

IOWA TROOPS IN THE SULLY CAMPAIGNS

The following contributions give much interesting information concerning the experiences of the troops on the Northwest Border during the time of the Civil War. Their purpose there was the protection of the settlements against depredations and outrages by the Indians such as those perpetrated by the Sioux in Minnesota in 1862.

Henry J. Wieneke and Amos R. Cherry were members of Company B, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, while Josiah F. Hill was enrolled in Company A of the same regiment. These two companies, together with Company C, were mustered into service at Iowa City on October 23-25, 1861, companies D to K inclusive being mustered in at Davenport during the first week of November. The regiment was not united, however, for the three companies¹ at Iowa City were ordered to Fort Randall, Dakota Territory, while the remainder of the regiment was later sent south.

On September 18, 1862, the three companies stationed at Fort Randall were withdrawn from the Fourteenth Regiment and were organized into a battalion which was intended to be the nucleus of a new regiment—the Forty-first Iowa Infantry. This plan was later abandoned and when the Seventh Iowa Cavalry was organized in April, 1863, the Forty-first Iowa Infantry Battalion was assigned to it as companies K, L, and M.

It was during the time the three companies were a part of the Seventh Iowa Cavalry that they participated in

¹ For an account of the service of these three companies see the *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*, Vol. II, p. 721, Vol. IV, p. 1253, Vol. V, pp. 1159, 1160.

the campaign of General Sully against the Sioux in 1864.

Wieneke and Cherry were mustered out in October, 1864, at the close of their three year enlistment period. Hill had re-enlisted and served in Company K of the re-organized Seventh Iowa Cavalry, being mustered out on June 22, 1866. His letter has to do with events a year later than those described in the other manuscripts. In the *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers* the age of Josiah F. Hill is given as 24 at the time of his enlistment in 1861. This is an error, since Hill was born in 1827. In 1850 in company with two brothers, Lorenzo D. Dutton and Jerome Dutton, and others, Hill made an overland trip to California from Scott County, Iowa. A journal of this trip, kept by Jerome Dutton and edited by Claude W. Dutton, his son, was published, together with some letters, in the *Annals of Iowa* (Third Series), Vol. IX, pp. 447-483. The letter here published was written to Lorenzo D. Dutton and was sent to the State Historical Society for publication by Claude W. Dutton.

The extract from the diary of Henry J. Wieneke was presented to the Society by Mr. Wieneke himself who is still living at Iowa City, Iowa. The Cherry manuscripts are available for publication through the kindness of Mr. Cherry's son, Eugene Cherry of Iowa City. In preparing the manuscripts for the printers no attempt has been made to make uniform the capitalization and punctuation in the various letters, diaries, and narratives. In case of doubt capital letters have been retained for nouns, since there seems to have been a tendency to begin all nouns with capital letters, but there is much lack of uniformity in this. Capitals have been used to begin sentences even though they were not used in the original and in the diary capitals have been used to begin phrases and groups

of words which present separate ideas, even though there are no complete sentences. Punctuation has been added only when necessary for the interpretation of the text.

THE EDITOR

I

THE NARRATIVE OF HENRY J. WIENEKE

In fall of 1861 call was issued for 14th Iowa Inftry Regiment. Co A B & C 1st Battallion were enlisted at and in vicinity of Iowa City and sworn into service Oct 23rd 1861 and were ordered to Fort Randall Dakota to relieve Regular troops there, with promise that Ballance of Regiment would be enlisted during winter. In spring whole 14th Infantry would be sent South. Our Battallion started from Iowa City on afternoon of Oct 28th to march across State to Council Bluffs and up the Missouri Valley to Fort Randall Dakota.

Our Rations consisted of Bacon Flour Rice Beans & Coffee. We marched all day and baked & cooked near all night. We marched across the State to Council Bluffs weather getting cold and wintry and by time of reaching Sioux City were facing Blizzards and below zero weather. Nov 29th reached Vermillion the Capital of Dakota in Blizzard with heavy Snow 32° below zero. Dec 7th reached Fort Randall. Ground covered with Snow 1 foot deep. Camped on High Plain awaiting the withdrawal of Regulars. Fort Randall² is built of hewed Cottonwood Logs in oblong Square on west Bank of the Missouri River.

Here was spent wintr of 1861 and Summer of 1862 wait-

² Fort Randall was established in 1856 and abandoned on July 22, 1884. It was on the right bank of the Missouri River about one hundred miles above Yankton and two hundred and fifty miles by river from Sioux City.—*South Dakota Historical Collections*, Vol. VIII, pp. 84, 85.

ing orders to be relieved and go South. Instead on 1st of Dec 1862 Co B recd orders to move to Ft Piere³ a Trading Post of the American Fir Co on west Bank of the Missouri River. Meantime the Sioux Indians had massacred the White Setlers of Minnesota, taking women and children Prisoners carrying them into Dakota where they were terribly mistreated. Our march to the north was facing Snows and Blizzards for seven days. We marched through Snow Drifts with Thermometer below zero. When reaching Ft. Piere found Quarters too small. The Company was divided 28 men with Capt Mahanna went to Fort La Framboise⁴ a competing Fir Co where we camped out until the Logs were cut and draged across the Ice of Missouri River to build log walls of 6 ft high with Dirt Roof, for our winter quarters. In Spring of 1863 our Battallion was transferred to 41st Iowa Infantry thus frustrating any hopes of being sent South. During that winter we rescued and sent South 76 white women and children that the Sioux had carried from Eastern Minnesota to the Missouri River.

In Spring of 1863 our Company moved to east side of Missouri River taking charge of Sioux prisoners sent from

³ Fort Pierre, named in honor of Pierre Chouteau, was established near the junction of the Teton and Missouri rivers in 1832. In 1855 it was purchased from the American Fur Company by the United States government for a military post. It seems to have been virtually abandoned two years later and much of the material used in the construction of Fort Randall. The site, however, remained as a landmark and in 1859 a new stockade was built about two miles north of the old fort. It was probably at this new trading post that the Iowa troops were stationed.—Wilson's *Fort Pierre and Its Neighbors* in the *South Dakota Historical Collections*, Vol. I, pp. 203-311, 369-371.

⁴ Fort La Framboise was built as a fur trading station for La Barge, Harkness and Company in 1862.—*South Dakota Historical Collections*, Vol. I, pp. 362, 365, 366, 369, 370.

Minnesota and late in fall were set to building Fort Sully⁵ on the north east Bank of the Missouri River near where the city of Pierre now stands.

In spring of 1864 orders came transferring our Battallion Cos A, B, & C 41st Iowa Infantry to Cos K, L, & M 7th Iowa Cavalry and ordered to prepare to join 1st Brigade under Command of Genl Alf Sully⁶ for expedition against the Sioux nation.

On June 14th 1864 our Battallion was once more united by the arrival of Cos K & M (after two years separation)⁷

June 26th our Horses arrived, and the 1st Brigade was formed

6th Iowa Infantry	1000
Brackets Battallion	400
Nebraska Jayhawkers	200
3rd Battallion 7th Cavy	400
Co Dakota Cavy	100

Total 2100 Men

June 27th. Started and mchd to Asneboin Creek our Co L on advance Guard. Capt Feilner⁸ Topographical Engineer accompanied by 2 Scouts passed to examine geological formations on Banks of Creek where Indians in ambush shot Capt Feilner instantly kiling him. The 2 scouts gallopd back reporting when Capt and part of Sioux

⁵ This is the old Fort Sully built on the north bank of the Missouri River just above the head of Farm Island only a short distance from Fort Pierre. It was established in 1863 and abandoned on July 25, 1866, for the new Fort Sully.—*South Dakota Historical Collections*, Vol. I, pp. 310, 311, 371, 372, 373, Vol. VIII, p. 87.

⁶ General Alfred Sully.

⁷ Company L had been stationed at Fort Pierre and Fort La Framboise.

⁸ John Feilner.—See Heitman's *Historical Register and Dictionary of the United States Army, 1789-1903*, Vol. I, p. 416.

City Cavy Co were ordered to capture the Indians which they did after a race of 8 miles surrounding the 3 Indians in a Buffalo Waller killing them and cutting off their Heads carried them in Gunny Bag to Camp where they were stuck on poles as a warning.

During the Evening we were visited by a terrific Deluge of Rain and Hail before or during the formation of our Camp and water coming down the Creek six feet deep, washing every thing and upsetting three wagons that had been left in the Creek bottom thoroughly soaking all as the wind upset the few tents that had been set up.

A march of 32 miles brot us to Swan Lake where in Camp we awaited arrival of the Second Brigade of Minnesota troupes which came to Camp on July 7th.

July 8th Started early. Day very hot. Arriving at Long Creek had to build Bridge to cross and soon came in sight of the ever welcome Missouri river, where were four Steamboats unloading supplies for troops and to build Fort Rice⁹. Here we found a large flat Boat which was used as a Ferry having a long Cable fastened up at bend of River thus by aid of Current of River Boat was swung from Bank to bank. On 9th with aid of Steamers we were transfered to west Bank of the Muddy and in spite of Mud we did sure enjoy drink of water without so much *alkali*.

On the steamers were 4 Companies of the 30th Wisconsin Infantry who were to garrison the new Fort. Same troops that had been with us last winter at Ft. Sully. Here also were joined by long train of 120 wagons of Emigrants from Minnesota, on way to the gold Fields of Montana

⁹ Fort Rice was built in 1864 on the right or west bank of the Missouri River a short distance above the mouth of the Cannon Ball River, about twenty-eight miles from Bismarck. It is still in use.—*South Dakota Historical Collections*, Vol. VIII, p. 90.

asking protection of Genl Sully across the plains of Dakota to the Yellow Stone.

July 14th. Three Steamers with Supplies for the Army passed up the River on way to Yellow Stone to await our arrival there.

Sunday July 18th. Grand Review and Inspection of all troops.

July 19th. Whole expedition accompanied by trains of Emigrants started, passing over Cannonball River to Hart River¹⁰ total of 110 miles where Camp was formed, and having discovered by Scouts that the Sioux Camp of large dimension was ahead of us. Here the mules were to be packed with ten days provisions and no wagons except ambulances to go with the expedition all rest to stay in Camp until our return. After half Day spent packing mules that stampeded scattering Boxes of Hard tack Boiled Sowbelly &c over miles of plains Genl concluded to take one Wagon for each 2 Companies and two days ration in each Mans Haversack. Marched 24 miles to Knife River where 1st night was spent holding Horses with very little rest.

July 27th. Started 3 o'clock a m 56 miles again. Hold Horse all night.

July 28th. 32 miles fast March. Came in Sight of High range of Bluffs. Scouts galloping back our Battallion 7th Cavy ordered gallop to front Dismount and Deploy as Skirmishers with myself as orderly to Corlonel. Indians appeared covering plains 6 miles or more front and back to the Hills far as you could see all was Indians & ponies. War Whoops and all kind of Whoops. This continued from 10 a m until Dark when we had their Camps of fully 6000 Tepees at the foot of Mount Tachkahute [Tahkaho-

¹⁰ Heart River, a western tributary of the Missouri.

kuty] or Kill Deer Mt.¹¹ The whole Camp was Burned with all food & Equipments the Indians escaping over Mountain to Bad lands of the little Missouri. At Dark our Battallion out to east side of Battle Ground while making Camp were attacked, and quite a few wounded & 2 Men killed but we saved all Horses & Camp Material but we got no rest that night all resting on arms and holding Horses.

It is not known how much loss the Indians met with as they carried most of the Dead with them but there were more than 1000 Bodies Burned in with Camps on our return after march. The Bodies of Two Pickets were discovered filled with arrows

Aug 1st. Returned to Corall found all quiet

Aug 2nd. Got back to Camp and had good meal first [in] six days.

Aug 3rd. Started 5 a m in westerly direction over rolling prarie 25 miles campd on Heart river

Aug 4th. Nineteen miles over fine Country good Camp plenty of Grass for Horses. Passed over remains of an Indian Encampment

Aug 5th. Traveling nine Hours. Halted on Edge of the roughest Country. Ahead no Water except what stood in pools or depression of ground accumulation of heavy Shower. No feed for Horses and no fuel except Buffalo Chips and they too wet to burn

Aug 6th. We sure were on the jumping off place on the border of the Bad lands. All indicated that some time in past there had been a terrible Conflagration or an Eruption of the Earth Surface. Looking over the way ahead as far as one could see were all sorts of Hills with all Colors of the Rainbow in Earth & Rocks all sorts of

¹¹ For an official report of this battle see *War of the Rebellion: Official Records*, Series I, Vol. XLI, Pt. 1, pp. 141-148.

formations. Woods & Vegetable Petrified even large trees laying on ground. Solid Rock and Stumps Splintered Standing that when struck would ring like Steel. Quite a lot of Bushes trees and other Vegetation were interspersed on side of Bluffs. Some Berries that sure tasted good. This day were on go all day but only made about 12 miles to the little Missouri river where was good Water Grass and fuel.

Aug 7th. Our Battallion was ordered on the Bluffs west of little Missouri as guard to protect Road Making Men as it was found impossible to proceed through ravines otherwise. In mean time part of 6th Cavy had taken Horses down river to grass when Indians stampeded them creating a big racket quite a number of the Horses being captured by reds.

On return of six Companys of road makers after their days work our Battallion was ordered in. As Co M being the last out came through the narrow ravine Indians on top of the 300 foot Bluffs began rolling stones down but fortunately were a bit slow as all came through safe and the howitzers threw a few Shells on the Bluffs soon sent the reds out of sight.

Aug 8th. 2nd Brigade started out first and had only gotten out of Camp when Indians were heard in all directions shooting & whooping. Our Battallion had started out on left flank and were soon kept busy on top of bluffs driving the reds who were thick all directions. We only advanced about 5 miles today the Indians got so near the rear guard who had a severe time protecting the Emigrants team, that they lost eight oxen, but no lives lost. Camped in a depression near a small pond of foul water so Rotten the Horses did not want to drink it.

Aug 9th. Still whooping and shooting in all directions

around us but as we advanced country being more open they could not do much harm. This day passed over ground where had been an immense Camp of the Reds estimated as Ten Thousand or more. This day the Black-foot guide only one who was familiar with this country was so severely wounded as to incapacitate him as a guide. Our Camp this Evening was a very compact one the Hills & Bluffs crowding all sides. Fortunately for our company shortly before going into Camp I had dismounted and passing around an immense Rock discovered a depression of the Rock enough clean cool Rain water to supply our Company with good drinking & cooking Water enough for Supper & Coffee next morn.

Aug 9. After an almost sleepless Night started 4 a m with Indians thick on all sides of us but when we dismounted and started after them on foot at a double quick they soon discovered that this was not their home or resting place. Twas Estimated that the last three days had cost at least Four Hundred Indian lives and toward Evening they gradually left us and soon we got on level ground and to a large pond of clear water where we camped and had a good nights rest except that one of the 6th Cavalry raised the alarm of—Wake up the 'Camp is full of Indians'. He must sure have had a big Night Mare.

Now came news that the Commissary was about empty and our Rations cut to half.

Aug 12th. Our Comp L on advance guard just at sunset came in sight of Yellow Stone and after signal shot by the 8 Lb Howitzer the Steamer Alone¹² came in sight and by 10 o'clock P. M. we were feasting.

After crossing the Yellow Stone where we left the Emi-

¹² Two small steamers—the "Chippewa Falls" and the "Alone"—met the expedition at this point. Each had about fifty tons of freight.—*War of the Rebellion: Official Records, Series I, Vol. XLI, Pt. 1, p. 147.*

grant train, we followed the River to its Entrance into the Missouri river to Fort Union. From there we followed the trail of the Sioux northward to near the Border of Manitoba and then turned our Course South toward the land of the 'living' finally arriving at Sioux City where we recd our discharge and Quit.

H. J. Wieneke
Co L 7th Iowa Cavy

II

THE MANUSCRIPTS OF AMOS R. CHERRY

Fort Randall, D. T. Jan 1862.

Account of the march of companys A, B and C of the 14th Regt. of Iowa volunteers from Iowa City Iowa to Fort Randall Dakota Territory in the month of November 1861.

We left Iowa City on the 31st of Oct and marched only two miles and went into camp at Gov Kirkwoods Farm and remained there in camp the next day the first of November Saturday Nov 2nd. Left camp at Kirkwoods at eleven Oclock A. M. and marched ten miles and encamped at or near the residence of Mrs. Douglass in Clear Creek Town Ship. We arrived there at half past three Oclock P. M. We was all somewhat tired with this our first days march but after a good nights rest we came out as good as ever again and was ready for the next days march. While we was in camp at this place we was presented with a beautiful Flag by the Ladies of Clear Creek. They apeared in camp about eight Oclock in the evening acompanied by Mr Evans Esqr who presented the Flag in behalf of the Ladies. The Battalion was ordered into line and large Bond Fires was built in front of the line when the Ladies was escorted in by the Band

and marched up in front of the ranks when they was greeted with three cheeres from the troops. Mr. Evans then addressed the men and presented the Flag to Capt Pattee¹³ with some very appropriate and soul stiring remarks which was responded to by Capt. Pattee with a fiew but appropriate remarks. Lut Luse¹⁴ of Co. B. was then called upon and came out and made some very spicey remarks which was then loudly cheered by the Battallion. Miss Washburn then appeared and adressed the troops in a very able manner and exorted us to prove ourselves true and brave men and allso to prove true to this just cause and that she hoped and believed that we as brave men of Iowa would maintain the honor of that beautifule emblem of our Countrys glory which they as patriotic Ladies had presented us with. When she withdrew and as she finished speaking three times three cheeres was given and this was not enough, cheer after cheer went up for Miss Washburn and the patriotic Ladies of Clear Creek *long may they wave*. Co. B. was then called upon for a Song and we of course complied and sang the *happy Land of cannain* which was cheered loudly by all pressant. We was then dismissed and we all retired for the night. Several Ladies was in camp at this camp from Iowa City that I was acquainted with. One of them was Miss Della Zimmerman from our old neighborhood.

Sunday, 3rd. Left camp again this morning at eight Oclock and marched twenty miles and encamped two miles east of Marrengo on *Bear Creek*. We marched very fast this day and was all very tired when we arrived in camp at night and you could have seen the men laying arround in all directions upon the grass or leaning upon their guns.

¹³ John Pattee was captain of Company A, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry. He was appointed lieutenant colonel May 15, 1863.

¹⁴ Marvin R. Luse, first lieutenant of Company B, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, and Company L, Seventh Iowa Cavalry.

The reason of our marching so fast this day was this. It was Co. C's turn to march to the right (or in front) and they made their braggs that they was going to run Co. A. and B. down before we reached *demoin* and they strung out like a pack of wild Bulls and at times they would call out to us (for we was next to them) close up Co. B. close up and we did close up to and tread their heels about as close as they cared about. We would have kept up with them if it had killed us all. Co. A. was in the rear and would call out to give it to them Co. B. and I tell you the *Wapsays* as they call themselves got enough of that days march trying to run Co. A. and B. During this march we passed through *Home Stead* and the *Dutch Colony*. Neither of these towns are of much importance. Home Stead has a population of about one hundred. The *Dutch Colony*¹⁵ has a population of about five hundred I should judge from the appearance of it. It is a very pretty town and things has the appearance of being well conducted. Every thing appears to be in its place and a place for every thing. It is a beautifull farming Country arround the *Collony* and it is allso well cultivated.

Monday, 4th. Left Camp this morning at eight Oclock and marched fifteen miles and encamped again on Bear Creek 12 miles west of Marrengo. We passed through Marrengo to day in four ranks and made a very good appearance. We was welcomed by the people of that place who manifested their Loyalty to the Union by causing the Stars and Stripes to float from every public building and flagg staff in the town as they saw us approaching the place. When we marched through this place the band played the very appropriate air *the girl I left Behind me*.

¹⁵ The Amana Community. Homestead was purchased by the society in 1861.

You may rest assured that when I heard this favourite air it brought many sweet recollections before my vision. Often now when I hear this air do I think of the girls I left behind me. This morning was the first time we saw a Scarcety of provisions but if eatables was not scarce this morning at our camp near Marrengo they never was scarce if I understand what scarcity means. Well I will tell you what we had to call a breakfast that morning. It was this one flap Jack and a half peice of boild Beef about as large as a good large potato and a pint cup full of coffie sweetned with some very poor brown shugar. Our flap Jacks was one half flower and one half corn meal and mixed up with cold creek watter. Was not this rather tough feed for men on the march but such was our breakfast on the morning of our second days march through a plentiful and peaceable country with plenty of provisions which could have easily been procured at any time but our commanding Officer did not exert himself to get them and we was obliged to get allong without them which we done by calling at Farm Houses and telling the people our true situation and the way we was being treated and in every instance they freely gave to us all as long as they had any thing eatable to give. Co. B this day refused to march in ranks and was of course much scattered. At times not more than fifteen men of Co. B was to be seen in ranks the remainder being scattered along the road for two or three miles back but every man answered to his name at camp at the six Oclock Roll Call. We never left ranks without first asking permission of Lut Luse who was in command of Co. B. He said to the men if they could get what was necessary to sustain them on the long and weareysome march before them by calling [at] houses along the road they was at lib-

erty to do so but Co. A and C was not so fortunate their Officers being more ridged in the enforcement of their Diciplin and not allowing a man to leave the ranks under any conditions whatever and at some times when their men came into camp at night they was allmost exausted with hunger and fatigue while Co. Bs men would all be in camp in time for Roll Call and have enough with them for a good Supper besides getting a good dinner allong the road at some kind old Farmers House. On the night of the fourth we had a good supper in camp that we had begged allong the road and brought with us into camp. Our evenings meal that night consisted of Slap Jacks Molasses butter squash cabbage vinegar beef coffie shugar and milk which made up quite a styleish supper and you bet it was rellished by us all. After eating this our evenings meal we all took to cuting up and having a good time in every way we could. Some was jumping others was wrestleing and others siting in their tents singing some favourite peice of music or an army song and another thing we had a fine lot of sport over and it was this. One of the men went out into the woods hunting and killed an Owl and brought it into camp with them. The boys thought this a fine chance to have some fun and at it they went. They would take the Owl and go slyly up to the dore of some tent and carefully draw open the folds of the tent dore and send the Owl in amongst the men that are gathered inside telling over the adventures of the day when in would come the old Owl casting terror amongst the assembled Braves inside and the next thing you would see would be one of the boys running down through thé camp as if all the rebbles of the south was after him and some ones head sticking out of the tent telling what he would do if ever he found out who done that and Lut

Schell¹⁶ amused himself by takeing this old Owl and throwing it into our tent and takeing me right fair in the mouth. No sooner had it came in than I went out and if I could have seen any one near I would have snatched him bald at one grab but the sport did not end here. He came into our tent after I had gone in and wanted to know what the trouble was (apearring very innocent). Says I you own up now to the truth or I will clean out every Lutennent in the camp and he roared out laughing which told us very well who done it. Well after awhile he went back to his tent and he and Lut Luse was studying over a pile of papers and in went the old Owl again right into the midst of the papers scattering them in all directions. When Luse says what in thunder does that mean Jo, who was that. Oh says Jo that is nothing but some of the boys fun. Well says Luse that aint as much fun as it is cracked up to be I dont think. So this ends this nights sport and the nine Oclock tattoo told us that the bed time had arrived and we all retired for the night and slept soundly after our nights sport.

Teusday, 5th. Left camp at Bear Creek at half past eight Oclock and made a march of twelve miles and reached Brooklyn at three Oclock, and encamped near the town and near a creek of fine watter.

Brooklyn is a small town and allso a very pretty town. Its population is about three hundred. The town is situated upon a high Bluff. While we was encamped at this place we was favoured with visits from the fair Sex of Brooklin who sang several very pretty songs and allso some very appropriate ones for our benifit. We of course extended to them all the courtesy due these congenial be-

¹⁶ Joseph F. Schell, second lieutenant of Company B, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry and Company L, Seventh Iowa Cavalry.

ings. After they had entertained us very agreeably for some time they returned to their homes and we was preparing for to retire when it was anounced that we was to be serenaded by the Brooklin Brass Band and soon they apeared in camp and favoured us with some excellent music played Dixey, Hail Columbia, Yankey Doodle and many other favourite National airs. They then returned to their homes and we to our tents but before they left Co. B was called upon for a Song and again sang the good old *Happy Land of Cannain* which was cheered by all present. While here we was the recipants of many gifts in shape of eatables. The patriotic people of Brooklin will long be remembered by the men of the Battallion. After our evenings entertainment we all retired for the night and slept soundly untill morning it being rather warm in our tents however but we did not mind this for we had the cheereing prospect before us of seeing *cool weather* before we reached Randall.

Wednesday, 6th. Left camp at Brooklin this morning at seven Oclock and marched twenty miles and reached Grenell. We refused to march in ranks to day on acount of not getting enough to eat but we did not suffer you may bet for we called at allmost every house and in most cases found the people very liberal in giving provisions to the Soldiers. I hope they may be rewarded for their kindness at some future time. We found Grenell a very pretty town indeed. We arrived there about four Oclock, P. M. and encamped on some vacant Lots in the Subburbs of the town. We found the people very kind indeed in fact every thing that they had that would add to our comfort was freely given. Rest ashured that we did not suffer for the necessaries of life while at the town Grenell. We had not only the substantial things of life but we had the

luxuries of life. Our camp looked like one vast Bakery or provision Store. I tell you these things was thankfully received and the soldiers friends of this place will long be rememberd for their kindness. While we was here I attended a danceing party at the Read House and had a splendid time. I did not expect to atend another party until I returned to Iowa but I was happily disapointed for as I was preparing to go to bed Seargant Pumphrey¹⁷ came up along the line of tents calling for Seargant Cherry. I did not at first care much about answering thinking perhaps I would be politly asked to take a squad of men to bring watter or provisions from town or perhaps to get some of the Boys that was up in town on a spree but I answered however. Says he, where are you. Says I, here I am going to Bed, when he came to the tent dore and called me out and said there was a dance up town and wished to know if I would go up. I told him I would exactly so I got out my full uniform and came out and went down to the Officers tent and there found Pumphrey, Wm. Mahanna¹⁸ and Lut Luse waiting for me. We went at once up to the Hottell and was [met] politely by the proprietor and escorted into the dressing room. After fixing up in the best of Style and brightening up our brass works we was then invited to walk into the Parlor which we done with all the pleasure imaginable whare we found some very handsome young Ladies and allso some very interesting and intelligent ones allso. We was all introduced by Lut Luse to all the people presant. We soon selected Partners for a dance and at it we went and had a good time. We danced until about one Oclock and after

¹⁷ Horace B. Pumphrey, third sergeant of Company B, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry.

¹⁸ William B. Mahana, a son of Captain Bradley Mahana.

eating a splendid supper we returned to camp. Need I say that us Soldiers was great favourites with the Ladies that evening. We of Brass Button noteritery was all the rage. After sleeping about four hours I was awakned in the morning at the roll of the acustomed Revelle. After eating a good Breakfast we was ready for the march.

Thursday, 7th. Left camp at Grenell at eight Oclock and marched twenty miles and reached Newton in Jasper Co. We did not suffer any from want of provisions to day for the good people of Grenell filled our haversacks well before we left there so we had a plenty on this days march and made the march without any trouble and kept good order and kept in ranks. Allso we found the people of Newton very kind but business more dull than at Grenell. Newton has a population of 1,500. Wm. Boyd and I obtained a pass from Lut Luse to go ahead of the command in the afternoon in order to find Mr. Bain and Mr. Teft [?] but they lived so far from town that we thought we would not go to see them. They live about six miles from Newton so we did not go. We stayed in town until the command came along when we joined them and started to go with them down into camp but we had not gone far when Seargant Pumphrey came along and caught me by the arm and says he let us go up town and get our supper. Well says I I dont care. We turned round and went back. When we came up with the rear of the company whare Lut Schell was he asked us whare we was going. We told him we was going up town to get our supper. All right says he and we went on and did get our supper and a good one to. After supper we went down into camp and found it full of Ladies who was singing songs and entertaining the Soldiers in every way they could. We done all we could to make it apear that their songs

was listned to with pleasure and that the moral that was contained in many of them was duly apreciated by us. After they had finished singing we thought we should return the compliment by singing one to so we Co. B. struck up and sang the *Happy Land of Cannain* which was responded to by a Rev. Gentlemen from town in a neat little speech. After he had finished three cheeres was given for the people of Grenell Newton and vicinity long may they live in the enjoyment of heavens choicest Blessings. After they had all returned to their homes we took to our tents and layed ourselves down for a little rest.

Friday, 8th. Resumed our march this morning at nine Oclock and marched eighteen miles and encamped on Camp Creek fourteen miles east of De Moin we broke ranks a great deal this day in order to get provisions and was very sucesfull finding the people very kind and willing to do any thing to make us comfortable. The men was very tired to night and many of them suffering from sore feet. My feet however did not give out yet and I got along finely. Lambert Martins feet was very sore this night so bad he could hardly walk. The night we was in camp here was very cold and disagreeable and the men being very near worn out went to bed early. After all was still in camp I and a corprall and our Orderly Seargant went to the cook and asked him if he would cook us some chickens on the shares if we would get them. He said he would so when Co. B. Guards was in I went to Guard No 1 and told him I wanted to go out and take some men out with me. Well says he it is all right. So I got the Boys togather and out we went and paid our respects to an old Sescessionest that lived near by way of paying our respects to his hen roost and after getting a chicking or two apeice we returned to the camp and had

a good mess of chickens that night and also had the fun of stealing them besides. It has been said that stolen fruit is sweet and I guess it is a true saying for nothing was relished more by me than that mess of chickens. On our way up to the house says Corpral Welling what if we should get caught at this. Oh says Orderly Seargant Dennis it dont make any differance. We are all Seargants. Let it rip. Who cares. We will get the chickens you know. Well by the time the chickens was devoured it was one Oclock and we all went to bed and slept until morning.

Saturday, 9th. Left camp at eight Oclock this morning and marched fourteen miles and reached Fort De Moin at three Oclock P. M. and encamped in the outskirts of the town in the forks of coon and De Moin rivers. Had a very pretty place for our camp and enjoyed ourselves finely. Found the people very kind but not the same good feeling toward the soldiers that was manifested at Grenell and Newton. When we came into our camping place Capt Pattee marched his company up to the left and pitched his tents. His company and Co. C. went to work and set up their tents and we got orders not to leave ranks and there we stood in ranks with our arms at an order and all attention. Pattee came up and says he Capt why dont you put up your tents over there why do you keep your men standing here for. Says Capt Mahanna¹⁹ I shall not pitch my tents until I can pitch them on the left whare they should be that is the place for my company and when I get my rights I will break ranks and set up my tents and not one moment before. Why says Pattee what is the trouble. Says Mahanna you have marched your company to the left and pitched your tents whare you had

¹⁹ Bradley Mahana was captain of Company B, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, and Company L, Seventh Iowa Cavalry.

no right to because it was a better peice of ground for a camp. Move your company out here to the right whare it should be and all will be right and not until this is done. My men shall not stack their arms mark that sir. So Pattee had to take up his tents and move them over to the right and we went to the left whare we should be and Pattee found that he could not fool Capt Mahanna much. Well all passed on smoothly for a while until some of the Boys wanted to go up town and Lut Cooper²⁰ of Pattees company was Officer of the day and he would not let the Boys be out when they was provided with a pass from Our Captain. They came back and told Mahanna that the Officer of the day would not let them pass the Guard. Well says Mahanna I will pass you out come with me all who want to go up town, when about fifty of Co. B. started with him for town. He went to the out posts and told the Guard to pass these men out. Says the Guard I had orders not to let any one out. Says Capt Mahanna call the Officer of the Guard or the Officer of the day. He called for the Officer of the day No. 1. He came and Mahanna says to him I want you to pass these men out. Says Cooper I had orders from Capt Pattee not to let any one out. Says our Capt I want to know sir if you are going to pass these men out if you dont I will. Says the Officer do you mean that you wont obey the orders of our commanding Officer. Mahanna turned arround and says Boys pass out pass out. I will see whether you wont go out on a pass from a commissioned Officer and out the Boys went and Cooper went off swearing about Co. B. and Captain Mahanna.

Sabath, 10th. Still at De Moin. I attended Church in

²⁰ Francis H. Cooper, first lieutenant of Company A, Fourteenth Iowa Infantry, and captain of Company K, Seventh Iowa Cavalry.

the morning and evening at the Methodist church. I went in charge of a squad of sixty men of Co. B. and many of them went to other churches. I think every one of Co. B. except the Guard was at church that day. The people appeared to be pleased to see us at the church and received us very politely and took great pains to see that we was provided with seats. We heard a very good sermon both in the morning and evening. At night he preached a sermon on the war and complimented us very highly and with difficulty the Soldiers refrained from cheering him in the midst of the sermon. We went to and from church in perfect order and made a very fine appearance and was complimented by the people of De Moin.

Monday, 11th. Still at De Moin. To day we performed the painfull duty of following one of our fellow Soldiers from Co. C. to the grave. His name was Maxwell²¹ and was from Wappello, Louisa Co., Iowa. He was burried with the honors of war. He was followed to the grave by the whole command in full uniform with unfixed Bayonets and arms reversed. The drums was all muffled which made them sound very solem indeed. We went from the camp to the hottell whare the Boddy was and formed in two ranks in front of the house. The Band then played one or two tunes and the Boddy was brought out before the coller company when the Band again played a very solem air. The corpse was then carried up to the right and the Guard arround it the Band in front. We was then brought to a right face and moved toward the grave yard which was about one mile distant. The Band played the dead march and nothing was heard but the solem sound of the muffled drums the steady step of the men and the subdued commands of the Officers. After we arrived at the

²¹ Wilson S. Maxwell died at Des Moines on November 10, 1861.

grave we was drawn up in two ranks at the mouth of the grave and three discharges was fired over his grave as soon as it was filled up. After this ceremony we returned to town at a quick step the Band having taken off the muffles. They played Yankey Doodle, the Girl I left Behind me, and many other favourite airs. After we returned to camp and stacked our arms and looked around the camp was as still as a grave yard almost not a loud voice was heard or any thing that would break the silence and the solemnity of the scene. A large concourse of citizens also followed us to the cemetery.

Teuesday, 12th. Resumed the march this morning at nine O'clock and marched sixteen miles. To day we received only about half rations and Co. B again refused to march in ranks and fell out at every house to obtain the necessaries of life and subsistence for the march and our evenings meal. We are now in camp now as I am writing some are singing others dancing some playing the violin some the clarenot and some the Gituar others playing some of their favourite plays and amusements which gives the camp a cheerfull appearance. To night G. B. Zimmerman and Samuel Kirk are on the sick list but they are neither of them very bad and will probably be better soon. I forgot to notice in the proper place that we came very near stacking arms and refusing to march out of De Moin but our Capt got to hear of it and when our company was paraded for roll call he came out and talked to us about it. He did not say you must do so and so but merely advised us to keep up the reputation of the company and to show the others that if Pattee was mean enough to cheat us we was brave enough to stand it without a murmur and he talked us right out of it and we broke ranks with shouts and laughter. We was not base

enough to show any disrespect to our beloved Old Captain and when our Captain joined us at Newton he was received as a lot of children would receive their Parrent. When we saw him cumming the company fell in and came to a present arms and after he had returned the salute we gave nine cheres for Capt B Mahanna.

Wednesday, 13th. Resumed the march this morning at seven Oclock and marched twenty one miles and encamped on Coon River near the town of Reeding in Dallas County. At this place the men was obliged to waid the river the Bridg being gone. I did not wade the river and was determined not to go through the cold watter for it was as cold as ice. I waited until a waggon came along and then rode over on that. Many of the boys that wadded the river was sick for two or three days afterward. Reeding is a small town of about 200 inhabitants and is mostly Irish people. While we was encamped here the Ladies visited us and sang some very pretty songs. We again sang the *Happy Land of Cannain*. It was new to them and was cheered by all pressent. We passed through Adell the county seat of Dallas County. It is the finest little town we passed through on our whole march. They have the finest court house I ever saw. Its population is about 500.

Thursday, 14th. Resumed the march this morning at seven Oclock and marched thirty four miles and encamped on the open Pararie near the town of Dalmanutha²² a small town of about one hundred inhabitants. This day was our hardest days march since leaving Iowa City. We got very hungry and called at housess along the road but there was not many to call at. Sometimes we would go ten miles without seeing a single habitation. The command

²² Dalmanutha in Guthrie County was at one time a prosperous stage route station but disappeared later, when the town of Casey was built.—*History of Guthrie and Adair Counties, Iowa* (1884), p. 607.

was much scattered. It was about seven miles from the advance to the rear Guard and the teams and men scattered all the way between them. I and Seargant Trask and Lut Schell Samuel Waldron Jos Crouse Ed Pinney and S. B. Zimmerman fell back to the rear and made up our mind that we would call at the first house we came to and get our supper. So when we came to a station called Bear Grove Station and we went in and asked if we could get our supper there. There was no one at home but the Ladies and they hesitated at first and then said if we would wait until they cooked it we could have some. Lut Schell asked them how long it would take them to get it up. They said about an hour. O says Schell we will wait of course. After we had been there a short time and begun to talk about the war we found that we was talking to a lot of secessionsts. They said it was good enough for us that we did not get enough to eat and that if we was fools enough to go to the war let us take what we could get. She said she had a son in the Iowa fourth Regt and he was a fool and hoped that he was getting the same fare as we was. This raised our dander a little and Trask told her about what he thought of her and the south. She said she would like to see all the oficers in the northern army hung. Says I you had better look out how you talk says I there is one of our Officers at the same time pointing toward Schell. She looked arround at him and sneeringly said, Oh he is a little young thing I would not be afraid of him myself. This raised a perfect roar and rather took down the Lutennant. Well after supper was ready and on the table we sat up without much cerimony and commenced to lay away the provisions at a fearfull rate. We did not take off our hats or caps canteens Haversacks or any thing. We eat everything that they had

cooked in the house and after the table was swept clean and we all set back Trask who was sitting up to the table knawing a Bone of Beefe said dont quit boys because I have eat hearty. I am just beginning to get hungry. We then paid them our twenty cents apiece and expressed a wish that our army would come out victorious. We then went on in the direction of camp which was about two miles off. We arrived there about an hour after dark. The tents was all up and supper cooked and we sat down and eat another supper in camp and for once I was satisfied. When we arrived in camp we found that the men was much dissatisfied about the way they had been treated and said they had not half enough to eat for supper after marching 34 miles and thought it was rather rough. This day we did not get a bit of dinner only what we begged any thing and was of course allmost starved when we got any thing and was of course allmost starved when we got to camp at dark and had to make a supper out of two Slap Jacks a piece of beefe about as large as a potato and some poor coffie. Was this not a shame? I think so at least.

Friday, 15th. Resumed our march this morning at eight Oclock and marched twenty miles and encamped on Turkey Creek in a fine boddy of timber the men very tired and the command much scattered the advance and rear Guards being about five miles apart. I started this morning with the front of the command and at night came in with the rear Guard. I and Seargent Trask fell back on purpose. When we got back to whare the rear Guard was we found that they was about five miles behind the command and was driveing three small hogs along with them that would weigh about 60 pounds apeice and was as fat as butter. I asked the corprall of the Guard what they was going

to do with them hogs. Oh says he we are going to have some pork. Says Trask that is right we are in for that. O says some of the Boys you will report us. No says I I wont do no such a thing. I asked them if they was going to kill them. They said they was so when we got down in a hollow out of sight we loaded a gun and shot two of them and skined them cut them up into small peices and divided it arround amongst the six. Guards and Trask and I got all our Haversack could hold. We brought it into camp and I knew I was to be Seargent of the Guard that night and I told Trask that I would get the cook to cook ours after they had all gone to sleep so we hid it in our tent untill they had all gone to sleep and I took it out and the cook cooked it for me and I carried it and put it into the tent for Breakfast and you bet we had a good Breakfast of fresh Pork that morning besides giving the two cooks all they could eat. But our good fortune did not end here. Five of the boys were out in the woods hunting squirils and came across a bee tree and about a barrell of honey in it. They came into camp and told me about it and wanted to know if I would let them out in the night to get it. Yes I told them I would pass them out. When Co. B. Guards was put on I took the two men who had two Buckets apeice to the Guard Beat No. 1. and told the guard who was a good fellow to let these men go out and come in when they wanted to and told him what they was after and they went out and brought in four Buckets full of honey and set it in the cook waggon and you better believe I had all that I could eat that night I and one of the cooks sat up and stole flour out of the commissary waggon and baked Flap Jacks and eat them and honey until we was nearly ready to bust and when I went to go the rounds I took a large peice of honey and gave a large

peice to each Guard. This rather pleased them and no wonder. And another good Joke took place that night. When the Boys brought up the Honey they set a pan full of it just inside of the Captains tent. The Captain went to go out early in the morning and in a great hurry to and he stepped right into the pan of honey with his stocking feet. When he came out to the Guard fire whare I was sitting he held up his foot to the light of the fire and says Cherry what in the world did I get into in the tent there. At the same time the honey was all over his foot. I roared out laughing for I could not help it. Oh says he you rascles are trying to get me into a scrape. As soon as I could quit laughing I explained it to him and he laughed as hard as I did at him and said it was a good Joke on him and the honey. The next morning we all had honey to eat on our cakes which was a rare treat to us you had better believe.

Saturday, 16th. Left camp at Turkey Creek this morning at seven Oclock and [marched] twenty miles and reached Lewis, Cass County, and found it a very pretty town with a population of about five hundred. It has two stores two Hottels one drug store one crockrey store one Methodest Church a fine building one Drs Office Post Office a court-house one Blacksmith Shop one large waggon Shop and paint and repairing establishment. About one fourth of a mile from town runs a stream about as large as Black Creek in N. y called the Nitchenie Bottemy and on it is a large flouring mill in good order and a good run of business. At this place there is a splinded Bridge over the stream the best one I have seen since I left Iowa City. The Buildings in Lewis are very nice ones. They are all painted white that are of wood with nice yards and dore-yard fences and in fact it is a very pretty town. There is

a great many of the houssess are made of red sand stone which makes the finest looking house I ever saw. It is as red as paint and are cut perfectly square and nice. I think our land that is near there will prove a good investment at some future time. I was in both stores and they was both crowded with customers from the county. The population of the county is about 200 I believe. This is what they told me at that place. The country arround there is high rolling Paraire the fineist I ever have seen since I came to Iowa without exception. It is ahead of the Pararie where you live but I am afraid that timber will be very scarce in that part of the state for I did not see but little near there but perhaps it is not so scarce as I think perhaps I did not get a good view of the country. It is only 45 miles from Council Bluffs. There is a good road leading from Lewis to that Place and is travled a great deal. The night we encamped here it rained and stormed all night but we was in the timber which protected us a good deal our tents was very warm and did not leak any at all and we enjoyed as good a nights rest as ever I did in my life.

Sabath, 17th. Resumed the march this morning at eight Oclock and marched twenty five miles and encamped on the west Nitchenie Bottomey the men very tired and lame and suffering greatly from sore feet I among the rest. My feet was so sore that I could hardly walk at all but I took my time and got into camp about an hour after the rest of the command was in. Our dinner consisted of two hard crackers and plenty of creek watter. While we was in camp at this place one of our commissary waggons caught fire and burned the cover all off of it and in trying to put it out the men distroyed about two hundred pounds of Flour. When the fire broke out about twelve Oclock at

night the Guards gave the alarm and every one was calling out fire fire and of all the climbing I ever saw that beat all. Sometimes five or six would go out of a tent dore all at once and land in a pile at the out side for we all thought that the high grass had got on fire and was comming into our camp and we knew if this was the case our tents was a goner for the grass was as high as my head and as dry as powder and our camp was in the midst of it. After the fire was put out it was fun to look at the men some of them had nothing but their shirts on some had their pants on and one Boot others had only their drawers. I tell you I had a good laugh over it to think how they got out of their tents. If the enemy had a come in at this time they could not have told us from a set of Indians. We are now only twenty five miles from Council Bluffs. We expect to go through to there to morrow if we have good weather.

Monday, 18th. Resumed the march this morning at seven and a half Oclock and marched 25 miles and encamped on Mosquito Creek two miles from the Bluffs. The men allmost gave out to day. We had only two crackers a Slap Jack and a small piece of pork and a cup of coffie for Breakfast and no dinner at all. The men was much enraged at this kind of useage and a great deal of swearing was done you had better believe. Co. B. again refused to march in ranks and the whole command was much scatred. It was about five miles from the advance to the rear. I started at the head of the company in the morning and came in about five or six miles behind with the rear guard. I and the Guard stoped at a house and got our supper and got a good one to as it was thought such by us at that time. Pattee went ahead into the Bluffs and said he would have some bread in camp in time for supper

so we trudged along with the expectation of getting a good supper at night but when we arrived at our camp Pattee was not there and had not been there or the Bread either. The indignation of the men knew no bounds and we all declared openly before our Officers and Pattees Officers allso that we would never leave that camp until we was better provided for. Well we went to work and pitched our tents and waited for our Bread until after dark and it did not come so we went to work again allmost dead as we was to cook our slap Jacks and at it we went. Our Captain came arround and says he now deal out flour to these men untill they are satisfyed if it takes all there is in the waggon and we had all the Slap Jacks we could eat that night and if it had not been for our good old Capt we would have fared worse then we did for he done all in his power to make things comfortable for us. It was not his blame that we did not get enough to eat no indeed. Some do not like Capt Mahanna but I do and the more I see of him the more I like him and there is not a man in this company but loves him. His enimies are among the cowardly stay at homes not among the soldiers that he has the honor to command. Let any man speak a word disrespectful of Captain Mahanna before one of Co. B. and he might as well slander the person himself it would not be resented any sooner. Pattee did not come into camp that night at all so much for his word. We did not find the people of Council Bluffs very patriotic. They treated us soldiers very cool indeed but we did not ask any odds of them you may rest ashured of that fact.

Tuesday, 19th. Stil in camp at the Bluffs. Went up town to day expecting to get a letter from home but was disapointed. Come back to camp and wrote two letters to Iowa City one to Father I believe and one to Miss Ella

S————— and allso wrote a communication to the [illegible] News and to Miss Starks. I thought if I could not receive any letters I would wright some at any rate. We was still expecting to get a boat to take us up the river but was disapointed for Pattee came down into camp to night and said we could not get any and we would be obliged to go on foot to the Fort. This was a stunner I tell you and the men went allmost mad about it and all said they would fight before they would go on foot until they was better provided for.

Wednesday, 20th. Still in camp at the Bluffs. The men are thretening to stack arms if they are ordered to leave here without an asurance of being better provided for. Co. C is as bad as Co. B. and say they will stand by us in any thing we may do.

Thursday, 21st. Resumed the march to day at twelve Oclock and marched ten miles and encamped on Pigeon Creek ten miles north of Council Bluffs and two miles north of Crescent City a small Mormon Settlement of about three hundred inhabitants. When we received the Order to march Co A and C struck their tents and made preparations to start but Co B was not to be deceived any farther. We was told that Pattee had hired six more teams and had loaded them with provisions but we told them if we saw the waggons with the provisions in them we would beleive it and go on and not untill then so we did not touch a tent or one thing of our baggage. Every thing in our part of the camp looked as if we was going to remain there all winter, while Co A & C tents was all loaded their baggage all in the waggons their knapsacks on their guns in their hands all ready for a start. We laughed at them and asked them if they was traveling or going some place. They replied that they intended to obey orders we might

call it what we pleased. We replied that we intended to obey all reasonable commands but we would not go any further without any thing to eat that we would fight there first. This silenced them and we sat arround taking our ease not a tent moved not an article of Baggage touched or a team hitched up and we was waiting to see how it would terminate. While we was thus waiting Capt Pattee came down with the extra teams loaded as had been said with eatables and Co. B. went to work with a right good will to striking their tents and loading their Bagage and took their arms from the stacks fell into line and reported themselves ready for duity and we went on in the faithfull and cheerefull discharge of our duity but if those provisions had not came at that time we would not have started an inch until they did come we had made up our mind on that and was determined on that point. We fared very well from there to this place. We got all we could eat and that which was good to. The day we left the Bluffs we passed through the Out Skirts of the town. As we was passing allong I and the Orderly Seargant was walking along togather we had our overcoats on and [they] was rather [heavy]. Says he let us fall back and put our coats on the waggons. Well says I I dont care if we do. I am rather [tired]. So we halted and put our overcoats on the waggon. Then says the Orderly let us go allong slow here and call at some house and get our dinner. Well says I I am in for that evry time. So we come along to a neat little white cottage and called in and asked for our dinner. The Lady of the house said we could have the best she had cooked in the house which was not very good. We sat up and eat our dinner which was very good (but I have got just as good at home before now) and while we was eating the rear Guard went past and we sit still and

sliped them very neatly and had things our own way the rest of the day and took it slow and easey and kept about five miles behind the command. We did not get into camp untill after dark and got a ride with a kind old farmer for two or three miles at that. When I got in camp the boys was cooking their supper at the camp fires but I was not very hungry and did not pay much attention to them. I went up to the tent and got out my note Book and took down the incidents of the day. When it was time for roll call I went out and answered to my name. I thought this was all but when the guard was detailed and the Seargant anounced that Seargant Pumphrey would be Seargant of the Guard but he reported himself sick and could not act. When the Orderly turned arround to me and said you will be seargant of the Guard to night. Says I all right so I took the Guard and reported them to Lut Schell who was Officer of the day. After the first releif was mounted a load of provisions for Pattees family came into camp and was unloaded in a pile by themselves and Pattee came to me and told me to take one Guard off the beat and lengthen the others out and place him over this load of provissions. I done as he directed and put the man at his post to Guard these articles amongst which was two Barrells of crackers one of which had no head in. When Co. B. Guards came on duity it came so that an old fellow by the Name of McCart was placed at this post and he being rather sharp on the track of eateables discovered the crackers, and when I came round in going the rounds he called out to me and says, Seargant do you know what is in these Barrells. Says I no I dont know what they contain. Says he come here and see. So up I went and there was a Barrell of crackers with the head out. You bet we lived high that night. I eat all I could

and took enough into the tent for our breakfast. I told every guard that was on that post that night and they had plenty to eat you may rest ashured. That night was very cold and windy and once along towards morning I went the rounds again. When I came to the beat whare Ed Pinney was he was not to be found. I called out to him and found him down behind a waggon out of the wind. Says he it is so cold up there I thought I would get down here out of the wind. Says I all right stay there if you can get out of the wind. It is all right. The next Beat was Archie²³ and the next ones was German McCardles. When I got up to theirs I found them seting down in the tall grass out of the wind smokeing. The next ones was W McCaddons and I found him down on another mans beat by a fire warming himself. He asked if it was any harm for him to go down there to warm. Says I I dont think it is any harm to warm yourself such a night as this at least I mean to warm if I can and you are a fool if you dont do so to.

Friday, 22nd. Resumed the [march] this morning at eight Oclock and marched twenty miles and encamped at Calhoun a small town in Harrison County. This day was very cold and windy. I and Seargeant Trask fell back and took our time. The rear Guard over took us and we went on to gather for a mile or two and we concluded that we would disband the Guard and call and get our supper at some house along the road. So when we came to a house we all stoped ten of us and asked if we would get our supper. They said we could and set to work preparing it and a very good supper it was to. I will tell you what we had the pleasure of putting out of sight that night at that kind old farmers house. We had Buckwheat

²³ This is probably Archibald McNeil, also of Iowa City.

Cakes Sorgum warm buiscut hot corn bread butter roast Beefe coffie shugar cream potatoes and all the trimmings that was needed to set it off to a good advantage. After we had finished eating we offered to pay for our meal but not one cent would they take. The old Grey hared man of the house said all he asked of us was to be good boys do our duity as soldiers and maintain the good name and honor of Iowa. We ashured him that we would try and do this and thanked him kindly and started on in the direction of camp which was about two miles distant. When we arrived there we found the boys hard at work cooking their supper of Slap Jacks and Beefe. The camp was in a wheat feild near a large pile of straw which provided us with good bedding. We filled our tents neerly half full and banked the tent up on the out side about half way to the top which made them very warm and we slept soundly all night.

Saturday, 23rd. Resumed the march this morning at seven Oclock and marched fifteen miles and encamped near the town of Little Sioux a small town situated on Little Sioux river. Its population is about three hundred. The day was very windy and none of the companies pretended to march in any kind of order at all. We walked behind and at the side of the waggons in order to be protected from the wind. When we was cooking our Breakfast the wind blew a perfect gale and blew our Batter full of straw and ashes and all manner of dirt and when the cakes was baked there was more straw and ashes in it than there was flour but we did not care for that for it made more cakes and any thing to get more to eat. We did not care if it was half dirt. When we started and got up in town I called at a saloon and got a good drink of Brandy and I am not ashamed to own it either. I needed some-

thing to stimulate me on such a cold morning as that and was determined to have it to and felt relieved after I had it.

Sabath, 24th. Left camp at eight O'clock and marched eighteen miles and encamped two miles south of the town of Onawa a small town. The population I should think was about three hundred. It was a very pretty town the finest little town we have seen since we left Lewis. The day was well observed by the men and we had a very quiet and pleasant march no singing or hurahing or any thing to mar the pleasure of the holy sabath day, this is I think a credit to us as soldiers.

Monday, 25th. Resumed the march this morning at seven O'clock and marched twenty miles. We marched all the forenoon without seeing a single dwelling after leaving Onawa. We halted at a house for to eat our dinner and in so doing drank the mans well dry which he did not thank us for but after we had the watter we did not care for his thanks. I bought some butter and honney at this place which we eat with a great deal of²⁴

Wednesday, 27th. Left Sioux City at eleven O'clock and marched five miles and crossed Sioux River on a ferry and encamped for the first time in Dakota. When we all got safely across we looked back perhaps some of us for the last time upon Iowa. We then struck up and sang Oh aint I glad to get out of the Willderness. This day we encamped on the same ground that Gen Harney camped on when he was comeing out to build this fort here. He had a fight with the Indians and killed many of them and allso lost some of his own men. We could see some traces of his camp and the fight yet when we was there. This day I had the honor to command Co. B.

²⁴ A part of the manuscript is missing here.

Every other Officer was up in town at the time the Order was given to march but myself and Corpral Snook so all we had left to do was to make the best of it so he went with the advanced Guard and I marched the company out to Sioux River. Our Capt and Luts did not get in until after dark in fact I had the whole command of things and got allong with it finely to. While I was at Sioux City I received a letter from Father written in answer to the one I wrote from Marengo. This was thankfully received and read with pleasure. Lutenant Luse got the mail for our company but mine was not in that package and after supper I started up town to see if mine was not there for Jos Crouse told me at the Bluffs that his father had wrote to him that Father had wrote to me and directed to Sioux City but before I got to the Office I met McCart who had my letter. You bet I was pleased. I went back to camp and answered it immediatly. I wrote in the Captains tent whare I allways went when I wanted to wright out of the noise. To night the grass got on fire and caused another alarm and got every man out of his tent about twelve Oclock at night. You bet I did not go out of the tent and warm bed. I thought when the tent began to smoke would be time enough to deprive my self of a good warm nest. The men was in the best of spirrits thinking that they was allmost at their journeys end being only one hundred and thirty miles from Fort Randall.

Thursday, 28th. Resumed the march this morning at seven Oclock and marched only fifteen miles and went into camp at Elk Point. The reason of our going into camp here was this. A severe snow storm set in when we had gone about five miles and of all the storms I ever saw this was the worst. We could hardly keep our feet at all the wind was blowing a perfect hurricane and the

snow was coming in perfect blinding sheets and in one solid mass. Besides this it was very cold and the men nearly froze. The wind was directly in our faces. We halted at noon and got all up in a crowd behind an old log house and stood and eat our peice of bread which was froze as hard as a stone. It was so hard that we had to break the loaves apart over the waggon wheels when dealing it out such was our diner that day. We went on however without saying a word for no one was to blame for it being cold. I and several of the boys called at a house and got all the Bread and milk we could eat. This reminded me of home again. When we got to Elk Point station Pattee gave orders to go into camp that it was to bad for men to march such a day as that. We had intended to march thirty miles that day but the storm stoped us at fifteen the snow was about six inches deep and we scraped the snow away with a shovle and set our tents and got some Buckwheat straw for our beds. We built large camp fires out of logs which was plenty. We made a large fire right at the dore of our tent and there was a Guard fire right behind it so we slept as sound as ever I could wish to. We had a good supper that night in camp and you bet it was relished.

Friday, 29th. Resumed the march this morning at eight Oclock and marched fifteen miles and encamped near Vermillion. The population of this place is about two hundred. It is said to be the largest town in Dakota and is the Capitol of this Territory. It is on the Bank of the Mo. river and is a very pretty site for a town. Several of the boys went up in town to night and got tight as Bricks but the Captain did not hear of it. If he had they would have been sorry for it I tell you. Our Orderly Seargent and I came into town to gather and was behind

all the rest. When we came to the hotell we thought we would go in and warm. What was the Orderlys surprise to find one of his old friends there and that he was the proprietor of the house which was a good one to. He made us stay for supper and stay all night with him allso so after we eat our Supper we went down into camp and remained there untill after roll call and then went back and slept on a good feather Bed and eat a good Breakfast in the morning. This was nice was it not. Well you may think what you please we called it O. K. we did exactly (but I have often got just as good at home).

Saturday, 30th. Left camp this morning at eight Oclock and marched twenty two miles and encamped on James River. We crossed this stream on the ice. The men was very tired this night. I was very tired and cold when I came into camp and went to a large fire and warmed myself. After I began to get warm I felt sick and had the cold chills run over me. I went up to the Captains tent as soon as I saw I was going to be sick. I went into the tent and sat down by the Captains Stove and as soon as I done so the Captain remarked why Cherry are you not sick. I told him that I did not feel very well but thought I would get better when I got warmed through good again. He got up and went to his trunk and took out a flask of Brandy and gave me some which helped me as soon as I had taken it. Mrs. Snook²⁵ came in then and she made me some tea with some Brandy and ginger in it which warmed me up very quick. They allso made me stay in there for supper and I got a good one to for our Officers lived at the top of the pile. I remained in the Officers tent until bed time and then went out into my own tent and went to bed and slept soundly and waked up in the morning as

²⁵ Probably the wife of Eden H. Snook, a private in Company B.

well as ever. While we was here an old Irishman by the name of Cannon stole a blanket and sold it for whiskey to an old Frenchman that lived near. He was caught at it and reported to the Captain who immediately ordered him arrested and sent a corporal with six men to get the Blanket and bring it back into camp. The Corprall went and done as he was directed. When the Blanket was returned the Captain put a board upon the theifs back with this inscription on it *I stole a blanket and sold it for whiskey.* He was then put in charge of a corprall and marched all over the whole camp to let the men all read it. After this was done he was put on Guard and made to stand Guard all night. After he was put on Guard he told the Officer of the Guard that if he would come and stand Guard in his place he would bring in sixteen of the finest chickens he ever saw and he could have half. The Officer told him that he was not standing Guard as much as he was. I will bet he wont steal another Blanket very soon again.

Sabath, December 1st. Left camp at James River at seven Oclock and marched seventeen Miles and encamped on the open Pararie near a traders house which was about two miles from timber. This I think was the coldest day I ever experianced. I froze my nose my cheeks and chilled all my fingers on my left hand. We could not keep warm no way we could fix it. We marched some of the way on double quick until we would get out of breath and then we would not be warm. I thought I would certainly freeze before I got whare there was a fire but I got along very well much better than some of my companions. Some of the men froze their feet and could not walk at all the next day. We went out on the bare Paraire to camp. There was not a stick of wood to make a fire with and the

wind was blowing a gale that was sharp enough to shave the hare from ones head and we was standing arround putting up our tents allmost froze. After the teams was unloaded they went for wood but it being two miles off it was some time before they could go that distance and cut it and get back. I dont believe no set of men ever sufferd more than we did that night hungry cold and nothing to warm us, was not a very cheering prospect to us but after the wood came and we got our fires made and our supper cooked and eat we felt better. We all went to bed early and slept comfortably and warm. In fact I never slept more soundly in my life but when we pitched our tents I had no other idea than that some of the men would freeze to death before morning, but we all got up in the morning all right and in the best of spirrits.

Monday, 2nd. Left camp at nine Oclock and marched 13 miles and encamped again on the open Parairie. The day was very pleasent and we had a very pleasent march. We went into camp about two Oclock. We had to bring our wood four miles this time but it was not very cold and we was not as hungry as we was the night before and we did not mind it much. I was sick again to night and was allso on as Seargent of the Guard but could not act. Corporal Snook took my place. I was never much sicker in my life than I was for a while that night. I went up to the Officers tent again to sit beside the stove and Mrs Snook made me another cup of tea that releived me wonderfully. They insisted on me siting up again and eating supper with them but I was so sick that I could not eat. I thanked them kindly and set stil by the stove which apeared very comfortable to me just then. After Mrs. Snook had docterd me up I went into my tent and went to bed. The other boys fixed the blankets in arround me and done

every thing they could to make me comfortable. You may rest ashured that I felt truley thankfull to them for their kindness and hope I may be able to repay them some time for their trouble. If it had not been for the kindness of Mrs. Snook and that of my mess mates that night I would have sufferd more than I did and by the way I will say that Mrs. Snook is the best woman I ever saw. She was like a mother to all of us. When any of us was sick it seemed a pleasure to her to administer to their wants and to try and make them comfortable. Next comes my mess mates I dont beleive there ever a lot of brothers that was more kind to one another than they was. It seemed to be the aim of every one of them to make themselves instruments to add to the comfort of the others and all done every thing we could to make it pleasant for one another. There was not a short word spoken during our whole march. Every thing passed of pleasantly and agreeably to all I think.

Teusday, 3rd. Resumed the march at nine Oclock and marched twenty five miles all the way over an open parairie. We did not see a house tree stone stump or fence or in fact any thing out side of our command but sky and Pararie untill we was within two miles of our camping place. Here we came to a ledge of rocks and some Wigwams and a few Indians. These was the first Indians we had seen. They was quite a curiosity to us all. We encamped on a small Pararie creek this night and had a splendid camp and a good supper.

Wednesday, 4th. Left camp this morning at seven Oclock and marched sixteen miles over the Pararie without seeing a single man or any thing out side of our command. We received orders this morning to take our guns and carry them in order to show our strength (for they

had been hauled in the waggon all the way from Council Bluffs). Pattee went on in the stage the night before and left the command to Capt Mahanna and it was for once conducted right. We passed through the Indian Agency and halted here a short time to rest. We found several white families here which appeared to be very respectable people and well informed. This agency is where the Sioux Indians received their Annuities from the Government. The Agent from all accounts is a rascall and cheats the Indians out of their just dues. The Indians surrounded the Agency about two thousand strong and thretned to burn it. A messenger was sent to this place for troops and Lut Tennet²⁶ went down with about one hundred men and drove off the Indians. This hapened last fall. The Indians went off on a Buffalow hunt and have not returned yet. The Officer of this post dismissed the Agent and had a new one appointed which is no better than the other and there is much dissatisfaction among the Indians. They have made their threts that they will burn the Agency when they return from the hunt and if they atempt that we will have to go down there and attend to them. The interperter says that they can muster eight thousand warriors if they try. This will give us a pretty hard rub but I geus we can manage them. We will give them the best we have at any rate, and that is as good as any one can do. We encamped on the Bottom about two miles from the Agency and the camp was full of Indians. They was all well armed and equiped but are in a state of starvation allmost. When our Guard was mounted they was told to *pick a chee* which means to leave. They understood and left very soon after getting the orders. They did not apear to like this much

²⁶ Lieutenant Thomas R. Tannatt was in command of the regular troops at Fort Randall.

but if we had let them stay in camp untill after dark they would have stole every thing we had. You bet the Boys that was on Guard kept their eye peeled that night and walked their beat pretty steady to. The boys was in high glee to night to think they was so near Randall we being only sixteen miles from that place.

Thursday, 5th. Left camp at nine O'clock and marched to Fort Randall D. T. We marched about seven miles and then crossed the river on the ice. We lost our road before we got to the river and did not know whare to go so we got an Indian for a guide and he took us through all right. We arrived at this place about three O'clock on the 5th of December 1861. When we got near the place we was met by Capt Pattee who told us that we would be obliged to go into camp two days there in the woods to give the Regulars time to get out of the quarters. We did not like this much but had to make the best of it so we set up our tents again and went to work cooking our supper after the old fashion. We remand in camp that night and the next day and the next untill about noon when we went up and took possion of our own quarters. The Regulars left on the sixth. We went out in full rig to see them off and gave them three hearty cheerres and they in turn gave three for the Iowa Vollenteers. On the night of the fifth we all received an invitation to attend the Theatre and of course we accepted and all went up and was very agreably entertained. The performance was very good as good as ever I saw. At the close the actors sang a song they had composed for the Ocassion called a well-come to the Iowa Vollenteers which was very good and was cheered loudly by us all. So ended our first night at Fort Randall. We keep up the theatre still but I have not attended it yet. They say it is very good. They had a

performance last night. It is free to all. Besides this we have a Lyceum which is well attended and is very interesting. The subject that was discussed last Thursday night was resolved that Wimmin should have the right of suffrage. I was on the affirmative of this question and got beat to. It was decided in favour of the negative. The question for the next evening is resolved that the Perusal of fictitious works is beneficial. I am on the affirmative of this also. I think I can substantiate my part of this argument. We also have a Sabbath School which is well attended. Capt Mahanna is the Superintendent and L. A. Martin is one of our teachers. It is very interesting. We also have a Good Templars lodge. I do not belong to it and of course can not tell you much about it. We have a Billiard room and two splendid Tables. In fact we have all all we could ask for to amuse ourselves with we also have a good Library containing about two hundred volumes of very interesting works. We have a Sutters store with a good stock of goods and things is as reasonable as we could expect to get them. We can get any thing we want as well without the money as with it. It is entered on the books and taken from our wages. Our quarters are very comfortable and convenient each room is eighteen feet square and is occupied by sixteen men. There is a double Bunk in each corner which will accommodate four men two below and two above. We have all the blankets we need. Our rooms are cealed up in the inside with matched cedar which makes them as warm as if they was plastered. We have a good large stove in the centre of the room and plenty of good wood to burn. We also have looking glasses combs brushes and all things needed to make ourselves look slick. We have good Boxes to keep our clothes in to keep them from the dust. We have wash

Pans towells watter buckets brooms ash Pans shovls
pokers and a full kit of things to keep house with. We
take our regular turns at keeping the room in order.
Archie is on duty in the room to day and it looks as neat
as a *school marm*. My clothes are all whole my socks have
not got a hole in them yet. We have large army over
coats now that we received since we came here. They are
heavy cloth of a sky blue collar. They come down below the
knee and have a large cape that comes down to the *waist* so
we are warmly clothed. The weather has not been very cold
since we came here the coldest it has been was down to
twenty below *zero*. We have had no snow of any acount.
We have about an inch of snow now and that is the most
we have had. We get plenty to eat and more then we can
eat. I have about a half a loaf of bread in my box now
that I could not eat in the morning. We have Beefe or
Pork Bread and Coffie. We have Beefe three days in the
week and pork four days. When we have pork we have rice
in our soupe when we have Beefe we have Beans. We
have an excellent cook and our fare is allso good. On
sabath days we have warm buiscut roast Beefe and Pie
and molassas this is quite a treat to us but we all got it
at home and thought nothing of it. Well we will learn to
apreciate a good home when we get back. Several of
Co. B have been promoted since we come here. Our second
Seargent Trask has been promoted to Seargent. Major
J. T. Crouse has the apointment of asistant Commissary.
C. M. Bell is apointed overseer over the saw mill which
is a splendid thing. It is the best mill I ever saw. It cost
about \$40,000. It is not in operation at pressent however
there being no need of lumber at the post. The duty
here is not very hard. Privates only comes on duty once
in two weeks or once in fourteen days corprals comes on

once in nine days and the Seargants once in twelve days. I am on duty to morrow my duty is not very hard however. I need not go out of the Guard house from morning till night only to go to my meals. I tell you a small petty Office is better than none, it exemps one from Guard duty which is quite an item *I tell you*. We get the mail here on Wednsdays and Saturdays, twice a week. I dont know as there is any thing more to tell you about my tramp to this place. I will give you a list of my room mates. It is this A. R. Cherry Seargant L. A. Martin Corprall J. M. Welling Corprall S. P. Hughes A. R. Clearman S. F. Adair R. F. Thompson W. T. Boyd W. A. McCaddon I. C. Jepson E. L. Pinney J. T. Crouse A. L. McNeil Alex Ruth Samuel and Wm Waldron. Dont you think we have a good mess? I think so at least. They are all fine fellows I can tell you that. I received a letter from Tom Piney one from Amos Ross one from James Shaw and one from James and Dunwiddie. The mail came in to day but nothing for me. Amos Ross wrote that he was in the oil Business and was making money. He said he had cleared \$2000 in eight days he bought it for \$2.50 and sold it for \$7.90

Fort La Framboise Dakota Territory

Thursday Night May 7th/63

Friends at home.

Our mail arrived here this afternoon from Fort Randall much to our gratification I assure you and in it I received two letters from home which was as ever wellcome. One was from Ellisia of April 6th the other from Father and Mother of the 24th. I received letters from Lieut Culver Abbie Libbi James Miss McCrenney and one from Crouse

at Fort Randall, who is now acting commissary Sergt or a. a. c. S. as it is called in the Military phraseology. I was pleased to hear of cousin James Culvers visit and that he had located near you for a time at least. I hope he may like it and remain in Iowa and finally make it his home in the glorious Parerie State. Give him my respects and tell him to write me and I will answer promptly. I was pained to hear of Mr. Wigtens illness. I hope he may yet recover to serve his country in the field or at least return to his home to enjoy the benefits of a peace, when it shall be brought about. I seen a letter from Sergt major Trask clerk for Gen Cook at Sioux City which stated that the 6th Cavalry was expected soon at Sioux City and that a Boat had arrived there with 6000 rations and that another boat was expected every day. He speaks in high terms of Gen Cook and staff and says he thinks the men will like him. I am glad to hear of that. He allso stated that the two companies of the 41st at Fort Randall and perhaps Co B would accompany the expedition against the Indians. This is good news. Another rumor says we have been transfered to the 7th Iowa Cavalry. This is allso good news but not at all reliable. I shall be glad when more troops arrive and we shall have company, and this for more than one reason to. There was some Indians arrived here some time ago and reported the *Unk pa pas Sans Arks* and *Black Feet* Sioux all coming in to trade and trouble is feared with them but we feel confident that we can hold our position against any odds.

These Indians made a feast when they came in and told the Yanktonais that they ought to leave here and make those fellows with blue coats leave allso. The Yanktonais informed them they should not leave and that they was going to stand by the traders who had befrended and fed

them all winter and that the Soldiers had treated them well and they would fight with them and all die together. Thus you will see the Yanktonais are on our side. They number about two hundred Lodges and about eight hundred Warriors. They have allways befrended the whites and are treated very kind by them in turn.

On the first the detachment gave a feast to the fool band who figured so conspicuously in the rescue of those white prisoners from the Santees.²⁷ There was only six of the fool band there however all the rest being off on a hunt—I will give you the name of some of them that did not belong to the fool band. First, *Young Bears rib* whose father was killed while defending the whites at Fort Peirre last spring a noble yong man. Next was *Drag the Rock, White Crane and White Halk* (or) *Two Lance* (as he is sometimes called). These three was the ones who went up after that little girl last winter. Next was *Bone necklace* the head chief of the Yanktonais here. *Scratch* was allso present a noted chief of the tribe. Asside from these was the six of the fool band and allso red Dog, and *Red Vine* and *Crazy Dog*.

All these Indians went after prisoners the first time except *Young Bears rib* and *crazy dog*. *Crazy Dog* was the one who bought the little girl for white crane and the two others that went from here last winter. He was camped near the Santees. He gave his only horse for her and then bid them come away with her and he remained to try and buy the other prisoners and after trying in vain him and his squaw came down here three hundred miles on foot and had a large dog to carry his provission for him. What do you think of that friends. Is not that a

²⁷ For an account of the rescue of the captives by the Fool Band of the Sioux see Pattee's *Dakota Campaigns* in the *South Dakota Historical Collections*, Vol. V, pp. 286, 287, 350.

patern of principle and feeling worthy of being immitated by white men. Need I say crazy dog is allways well-come to our quarters and our table. I wish you could have been at the feast and seen them all arround the table. They were waited upon by the soldiers with as much gusto as could be expected of an Astor House *ebony* white apron. Drag the rock and *Bone nec Lace* made short speeches which was full of warning and friendship and assured us that when these Indians came from above they would be on our side and fight with us in the fort. My time is haf up and over and I think I can stand it a short time and one year and a half if nessisary. I will wait with patience at any rate. I was glad you thought so much of my communication to the Union Village Journal. I feered it might not be worthy of a place in the collums of that sheet. Glad it was axcepted however. I have writen several communications to the Press at Iowa City. Have you seen them? I have received all the papers containing them. I will take mothers advice concerning my corespondents and not get fast so I cannot untie it with my teeth, but what of *Wapello and a union* tell me please. I was glad to hear of so much improvement at the old homestead by way of trees and shrubery. Keep on and I wont know the old place when I return but I think I can find out where Cherry lives.

I had a letter from Cleveland in the 22nd this mail. It was quite friendly. They were at Vixburgh or near there. I am glad to hear that you have got a good minister. I hope he may suit the old foggies and allso the fashionable people and serve such a jargle as has allways been kept up in that church.

The Boys are nearly all in good health only two cases of sickness both of these are *scurvy* and I am sorry to

say Archie is one of the *victims*. It is not bad and I think by Dr————care they will get better. I hope so at least.

Archie never hears from home at all never has had but 2 letters from home since he entered the service. I know he is lonesome and anxious and would like to hear from them. He always asks about you all at home there as if he was one of the family and I show him all your letters. I do wish you would all write to him. Some of you write every little while. It would do him good I know. Wont you do it for a fellow soldier of mine and an old friend.

I remain your most obdt.

Amos

Paper is scarce you will preceive.

Fort La Framboise Dakota Territory

Sabath July 5th/63

Friends at home.

Yesterday our mail arrived but I received "narry" a letter from home, or any other place much to my disappointment. I will write one however home, for your perusal. Perhaps you can gather some information from it.

I am well and killing time as well as I can under existing circumstances which are anything but pleasant or favorable, for it becomes my duty to announce the death of two of my fellow soldiers since the 28th of June. Ed Pinney died on that day and died very sudenly. He was not very well on the 27th but was up arround all the time and eat his meals with the rest of the boys on the morning of the 28th. The team was going to Fort Peirre and he said he would go down and get some medicin he rode down and talked laughed and joked and got out of the wagon himself and walked into the Hospital and was to all appearances no worse until about half past five that evening

when he was taken with a congestive chill and died at ten minutes past six that night—this sad occurrence has cast a gloom over the whole Co. but he was not the last victim.

Rusell Bartlett went to the Hospital the same day Ed was buried and died in the same way on the 2nd of July. Very sudden also. The Dr was much down hearted at this sad state of affairs and has got the co in very good health again.

He issued an Order that no buiscuit should be eat, and no bacon but plenty of beef. That there should be roll call at 4 O'clock in the morning drill at fifteen minutes past four breakfast at five dinner at 12 O'clock supper at five and drill again at six in the evening roll call at nine at night taps at quarter past nine and no sleeping in day time at all. That we must exercise more. That is the kind of a Dr he is worth his weight in gold. Samuel Waldron is now in Hospital but is nearly well. Will be ready for duty in a few days. I am in hopes so at least.

All the other boys from Pleasant Valley are well, and in good spirits.

We received Orders to cross the river when the transport "*Belle Perarie*" arrived here with supplies. It is now expected here every hour. It left Randall before the mail did and it reached here last night. The Order read as follows the steamer "*Belle Perarie*" will proceed to Fort Peirre and land her cargo at a point about three miles above and oppisit. The Co of Wisconsin troops on board will land and guard the supplies. Co B 41st Regt Iowa Vol. will cross on the boat and encamp with the other Co and *await Orders*. The ranking Officer wil assume command of the whole.

by Order of Brig Gen A. C. Sully.

So you will see we will cross as soon as this boat arrives which I hope will be soon—The entire expedition under Gen Sully is now this side of Randall as it was there when the mail left. It is expected here in a day or two. Lieut Col Pattee is Ordered to Sioux City to command this district in the absence of Gen Sully. His head Qrs will be at Sioux City Iowa. What will be done with us is more than I can tell now. I cant even geus any where near it. Time will tell. I dont know of any more news at this time so I will stop. There is two disserters from the 6th Iowa Cavalry to be shot at Randall soon so some of the boys wrote up here to me. Good for them. You please all write soon and write to Archie. He gets no letters from any person and he inquires after you every mail. Write to him wont you at home and oblige.

Your most obdt

Ame

Fort La Framboise July 10th/63 *Morning*

There has been no boat here yet and we cannot tell why it is not here. Our Co under command of Lieut Col Pattee starts down the river on sabath morning. We will go to Peirre and cross the river and camp that night and start the next morning for Randall if we dont meet the General before. The Cavalry under Maj Ten Broecke²⁸ will follow one day in our rear. We leave on the account of being out of rations having only 6 days rations on hands, to take us to Randall short allowance. The Col leaves without orders. He says he wont keep men here any longer.

I have a Robe that Mr. La Framboise²⁹ gave me and

²⁸ Edward P. Ten Broeck was appointed major in the Sixth Iowa Cavalry on October 21, 1862. He was made lieutenant colonel on June 22, 1864.

²⁹ Probably Francois La Framboise, a nephew of Joseph La Framboise, who was in charge of the fort.

Archie has one. We will pack them up with the other boys robes and send them to Luse and Brother at Iowa City where you can get them. Mine is marked T. W. Cherry. Archies is marked J. S. Cherry. You can call there and get them. If there should be any back charges you can pay them there.

Tuesday, July 5, 1864.³⁰

Broke camp at 4 O'clock and marched 32 miles to Beaver Creek. Fine creek. Men and Horses very tired indeed. Ox team did not get in until long after dark. Rear Guard with it. Some Rain to night. Passed Goose Lake. Nice Lake stoney Shores.

Wednesday 6

Left camp at 7 O'clock. Morning quite rainy. Had time getting cross creek over two hours crossing. Crossed a very bad creek on road. Bridged it with grass and dirt. Camped at 2 O'clock. No wood. *Chips* used for fuel for the first time since starting good wood. Day fine.

³⁰ The expedition under General Sully left Fort Sully on June 28, 1864. The Sixth Iowa Cavalry, Lieutenant Colonel Samuel M. Pollock commanding; three companies of the Seventh Iowa Cavalry, Lieutenant Colonel John Pattee commanding; two companies of the First Dakota Cavalry, commanded by Captain Nelson Miner; four companies of Minnesota cavalry, known as Brackett's Minnesota Battalion, commanded by Major Alfred B. Brackett; an independent company of Indian scouts, commanded by Captain Christian Stuft; and a battery, under Captain Nathaniel Pope, made up the First Brigade. In the Second Brigade, commanded by Colonel Minor F. Thomas, were ten companies of the Eighth Minnesota Infantry, under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Henry C. Rogers; six companies of the Second Minnesota Cavalry under Colonel Robert N. McLaren; and two sections of the Third Minnesota Battery, under Captain John Jones. The whole force numbered about 2200 men.—*War of the Rebellion: Official Records*, Series I, Vol. XLI, Pt. 1, pp. 131, 142; English's *Dakota's First Soldiers in South Dakota Historical Collections*, Vol. IX, pp. 273, 274.

Thursday 7

Lay in camp. Genl came from B[illegible]. Encamped 12 miles from Missouri. Day fine. 2d Brigade³¹ overtook us camped on our right.

Friday, July 8, 1864

Broke camp at 3 O'clock and marched 15 miles. Camped on Mo. at mouth of Tiny Lake Creek. Country very hilly and rough to day. Creek very bad to cross. New camp. Three Steamers at landing opposite here. Post to be established called *Fort Rice*. Good timber and any amount of it. 4 companies of 300 here.

Saturday 9

Crossed the River and camped near the site of Fort Rice. Fine camp in sight of ruins of old Rea Village on East Bank of River about 2 miles above Rice. Eight steamers here.

Sunday 10

Still in camp. 2d Brigade crossing River on U S Grant and Tempest. Detail for Bridge go out. Genl himself at their head.

Monday, July 11, 1864.

Co K men kill three Buffalo and some antilopes. Day fine. Visited Co F 30th Wis. Good time.

Tuesday 12

Still in camp.

Wednesday 13

Still in camp.

Thursday, July 14, 1864

Still in camp.

Friday 15

Still in camp.

³¹ The Second Brigade mobilized at Fort Ridgely and marched overland to unite with the First Brigade on the Missouri, a distance of 332 miles.—*War of the Rebellion: Official Records, Series I, Vol. XLI, Pt. 1, pp. 38, 39.*

Saturday 16

Still Laying in Camp, getting impatient for a move of some kind. Grass getting scarce. Chas M. Beal arrested for stealing money from J. Junk and Charlie [illegible].

Sunday, July 17, 1864.

Grand review of whole Command in Rear of the Camp of 2d Brigade. 30th Wis out with Knapsacks on. Genl calls them damned fools with trunks on, &c. Day awfull hot.

Monday 18

Still in camp. Expect to start tomorrow. Day very warm, indeed.

Tuesday 19

Broke camp at 3 O'clock and Marched 20 miles and camped on Cannon Ball River. Fine stream about the size of *Black Creek*. Very strange hills seen on Right today. Day very hot. Grass poor, indeed.

Wednesday, July 20, 1864.

Left camp on Cannon Ball at 4 O'clock. Day fine with Showers. Marched 20 miles to *Three Beauts* [Three Buttes].³² Fine camp. Good wood but watter tremendius scarce. Bought pair of Boots for \$7.00 of Capt. King formerly of Sully's Staff, now Sutler. Country very rough and hilly to day.

Thursday 21

Left camp at *3 Beauts*, at 3 O'clock marched 19 miles. Camped on Cannon Ball River. Day very hot. Roads rough and hilly bad ravines to cross &c.

Friday 22

Left camp at 4 O'clock. Marched 22 miles and camped on a fine stream of watter. Day fine good grass no wood at all. No more corn for our Horses.

³² Three Buttes is in Grant County, North Dakota.

Saturday, July 23, 1864.

Marched 19 miles Camped on Branch of Cannon Ball river. Day awfull hot. Hard march several creeks to cross much delay. All day going 19 miles. Camped on fine bottom. Watter poor, night pleasant. Co L on duty as flunkers. Today crossed sand hill before coming into camp.

Sunday 24

Left camp at 3 Oclock and marched over a fine country. Very levell and excellent grass. Marched 25 miles. Encamped on Heart River Small Stream about as Large as *Black Creek* fine clear watter with gravell bottom. Grass poor. Dusty camp with Brigades close together.

Monday 25th

Laid in Camp all day fixing for trip to Knife River and Kill Deer Mountains³³ after Indians.

Tuesday, July 26, 1864.

Left Camp at Heart River at noon for Knife River. Day very hot. Marched 20 miles and camped on small stream where Scouts had had a fight today nearly a mile in our advance. Capt of Scouts drunk ordered retreat. Lt ordered forward. Capt drew revolver &c. No fires to be built tonight. Maj Bracket runs the Capt of Scouts with saber drawn.

Wednesday 27

Left camp after sleeping on the ground without Blanket or tent all night beside our horses. At 3 Oclock march 18 miles. Camp at 2 Oclock. Camped on Knife river. Fine camp. No fires to burn. Capt Pell curses Co L for having fire.

³³ Also known as Tahkahokuty Mountain.

³⁴ For a description of this battle see General Sully's report in *War of the Rebellion: Official Records*, Series I, Vol. XLI, Pt. 1, pp. 142, 143.

Thursday 28

Left camp at Heart River at 3 O'clock marched 12 miles. Scouts discover Sioux camp. Line of battle³⁴ formed. 6th on Right 7th in center 8th Min on left all dismounted Bracket support 6th. Dakota & Battery the 7th. 2d Min Cav 8th Min Infy. All march forward fight the Indians 6 hours kill 150. Loss 3 men killed 12 wounded. Bracket makes saber charge on them.

Friday, July 29, 1864.

Spent in burning Lodges and property of Sioux³⁵. 1600 Lodges burned 50 tons of dried meat destroyed woods set on fire and we leave good Springs on Bluffs. Many dogs shot. Today ten companies at work all day. Camped tonight about 5 miles from battle field. 2 men killed by Indians on Picket. Men ran away from spring of water. Sergt of Co E 6th Iowa killed on Picket by one of his own men.

Saturday 30

Left camp early and marched 25 miles. Camped at noon on fine creek of water. Good grass and abundance of it. Dry hot and dusty.

Sunday 31

Left camp early and marched to Heart River again, distance 25 miles. Heavy thunder storm as we were coming into Camp. No tents here yet all at Corral. Everything wet and every body cold. Camped near our old camp at Corral.

Monday, August 1, 1864.

Still in camp on Heart River. Day fine after the rain. Corn issued to animals which were out in rain and at Fight on Knife River.

³⁵ A report of this destruction of the Sioux village is given by Colonel R. N. McLaren of the Second Minnesota Cavalry.—*War of the Rebellion: Official Records*, Series I, Vol. XLI, Pt. 1, pp. 172, 173.

Tuesday 2

Still in camp. Day fine Lt. Col Pattee kicks one of Provost guard out of camp a corporal, for telling one of our men he lied.

Wednesday 3

Left camp near Heart River. Marched 19 miles. Camped on Heart River further up. Day hot. Watter very scarce indeed.

Thursday, August 4, 1864.

Left camp at Heart River and marched 21 miles. Camped on Branch of Knife River again but far to left of our route to *Battle field*. Fine Camp poor grass good watter.

Friday 5

Left camp marched 26 miles. Day very warm. Road very rough, and poor water. Camped in Range of hills called *Mauva Terres* or *Bad Lands*. Watter scarce and far from camp down a steep hill. On watter squad to night good joke on me.

Saturday 6

Left camp at 4 Oclock and marched 13 miles through one of the awfulest countries you ever saw to *Little Missouri* River distance 13 miles. All day going it. Good camp tonight. Fine stream of watter. Plenty of wood left in old camp by Indians last winter. *Pinney Wood*.

Sunday, August 7, 1864.

Battalion of 7th Iowa and detail from other Regts all under Lt. Col Pattee making Roads through hills for train tomorrow. Worked all day. Got 6 miles. Reached where it was some better. Could see day light out the other side. Co K caught in creek by Indians &c, Co L on Picket all day. Some Horses stolen by Indians from 2d Brigade.

Monday 8

Left camp early this morning crossed *Little Mo.* and marched 8 miles fighting all day. Both Batteries at work all the time. Many Indians killed to day. Awfull country for an army to pass through. Rear Guard attacked. 7th Iowa go to support them. Indians draw off. Camped near Pond much worn out all around. Corn issued.

Tuesday 9

Left camp early and marched about 15 miles and camped on open Prairie again near creek or Pond of watter. Very good. Good camp grass scarce however. Fighting all day. 100 horses shot by rear guard. One guide shot to day and carried to ambulance. Great alarm of Indians to night—false alarm.

Wednesday, August 10, 1864.

Left Camp early and marched 19 miles. Camped on Beaver River. Good Watter. Much Sage brushes where we camped. *Col Pollock & Capt Marsh* quarrell about ordering the Battery across River. Orderly Berry Lee & Hull got quite happy to night. Very well Educated indeed.

Thursday 11

Broke camp early. Co L in advance. Capt giving Orderly fits for not having all ready. Orderly tight night before. Slow in moving finally got started. Not a particle of grass all day or watter. March 29 miles. Camp at 9 Oclock at night. Watter much *alkili*. Many Horses give out in road. Watter as bitter as gall. Cant drink the coffie.

Friday 12

Left camp about noon and marched 10 miles to the *Yellow Stone River*. No grass at all to day. None at yellow stone. Cut cotton wood brush for horses tonight.

Col and some men go and get corn from Boat about 2 miles off after night. Pure stream clear and cold very swift current indeed 2 Steamers here. First seen up river.

Saturday, August 13, 1864.

Crossed the *Yellow Stone* this after noon things carried in Boat. Horses and riders swim over also wagons and teams. Several teams drowned. Three men drowned 2 soldiers and an Emigrant. They cross in water tight wagon Boxes. 6th Iowa cross in night—Genl curses terribly because the Boats were so slow. Very much mixed up. Many things lost altogether.

Sunday 14

Left camp at 3 O'clock and marched 8 miles and camped at the mouth of a creek where there was an abundance of good grass. Horses fill themselves good. Buffalo shot near camp 2 Brigade cross the River. Idaho³⁶ cross also.

Monday 15

Left Camp at 6 O'clock after grasing horses 2 hours. Day fine and cool. Good grass and any amount of it. Camped near the river twelve miles from the mouth.

Tuesday, August 16, 1864.

Laid in Camp all day. Felt quite unwell all day. A party of hunters sent out kill several Elk and deer report abundance of game. Went about 5 miles down River. Train sent back to where we crossed after Stores to lighten *Steamer over Bar*.

Wednesday 17

Our Battalion left Camp by itself and marched to opposite Fort Union. Day fine. No grass at all. Camped in willows that night on bank of River. Corn issued to

³⁶ A train of emigrants bound for the gold fields of Idaho accompanied the Second Brigade.—*War of the Rebellion: Official Records, Series I, Vol. XLI, Pt. 1, p. 168.* English's *Dakota's First Soldiers in South Dakota Historical Collections, Vol. IX, p. 279.*

horses much of it stolen besides. German McCardle drowned yesterday.

Thursday 18

Crossed River. Arms and Equipment carried over in "Yawl". Horses swim accross river. All pass safly. Fort Union³⁷ is very pretty place indeed nice painted in fine style. Col of 30th well contented. Indians line [?] up over white mens grave. Go into camp near two miles from Fort. Brackett after Indians.

Friday, August 19, 1864.

Left camp at 5 Oclock and marched one mile and camped near the river and near the ruins of old Fort Williams.³⁸ Sun dried Bricks roofs all caved in. Big Pit near by where many Indians was burried from Small pox. Skuls visible now. 150 burried in one hole. Received orders at twelve to move down River 5 miles.

Saturday 20

Left camp at 12 and moved down about 5 miles and camped on bank of the River. Good grass and fine camp. Made Landing for Steamer and unloaded the train and loaded it on the Boat again. Capt. Tripp with us. One Co of 2d Brigade here before us. Said they were the advance guard of their Brigade. After grass I guess.

Sunday 21

Still in Camp. Whole Command arrived. Genl & Staff

³⁷ Fort Union was on the north bank of the Missouri River, not far from the mouth of the Yellowstone River. It was a post of the American Fur Company. A company of the Thirtieth Wisconsin was stationed here at the time of the Sully expedition.—Chittenden's *The American Fur Trade in the Far West*, Vol. III, pp. 958, 959; *War of the Rebellion: Official Records*, Series I, Vol. XLI, Pt. 1, p. 149.

³⁸ Fort William was also on the left bank of the Missouri River opposite the mouth of the Yellowstone River. It was established in 1833 by Sublette and Campbell and abandoned a year later when this company sold out to the American Fur Company.—Chittenden's *The American Fur Trade in the Far West*, Vol. III, p. 960.

arrive at 10 O'clock day fine. Many sage hens. Boys have fine sport shooting them.

Monday, August 22, 1864.

Left camp after Loading Steamer. Marched 15 miles. Camped on Bottom near River. Day fine showers about 4 O'clock. Grass good. Fine camp. Guide hired at Union to guide us to *Berthold*.³⁹ Good guide *half Breed*.

Tuesday 23

Left camp after grasing about an hour and marched about 8 miles and camped at noon on "*Big Muddy*".⁴⁰ Poor watter. Grass good. Fine camp. Pleasant day but some windy. Passed Medicine poles of Indians when they had the small pox. Clothes still up in crotch of them. All their new goods put there.

Wednesday 24

Left camp at 4 O'clock and marched 24 miles. Camped on Bottom near the River. Good Watter near camp not far to River. Any abundance of good grass. Night very cold indeed. Camp very compact and close.

Thursday, August 25, 1864.

Left camp at 4 O'clock and marched 22½ miles and camped on Little Muddy. Grass poor and scarce. Watter poor. Much *alkili*. Rough country again. Camped up in hills about one mile from River. Go along narrow pass at foot of hills wide enough for one team at a time. Genl Sully curses guards in advance for hunting without orders.

Friday 26

Left camp at 4 O'clock and marched 12 miles & camped on River good watter of course. Good grass to day. Grase often. Horses gaining again. Country Rough but

³⁹ Fort Berthold was built by the American Fur Company in 1845 on the left bank of the Missouri River in what is now McLean County, North Dakota.—*South Dakota Historical Collections*, Vol. I, pp. 359, 360.

⁴⁰ This was the Missouri River.

some better than yesterday. Horses and men in good trim. Good camp. Good grass. Crossed Large Indian trail to day. Col and Maj Wood go to Steamer.

Saturday 27

Left camp at 4 O'clock and marched 20 miles and camped on river. Good camp and plenty of good grass and water. No signs of hostile Indians.

Sunday, August 28, 1864.

Left camp at 3 O'clock and marched 25 miles and camped on small creek three miles above Fort Berthold. Fine camp good grass and water. Plenty of Indians from Fort in camp. Day fine. Lt Col Pattee on Board Steamer sick.

Monday 29

Laid in camp all day. Put in good time sleeping making up lost time. Genl Sully and Indian Rees & Grosvents have a big council. Indians friendly disposed. Genl promised them that he will be here in the Spring again. Co G left at Berthold.

Tuesday 30

Broke camp at 5 O'clock and Marched 12 Miles. Camped on River near Berthold. 5 miles below. Fine camp—any abundance of grass.

Wednesday, August 31, 1864.

Left camp near Fort Berthold and marched to mouth of Snake creek distance 20 miles. Good Roads and good feed and water, pleasant camp. Troops mustered at 4 O'clock. Camp near the river.

Thursday, September 1

Start for Maison du chien. Left camp on Snake creek and marched 22 miles and camped on two Large Lakes. Saw immense herds of Buffalow all day estimated at 10 thousand. Hunting Party sent out of 24 men on foot on

arrival in camp. Lake much muddy from Buffalow. Grass all fed off &c.

Friday 2

Left camp very Early and marched 22 miles. Camped near Maison du chien a high hill about 2 Miles Long. Some of Officers of Genls Staff went to top of hill about 6 miles distant. Saw for 30 miles each way. No signs of Indians at all. Buffalow in every direction except to north. Watter very poor. Sick [?] Buffalow dying [?] in pond.

Saturday, September 3, 1864.

Left camp early and took up our March in direction of Fort Rice D. T. about 60 miles distant. Passed over hilly country. Many Lakes. Heavy rain and wind. Command thoroughly wet through. Horses wheeled into Line when halted. Saw immense herds of Buffalow all day. Hunting parties out killed great many of them. Run them into collumn. Great many arrested by Provost. Co L on advance guard today.

Sunday 4

Laid in camp all day on fine Lake of watter. No wood. Much trouble cooking. Buffalow chips wet from last nights rain. Co L no Breakfast. Invited to eat with Lt. Courtwright Co. We did so. Good meal. Bitters before Eating. Made monthly return for August to day. Lt. Col Pattee Cooper and Ryan Hunting.

Monday 5

Left camp early and marched about 20 miles and camped on fine creek. Either *Apple River* or *Painted Wood*. Day very cool with high wind all day. Immense herds of Buffalow seen all day. Grass good all day.

Tuesday, September 6, 1864.

Left camp on *Painted Wood* and Marched 23 Miles

through a drenching Rain. All wet and much fatigued. Left the 2d Brigade far in rear. Many Horses and Mules give out. Several Battery Horses give out. Horses put in co teams in place of mules give out. Went into Camp. No watter and no wood except some Indian wood. Old Indian camp. Good fire and good supper.

Wednesday 7

Left camp early. Day very fine. Camped on Apple Creek near Sibleys⁴¹ old camp of last year. Good camp. Excellent watter. Crossed Sibleys old trail. Very dim indeed. Col & Capt Cooper crossed down to Sibleys Camp &c.

Thursday 8

Left camp at 3 O'clock and marched 18 miles and camped on high piece of table land overlooking the River. Good grass. River near at Hand. Passed 2d Brigade in camp about 3 miles back. They in good camp. Genl gone on to Fort Rice Col Pollock in command. About 8 miles from Rice.

Friday, September 9, 1864.

Left camp at 6 O'clock. Marched about 12 miles and camped on the River Bank about 2 miles below Fort Rice. Heard of Capt Fisk's⁴² trip and fight at White Beaut. Col Dille sends all our men left sick at Fort Rice D. T. also their Horses. Genl very mad. Went to Rice with Col after dark. Got mail today.

Saturday 10

Still in camp. Men to be sent to the Relief of Capt Fisk and party. 100 men from 7th Iowa. Day very

⁴¹ General Henry H. Sibley had made a campaign in this region in 1863.

⁴² James L. Fisk was in command of an emigrant train which had been attacked by the Indians. He was captain in the United States army on special duty.—*War of the Rebellion: Official Records*, Series I, Vol. XLI, Pt. 1, pp. 132, 151-154, 169, 795.

pleasant indeed. Went to Fort after dark with mail. Corpl Poland goes along. Good fellow. Col gone to Rice not back tonight. Detachment leave for Cap Fisk.

Sunday 11

Still in camp. Good grass and watter. Wood getting scarce. Very high wind indeed all day. Col not back yet. 100 Men go from Battalion to the Relief of Capt Fisk. Col Dill Comds Expedition 1000 Men.

Monday, September 12, 1864.

Laid in camp all day. Day very warm and pleasant. Visited "*Rice*". Saw Sergt Cumby [?]. Presented with Pair of Pants of which I was much in need, also. Bottle of nice grape Jelly. Very nice. Fine visit. Billy bully fellow. Returned to camp with 2nd Lt of Neb Scouts. Good fellow.

Tuesday 13

In camp all day. Day very cool and somewhat rainy. Detail gone up to build Boats for men in *Rain* [?].

Wednesday 14

Laid in camp all day. Fine day.

Thursday, September 15, 1864.

Still in camp. Fine day.

Friday 16

Still in camp. Day fine. Lt. Luse goes aboard of *Chippewa Falls Sick*.

Saturday 17

Still in camp. Very windy and cold. Sand flew at a terrible rate filling tents and cooking utensils full of sand. No cooking done today being impossible. Capt Cooper goes aboard of *Chippewa Falls Sick*.

Sunday, September 18, 1864.

Still in camp. Fine day. Cooking again resumed. Something to eat again. Tents cleaned out again, &c, &c. Laid around camp and slept all day.

Monday 19

Pleasant day. Visited Fort Rice in co with Corpl Poland took Super with Sergt Cumbey [?] Co F 30th Wis. Vol.⁴³ Fine time. Called on our boys building Boats also on Lt. Col. Pattee who was at the Fort. Fine Boats. Sergt Emerson and Amlong arrive from Sully with dispatch. Atlanta taken by Sherman. Alabama troops at Sioux City Iowa.

Tuesday 20

In camp all day feel quite bad. Threatened with fever. Move in tent at Head Quarters to get out of Gray Backs, &c.

Wednesday, September 21, 1864.

Laid in camp all day. Felt quite sick all day and all last night. Day pleasant. One Sergt killed by Indians from Co L 6th Iowa. Corpl Thompson escaped by swimming river to the Fort. Scouting Parties out after the Indians &c. Got corn for our horses. 4 P[illegible].

Thursday 22

Laid in camp all day. Very unwell. Cold chills all day. Day very raw and cold.

Friday 23

Laid in camp all day. Quite unwell. Cold chills and soreness in my whole person. Continued quite sick all day.

Saturday, September 24, 1864.

Day cold and raw with some wind. Felt very badly all day. Suffered very much with *head ache* an awfull *head ache*. Went to Dr. Bardwells and received Quinine which only made it worse, than before.

⁴³ Five companies of the Thirtieth Wisconsin Infantry were stationed at Fort Rice.—*War of the Rebellion: Official Records*, Series I, Vol. XLI, Pt. 1, p. 135.

Sunday 25

Laid in camp all day. Suffered all day again and all last night with an awfull pain in head. Got better at night some.

Monday 26

Laid in camp all day. Felt quite unwell and suffered much from pain in head. Mail arrived today. *Schells Woman* comes up on mail to see her pimp *Jim Franks*.

Tuesday, September 27, 1864.

In camp again felt much better to day. Party of men hauling hay from "Cannon Ball River" attack[ed]. One Sergt Killed and one man wounded. Parties of Indians seen in several places crossing the river below where our horses are grasing &c. Capt. Fisk heard from. Messengers from Col Dill arrive out 70 miles. Much rejoicing in camp.

Wednesday 28

Still in Camp. Received Orders to draw rations for down trip. An extra team and wagon issued to each co. to day. Mail leaves. *Schells woman* on board. *Hipple & Hinchliffe* Co L and Irish Co M Tompkins Co K go down as escort. Amlong and Emmerson also return with it to Fort Sully.

Thursday 29

Still in Camp. Start below tomorrow morning. Visited Fort Rice today. Called on Billy Cumbey and friends of Co F.

Friday, September 30, 1864.

Left camp for Sully all in high glee over an order to march. Ambulance train from Col Dill got in last night. Report many sick. Command get in to day. Met mail with Old Brigher⁴⁴ 8 mile out from Camp marched fifteen miles and camped near Beaver Creek. Good Camp.

⁴⁴ Possibly this is James Bridger, who sometimes acted as a guide for the troops.—*War of the Rebellion: Official Records*, Series I, Vol. XLVIII, Pt. 1, p. 256.

Saturday, October 1

Left camp and marched 37 miles. Camped at Du Bois Creek. Reached camp long after dark. Met Geo Pleats with three Indians. He had been taken Prisoner by two Bears Band when going up with an Express to Genl Sully. Capt Miner sent after the Indians. Got to camp at night with 8 Indians.

Sunday 2

Left camp 7 O'clock after grasing my horses two hours. Marched 27 miles and camped at *Lost Timber*. Day very windy and cold. Camped by ourselves tonight. Went over a mile and cut grass for my horse.

Monday, October 3, 1864.

Left camp at an early hour and marched to Swan Lake Creek 19 miles. Fine day. Good camp and good supper.

Tuesday 4

Left camp at day Break and marched to Artichoke Creek 30 miles. Fine day but very poor camp. No wood. No grass at all hardly. Got in Late Very.

Wednesday 5

Left camp at Artichoke Creek and marched to *Oak Boje* [Okobojo] 20 miles from camp. Good grass but wood quite scarce. Orders issued assigning troops to their Stations for the winter. &c.

Thursday, October 6, 1864.

Left Camp at Sun Rise and marched to near Fort Sully and camped in the woods all scattered over the Brush. Very windy. Went to Sully and stayed over night with Edd. Plenty of good living there. Good time.

Friday 7

Started for camp. Met the Battalion on their way down. Stopped at the Fort and got all our things and moved to near Medicine Creek and camped. Good Camp. Capt Mahana at Sully. Lt. Ryan in Command. Good time.

Saturday 8

Left Camp at Sun Rise and marched about 20 miles and camped on a creek off the Road about six Miles from La Chapelle creek. Good camp. Iowa 6th in advance.

Sunday, October 9, 1864.

Left camp at Sun Rise and marched to Crow Creek Agency 30 miles. Met the mail and stoped it. Got our mail out. Got a letter from Mother. Col Pollock about ten miles ahead. Genl Sully and Brackett's Battalion 5 miles in rear also the Battery.

Monday 10

Left camp at 7 O'clock and passed through agency. Camped on East fork of crow creek. Marched 20 miles. Day fine. Good camp but poor grass. Tonight looks like storm. Got horse shod at Agency. Col Pollock leaves some horses. Genl very angry at it.

Tuesday 11

Left camp at Crow Creek and marched 18 Miles. Camped on Red Lake. Fine camp. Genl Sully and Brackett arrive and camp near us. Large camp of Yanktonais Indians also camp near.

Wednesday, October 12, 1864.

Left camp at Red Lake and marched to Pratt [Platte] Creek. Went into Camp on fine bottom. Wood scarce and watter good. Good grass. Genl Sully and Escort arrived quite late and go into camp near. Left camp this morning before day light.

Thursday 13

Left Camp at Pratte [Platte] Creek at 4 O'clock and marched to bottom above Randall. Fine Camp. Good wood and Missouri watter.

Friday 14

Broke camp at seven O'clock and marched three or four

miles and camped in the thick timber. Good camp. Flat-Boat-fleet arrived from Rice all safe. Sergt Wright and myself went to Randall crossed the Missouri in canoe rowed by two Squaws. Reached camp at Midnight.

Saturday, October 15, 1864

Left camp at 6 O'clock and Marched to Branch of *Choteau Creek* near two fine springs. Good camp and fine water. Traveled about 25 miles. Passed through the Yankton Agency. Looks all in ruins almost. Agent running for Congress.

Sunday 16

Left Camp at 4 O'clock marched 25 miles & camped at *Bon homme*. Passed Bracketts Battalion before they were up. Took them down to have the 7th march 4 Miles & pass them in Bed. Passed Co D 30th Wis and Dakota cav and scouts on the road also. Fine camp tonight.

Monday 17

Left camp at 4½ O'clock. Marched 20 miles. Passed through Yankton the Capital. Quite a fine town for Dakota. Much improved since 1861. Camped on James River. Passed the whole thing to day and were the first Co to reach James River. Co D go by Bottom.

Tuesday, October 18, 1864.

Left Camp on James River at 4 O'clock. Left the whole thing behind us in camp yet. Genl Sully says the 7th *is hell on* getting up early aint they, when he heard us marching out of camp. Passed through Vermillion. Some of Co I 7th Iowa there. Fine day in camp in woods at Hulls Point.

Wednesday 19

Left Camp at 4 O'clock and marched 25 miles and crossed the Big Sioux River and once more are camped on the soil of our *Beloved Iowa*. Good camp. Many of the boys

drunk and much fighting in Co K. Bob Smith gets hamered by a Frenchman. Snow to night.

Thursday 20

Received orders last night to recross the River into Dakota & camp. Crossed as ordered and camped at Sioux Point 2 miles below opposite Brighers residence. Thick woods and good watter.

Friday, October 21, 1864.

Laid in Camp all day. Day cold and Raw with some snow and Rain. Total distance marched from Sully back to Sioux City 1369 miles and from Sioux City the trip back there 1669 miles and 1000 men sent after Fisk marched 400 miles extra from the above *on foot*.

Saturday 22

Still in camp. All in high spirits. Fine day. A general time all arround. Time up to night. *hurrah for hurrah*

Sunday 23

Still in camp. Fine day and all in high glee. Time out to night. Good.

Monday, October 24, 1864.

Fine day. Went to Sioux City in company with Corpl Trimble. Eat dinner at Lt. Robinsons Co D 30th Wis. Good dinner of Potatoes & onions fresh beefe and good light Bread & Butter. Town very dry. In my oppinion a very poor Town to live in.

Wednesday 26

Still in Camp. Clear day. Turned over all my traps today. Pay Master arrived from Randall last night.

Thursday, October 27, 1864.

Still in Camp at Sioux Point D T

Friday 28

Moved Camp up the Missouri river about a mile. Good camp. Thick woods and brush.

Saturday 29

Still in camp. Day fine.

Sunday, October 30, 1864.

Still in Camp. Time drags heavily. Finishing up back returns and papers. Nearly done.

Monday 31

Morning

Still in camp.

Noon

Co Mustered out. I not mustered out not being informed that Co was to be mustered out so soon.

Tuesday, November 1.

Paid off. Mustered out and start for home. Good time and happy as a clam. Mahana Wieneke McCaddon Page Trimble McNeill & Pumphrey and I come home together. Good crowd. Reach station 20 miles out.

Wednesday, November 2, 1864.

Left Station early this morning. Had rough night last night. Slept amongst Steel traps and no blankets. Good meals however. House 9 by 10 feet. Travel 30 miles today. Reach Ida Grove. Good place. Went through "Correctionville". Judge Moreheads.

Thursday 3

Left Ida Grove before sun rise. Travel 30 miles and reach Sac City small town on Coon river. Small stream. Good Hotel. Found Miss Bent there. Called on her. Spent pleasant evening "Very".

Friday 4

Left Sac City early. Traveled 50 miles to Jefferson. Fine town. Very loyal indeed. Found about 30 of our boys ahead of us here all out in ranks drilling. Ladies very patriotic and good looking indeed. Fine town.

Saturday, November 5, 1864.

Left Jefferson at sun rise and traveled to Boonesboro.

Fine town but full of Rebels "Copperheads". Copperhead meeting to night. Boys raise hob with the Dance at Parker House. Sick tonight some.

Sunday 6

Left Boonesboro at sun rise and came to Nevada, 30 miles. Fine town. Terminus of Rail road. Stop at the National Hotel. Good place. Lay over all day. Good time.

Monday 7

Left Nevada on 4 O'clock train for the East. Reach Blairs Town at 8 O'clock. Stop at Browns Hotel. Good place. The other boys go to Marengo. Tonight rain to hard for our load. Stay all night at Blairs town.

Tuesday, November 8, 1864.

Hire double wagon and go to Marengo in time for 9 O'clock freight train. Get aboard and go into Iowa City in time for dinner at Clinton House. Go to Election. Vote for old Abe and reach home at dark. Rain all yesterday and to day much mud.

"End"

III

LETTER OF JOSIAH F. HILL

Fort Randall, Da, Ter, Oct., 22nd 1865.

Mr. L. D. Dutton

Dear Friend:

Thinking that it might be interesting to you to hear something about our summer campaign I thought I would improve a few spare moments in writing to you. Our Batt. left Sioux City on the 8th of June & arrived at Fort Sully on the 22nd. We were joined in a few days by

General Sully with the ballance of his command, which consisted of four companies of the 6th Iowa cavalry, four companies of Minnesota cavalry, called Brackett's Batt., a battery of four guns & part of Co. B., 1st Dakota cavy., acting as a body guard for the Gen. We broke camp on the 5th of July & started to Fort Rice, at which post we arrived on the 13th. We were then nearly five hundred miles from Sioux City. On the 23rd we were again on the march bound for Minniewaken, or Dakota Lake.⁴⁵ On the 28th we camped near a band of Pembinaue, or Red river half-breeds.⁴⁶ Their train consisted of nine hundred carts, with scarcely a bit of iron to be seen about them. There was two other bands not far distant. They come into the territory three times a year for the purpose of procuring robes & meat. We reached the lake on the 29th. It is situated in 40 [48] N. lat. & 99' 15" W. lon. The water is saltish, & it is said to be forty miles in length. It is distant from Rice 132 miles. There is some timber near the lake & an island in it. We had to use Buffalo chips all the way from Rice to cook our grub with. We did not find any Indians near the lake or any signs of their having been there lately. The Gen. heard that the Red skins were on Mouse river, so on the 2nd of Aug. we struck out. We reached the Mouse on the 4th, but "nary" Indian. On the 8th we got to Fort Berthold, having marched since we left Rice about 245 miles. We saw thousands of buffalo & we had no trouble in supplying ourselves with plenty of the best fresh meat. I killed

⁴⁵ Devil's Lake, the largest lake in North Dakota.—See letter of General Alfred Sully, *War of the Rebellion: Official Records*, Series I, Vol. XLVIII, Pt. 2, pp. 1145-1147.

⁴⁶ The Pembina Band of Ojibways lived in the northeast corner of North Dakota, along the Red River of the North.—Gilfillan's *Names of the Ojibways in the Pembina Band, North Dakota*, in *Collections of the State Historical Society of North Dakota*, Vol. II, p. 150.

several. On the night of the 18th we were visited by a very severe storm of rain & hail. The wind blew our tents down & the hail pelted the horses so hard that a number of them broke from the lines, but they were all found next day. A few moments after it quit raining a wall of water three or four feet high came rushing down the creek bottom on which Co. M. were camped. It carried everything before it. Several of the boys had narrow escapes with their lives. The boys fished out nearly all their lost property the next day. We broke camp & started for Fort Rice on the 20th & got to our destination on the 25th, marching 37 miles the day we got in. The Indians had made an attack on the fort a day or two after we started to Devils lake, but they were driven off. They killed one soldier & wounded two, one of whom afterwards died. It was not known how many of the red devils were "nepoed" as it is their custom to carry off their killed & wounded if possible. The murdering villains killed a man in the timber within forty rods of camp on the 28th. He belonged to Brackett's Batt., & was a fine man & leaves a wife & children to mourn his untimely fate. We had to build a large store house before we started down the river. It was finished on the fourth & the command started down the river on the 5th. We reached fort Sully on the 11th & on the 14th our Batt. was ordered below to relieve the 6th cavy which has gone below & I suppose has been mustered out ere this. Our Co. arrived here and releived the troops stationed here on the 22nd. Co. L. are building a fort on the Niobrara river 30 miles south of this. Co. M. are building a fort on the James or Dakotah river. We are very badly disappointed. We had no idea but that we would be mustered out this fall. Brackett's Batt. is a veteran organization

also, & the boys belonging to it talk just as ours do, that is if they had their pay they would bid Uncle Sam good by. I would not blame them if they did for we have served now several months longer than we agreed to. There is nearly ten months pay due us. The Paymaster is expected here the first of next month. The duty is not so very hard but it goes terribly against the grain to soldier now the war is over. I think we are in for another six months but I may be agreeably disappointed. I heard from Abe a few days since. He was well. As soon as we are paid I will send money to square accounts between you & I. Give my best wishes to your family. Please answer soon & let me know how my family & yours are prospering, also the folks generally. Direct to Co. K. 7th Iowa Cavalry, Fort Randall, Da., Ter. From your friend

Josiah F. Hill.