " " Blackberys	5.50
½ " 2 " " Peach Marmalade	3.00
½ " 2 " Oysters	6.00
1 bottle Blackbery Brandy	75

37.00

Oct. 26. At Noon we loosed cable & left the Port of St Louis on the Saint Cloud for Duvall Bluff Ark at 3 Oc P M we struck a sand bar heavy but did not fasten we had some heavy thunder & sharp lightning this P M & before dark laid up just above the Herculanian Bar on which we see 4 steamers aground it is about 35 miles below St Louis I bought of C Kirkpatrick & Smith wholesale dealers in fruits & produce No 183 Morgan Broadway St Louis between Morgan & Cherry Sts

7 Barrels Jennitan Apples	26.60
5 " small Red Romanite	24.00

50.60

Permit for Shipping

30

Oct. 27. We moved slowley along rubbing bottom & acasionally grounding & by night we arived at Turkey Island on which in early days was Fort Charter & here we tyed up for the night, I was quite poorly all day suffering severely with Rheumatism & Diareah

Oct. 28. At early day we loosed cable & started from Turkey Island we rubbed the bottom in several places & at $\frac{1}{4}$ to 8 Oc A M we struck & run over something supposed to be a log in the Channel & it broke a large hole in the hull of our boat the Saint Cloud, we ware $\frac{1}{2}$ or $\frac{3}{4}$ th of a mile below St Genevieve & they run the boat to shore about one mile below & in sight of the town I was fortunate & my freight 12 bbls apples & canned fruit &c was all got off safe but Judge H C Caldwell got his library of law books wet we got his books out & opened the boxes & set them out on the tables in the cabin the boat is in about 8 ft water we got out most of the boxes & several hundred bbls of flour before the boat filled & sunk, I was very feeble & after dark took very sick & vomited severely.

Oct. 29. Judge H C Caldwell spread his law library out in the sun to dry them, I was too sick to assist him any I had been sick all night vomiting & this day had a number of efforts to vomit but could raise nothing as I believe I had throwed all off over my Stomach last night & before day this A. M. & this day I ate nothing the Captain of the boat Mr Davis gave me some medicine that settled my stomach some & I soaked my feet & legs in warm water with salt & mustard in it & I think it gave me some relief, the Judge was very kind & offered every assistance he could, but could only sympathize with me

Sunday, Oct. 30. At about 10 Oc A M the Steamer James White bound for New Orleans came down & they hailed him & Judge Caldwell & I took passage on him for Memphis Ten, the Judge lost his fine new boots somehow in reshipping & the Capt would not take my apples we got all the rest with us we rubbed bottom in many places & at night tied up at Crawford's bar. I have been very sick all day & have suffered severely with rheumatism

Oct. 31. We got along very slow at day break they commenced driving the fat cattle off over the James White & Soon we loosed cable & got down over Crawford's bar & got the cattle on again & started rubbing & sticking along until night when we tied up at a woodyard about 15 miles above Cairo for the night & soon the Steamer J D Perry came down & rounded in & tied up by us for the night I have had a very distressing time of it this day have been quite sick & have suffered dreadfully with Rheumatic pains

Nov. 1. At day break we loosed cable & started but ware soon fast aground but they sparred off & run a little farther & landed & drove off the cattle & drove them around a bar & the boat crossed over landed & took on the cattle & at noon we ware at Cairo I hobbled up to head Qrs & reported got 2 bottles of pain killer & a box of Moffitt's pills & got on the boat She had out bills saying it would start at 6 Oc P M for New Orleans but it was to deceive this had been a day of severe pain to me in every joint & the night is cold & raining hard, & my pain unabated

Nov. 2. We are yet at Cairo at about 1 Oc P M Maj Morey of the 13th Iowa & his brother in law Hamilton Sturgeon came on board they

are going to Little Rock Ark I have had a day & night of severe suffering pained in every joint & my right leg so swollen that I can scarcely get about at all & mentally I have dark forebodings 1st Lieut Martin 15th U S A. D. has near 200 Colored troops in charge for Helena & 1st Lieut I W Robinson 56th U S Colored Reg stationed at Helena & he has just been home to Fairfield Iowa with the remains of his brother who was 2nd Lieut in the same Regt.

Nov. 3. Cloudy Cold & raining all day soon after daylight the James White loosed cable at Cairo & we started on our way Maj Moreys brother-in-law went of the boat & got left, we passed on without harm & near noon were at Columbus & after 3 Oc P M we passed Island No 10 & at about 4 Oc P M some 2 or 3 miles below No 10 Our boat struck what they supposed to be the Reck of the Reb Gun boat Grampus & ripped our boat open & in one minute we were on the bottom in about 10 ft of water the boat was crowded with passengers & the commotion I will not attempt to describe I believe no passengers were drowned but some 16 deck hands who were in the hole asleep now are there in the Sleep of death, the deck passengers & colored soldiers got above & some got in the skiff & got to shore, many of the hogs cattle & I guess all the sheep on board were drowned at about 8 Oc night the Golden Eagle on her way down sounded too & just at the moment she was tied to the White we were fired into by gurrillas from the shore & then another undiscrivable scene of confusion occurred Women & children running in every direction & men equally confused I do not know that any one on either boat was hit but I fear that there was on the White as she lay between this boat & the shore At the time of the attack on us by the gurrillas there was yet some colored soldiers on the shore & I have no doubt but what they were all killed. Lewis Dent a Brother of Mrs Genl U.S. Grant was with us he resides in St Louis there were some 1/2 dozen Ladies & 2 or 3 gentlemen on their way South to teach the freed men & there was two young Ladies Clarra & Isabell Beal that had a slight acquaintance with me having seen me at Mr David Ogles in Ill & when I was about to leave the White they clung to my arms & weeping pled with me to stay with them but I was almost helpless with Rheumatism but their intreaties caused me to weep & truly it was a time to try mens souls, John I Parmer was the government Aid with us.

Nov. 4. At day break the Steamer Golden Eagle loosed cable at New Madrid where we had landed near midnight last night, & once more we started on our way & on we came bumping along & keeping up fun for us by exciting the crowd had just been wrecked; & boats up telling us to be on the lookout for gurrillers & especily about Ft. Pillow which place we passed just before dark, and we were all glad of that I had some severe rheumatic pains this day

Nov. 5. Before day out boat had to cast anchor some 10 miles above Mcmphis Ten for the heavy fog & it was sunrise before she could see

to run, we arived at Memphis between 7 & 8 Oc A M. Col Noble³³ & some others of the 3rd Iowa Cav came on board to see us. Judge Caldwell went off & selected the steamer St Patrick for us to go on to the mouth of White River & we had our things at once taken on board of her & at noon we left the port of Memphis & passed on without any serious mishap to this boat at about 4 Oc P M a horse jumped overboard & swam to shore & they had to stop the boat & get him on again Col Wm Fishback who was Electe to the Senate of the U S by the legislature of Ark is on board with us on his way home to Little Rock Ark

Sunday, Nov. 6. We passed Helena before day this morning & they only stoped long enough to report, we reached the mouth of White river at 4 Oc P M. & learn that Genl Canby was wounded on a gun boat up White river this A M by a gurrillar concealed on shore & they did not see him there was but the one shot fired & it wounded him in his thigh &c not dangerous wound

Nov. 7. At 11 Oc we shipped on to the steamer Shamrock for Devall Bluff & 7 Cos of the 8th Ills Infy veterans under command of their Maj Floyd Wheaton a thorough union man Soon after dark we loosed cable & started up White River there had been some 3 boats loaded with soldiers went up this P.M.

Nov. 8. We moved on steadily up White River without any mishap I suffered severely with Rheumatism Senator Wm Fishback of Arkansas & Rev Wm Stout of Dardinell & Dr Luther C White of Vanburnen both State Senitors are on board with us on their way to the Rock to assemble with the legislature who ware to have met yesterday The Government Aid Mr Ellis Gregg from St Louis is with us he was horn & Raised in Chester Co. Pa & is acquainted with many of my friends & we had a pleasant time together being old chips of the trade of Plasters

Nov. 9. At 1 Oc A M we cast anchor about 2 miles above Clarendon on White River & there was a very heavy raine & severe wind, & at day break we started again up the river & arived at Devall Bluff at noon but could not get our things to the cars in time to take the train for Little Rock at night we had our things put on the cars & we took supper & logging on the Steamer

Nov. 10. Clear & pleasant we took breckfast on the Steamer & at ½ past 6 Oc A M got on the cars and at 7 Oc A M we left Devall Bluff for Little Rock & arived at noon & I had the pleasure of imbracing my son Amandus & am greatfull to find him in good health. & find him having the confidence & respects of the officers I got my trunks over all safe & I was very cordially received by the Officers & men of my Regt & also heartily welcomed back by some of the citizens whos ac-

³³John Willock Noble, first lieutenant Third Iowa Cavalry, 1861; major, 1862; colonel, 1864; brevet brigadier-general, 1865; secretary of the interior, 1889-93.

quaintance I had made the past year especily Rev Ed Crowl & wife & Capt Vance & family. I spent the night with my son

Nov. 11. I forwarded to head qrs a request to go immediately before the examining committy in regard to my leave of absnce I spent the day among the Officers & men & citizens pleasantly as I could expect with the paine I suffered from Rheumatism, Amandus & I spent the evening with Rev Crowl & he would have me promise to Call & take tea with them tomorrow evening I am proud of the vote of our Regt they cast 237 votes & Lincoln got 233 & McClellan 4 votes three of them at the hospital

Nov. 12. I took dinner with the Officers of the 40th Iowa, Field Staff & line, I called on Col Benton of the 29th & spent a pleasant 1/2 hour & also on Rev Oliver Williams of 29th at the Ordinance department, & I also called on Mrs Chittinden Sanitary agent from Keosauqua Iowa I called & took tea with Rev Edw Crowl & brother Moshier of the 18th Ill. Infty Our Col C W Kittredge arived this day from Iowa & the evening I spent with him, Maj Hamilton & Judge H C Caldwell. The Rev S F C Garrison Chaplain of the 40th Iowa took me to the 77th Ohio Inft & introduced me to Rev James T Holiday Chaplain of the 77th Ohio they are both Methodist ministers

Sunday, Nov. 13. 11 Oc my son & I attended the union M E Church in the City of Little Rock the Rev Fleehearty of Moline Ill preached from 2nd Corinthian 5th Ch & last clause of the 19th v we took dinner with Rev John Payton & at 3 Oc we attended a general speaking meeting in the Colored M E Church & at the opening of the meeting there was a couple of colored people married by a colored minister name Wallace Andrews & they had a powerful meeting at candlelighting we attended the union M E Church in the City & I tried to preach to a crouded house, from John 5th Ch & 39 verse there ware many of the scnitors Legislators & army Officers & several Chaplains presant but the best of all the Lord was with us.

Nov. 14. At 9 Oc A. M. I went to the Head Qrs of the 40th Iowa Col S F Cooper of the 40th Iowa Maj A H Hamilton of the 36th Iowa & Capt ——— of the 77th Ohio ware the committy to examine Officers who had been absent beyond their leave, they organised & adjurned until tomorrow

Nov. 15. I was before the examining Committy in regard to my leave of absance & Judge Caldwell was presant Capt John Lambert Co K 36th Iowa Infty & I commenced messing together,

Nov. 16. At 10 Oc the inspection of the 36th Iowa was conducted by Capt Barnes of the 27th Wisconsin Infantry vols after my inspection I rode out to the Reffuge Camp in a wagon & got brick for a Chinney to my tent I suffered sevrely with Rheumatism. Major Morey of the 18th Iowa & his Brotherinlaw David Sturgeon called to see me

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