

## FORTY DAYS WITH THE CHRISTIAN COMMISSION A DIARY BY WILLIAM SALTER

### INTRODUCTION

The record of these forty days at the front<sup>1</sup> is found in a diary, kept by Mr. Salter in the manual issued to him by the Commission. Bound in black leather, with the words "U. S. Christian Commission" imprinted on it in gold letters, the volume measures about 4 x 6½ inches, and contains 112 pages of diary and notes. The first fourteen pages were used for the instructions, advice, and suggestions to delegates. Mr. Salter's first entry is July 4, 1864, and the last on August 17, 1864. These items cover pages 1 to 81 of the diary. Pages 81 to 112 contain notes, autographs, and figures pertaining to the army and the work of the Christian Commission.

Many of the entries made by Mr. Salter are brief, terse, and sometimes incomplete, but taken as a whole they form an excellent narrative of the day by day routine labors of a Christian Commission delegate in the field. At times the work was such that only the barest jotting could go into the record book. "I endeavored to keep a daily record", wrote Mr. Salter, "but such were the multiplicity of labors and incidents and I was often so weary, that I failed to make complete memoranda." The diary is reprinted here as nearly as possible as it was written. Mr. Salter's spelling and punctuation have been followed as closely as his somewhat difficult script would permit. Editorial changes are indicated by square brackets. The footnotes serve their usual function of identifying places, persons, and events.

PHILIP D. JORDAN

<sup>1</sup> For a more detailed account of this see above, pp. 113-120.

[Monday] July 4, 1864

Left Burlington at 7 P. M. in company with Rev. J. W. Pickett,<sup>2</sup> of Mt. Pleasant. Mr. Hosford<sup>3</sup> gave us passes to Chicago, and Mrs. Winton<sup>4</sup> Ferry tickets. Traveled in company with a motley crowd some of whom were befooled & daemonized by liquor, & by a desecration of the anniversary of the nation's birth.

Labored in conversation with a Copperhead from Monmouth, whose articles of faith were that the negro had no rights which the white man was bound to respect, & that the war on the part of the nation was a robbery of the slaveholders. My labor seemed to be Labor Lost.

Rested in sleeping car. Expenses, 50 cts.

[Tuesday] July 5.

At Chicago 5 A. M. Took a morning walk — very pleasant & the city quiet before the din of business. At Adbin's [sic] House at Breakfast. Dined with Mr. Fay<sup>5</sup> of C[hristian] C[ommission]. Called on Mr. Farwell,<sup>6</sup> Pres. & Mr. Jacobs,<sup>7</sup> Sec. who gave me 20.00\$ for expenses. At

<sup>2</sup> See Salter's *Memoirs of Joseph W. Pickett* (1880), pp. 23, 24, for extracts from Pickett's letters written while he and Mr. Salter served as delegates of the United States Christian Commission in Tennessee and Georgia.

<sup>3</sup> Ralph E. Hosford, agent for the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad at Burlington.

<sup>4</sup> Mrs. Matthew H. Winton, whose husband was an agent of the Chicago, Burlington, and Quincy Railroad at Burlington. The railroad bridge across the Mississippi at Burlington was not completed until August, 1868, and passengers until that time were ferried across.

<sup>5</sup> O. W. Fay, staff member of the Chicago office of the United States Christian Commission.

<sup>6</sup> John V. Farwell, president of the Chicago Y. M. C. A. in 1862; later in charge of the United States Christian Commission rooms in Chicago, 42-46 Wabash Avenue.

<sup>7</sup> B. F. Jacobs, member of the Chicago Y. M. C. A., who, with D. L. Moody, organized the Chicago "Committee on Devotional Meetings", in February, 1862. Mr. Jacobs ministered to the wounded at Ft. Donelson; and in December, 1864, gave aid to the wounded at the battle of Franklin.

noon-day Prayer Meeting in Methodist Block, animated meeting, a good spirit prevailed. Br. Moody,<sup>8</sup> in view of the sins and hardness of the people's hearts, had some of the feelings of Elijah,<sup>9</sup> when he prayed earnestly that it might not rain, asking that God would visit such judgments upon the land as might induce the return of the people to God. The matter was brought out by the bringing in [of] some requests for Prayer for rain. Mr. Payson Hammond<sup>10</sup> addressed the meeting on laboring for the recovery of the fallen women in Chicago, & alluded [?] to what had been done in this direction in London & Edinburgh.

Expenses. Breakfast & Tea \$1.00.

Left Chicago [at] 6 P. M. with pass that brought me to Indianapolis (via Michigan City and Lafayette) at 4 A. M. Sleeping car 50 cts.

Wednesday, July 6. [Indianapolis]

Walked over the city and admired its broad streets. Visited State House. Poor breakfast at Spencer House. 50 cts.

Left [at] 8.20 for Louisville.

108 miles to Jeffersonville. Fare at military rates. Dinner at 2.25. Bus to Louisville 50 cts. Tea at Gelt [?] House, 1.00.

At Rooms of Christian Commission [on] 6th. St. between

<sup>8</sup> Dwight Lyman Moody (February 5, 1837 — December 22, 1899), famous Chicago evangelist. Mr. Moody, for reasons of conscience, did not enlist in the Civil War, but helped organize the Army and Navy Committee of the Chicago Y. M. C. A. which later became a branch of the United States Christian Commission. — *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. XIII.

<sup>9</sup> "And Elijah the Tishbite, who was one of the inhabitants of Gilead, said unto Ahab, As the Lord God of Israel liveth, before whom I stand, there shall not be dew nor rain these years, but according to my words." — 1 Kings 17:1.

<sup>10</sup> Edward Payson Hammond (September 1, 1831 — August 14, 1910), evangelist, author of *The Conversion of Children* (1878), and of about a hundred small books and tracts. — *Dictionary of American Biography*, Vol. XIII.

Main & River. Kindly rec'd by Mr. Hickok<sup>11</sup> Station ag't. Met Mr. Roberts, Delegate, Superintendent of Schools at Salerbaugh, Ill. now laboring in hospitals in Louisville. Miss Shelton<sup>12</sup> of Burlington here.

Isaac Rapell, Superintendent at Louisville, a dry, cold man, apparently unsympathetic with the great moral issues at stake.

A comfortable night's rest. Left at 7 A. M. Thursday for Nashville. Cars crowded — country poor — cultivation bad — buildings very shabby — country prettier & more romantic towards Nashville where arrived at 5½ P. M. Rec'd at C[hristian] C[ommission] House, 14 Spruce St., formerly property of a Rebel.

Met Mrs. Wittenmeyer,<sup>13</sup> Wesley Dennett of Keokuk, Mr. Kerr of Fairfield, a son<sup>14</sup> of whom died lately in Hospital at Chattanooga.

[Thursday] July 7 [Nashville]

The train from Louisville [was] under a Military Director, and with Guards: Coarse and clumsy *stockades* at the River crossings to guard the Bridges, on *one* of

<sup>11</sup> George A. Hickok, of Saline, Washington County, Michigan.

<sup>12</sup> Misses Mary E. and Amanda Shelton, of Burlington, were among Mrs. Wittenmyer's most efficient assistants. Mary E. Shelton, afterwards Mrs. Huston, was Mrs. Wittenmyer's secretary from 1863 to 1865. Amanda Shelton, "strong of body and courageous of soul", who later became Mrs. Stewart, of Mt. Pleasant, was one of the women in charge of the diet kitchens.—Wittenmyer's *Under the Guns* (1895), pp. 230, 231.

<sup>13</sup> Mrs. Annie Turner Wittenmyer (August 26, 1827 — February 2, 1900), one of Iowa's most active relief workers during the Civil War. She organized and supervised the system of diet kitchens in the Union Army. In 1895 she published a collection of short sketches of her war experiences under the title, *Under the Guns*. For a sketch of her life see Gallaher's *Annie Turner Wittenmyer* in THE IOWA JOURNAL OF HISTORY AND POLITICS, Vol. XXIX, pp. 518-569, and the *Annals of Iowa* (Third Series), Vol. IV, pp. 280-282.

<sup>14</sup> Elliott W. Kerr. Age 18. Enlisted March 31, 1864. Wounded severely May 14, 1864, at Resaca, Georgia. Died of wounds June 23, 1864. — *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*, Vol. III, p. 1523.

which noticed this sign: "Please Drop a Paper", where for want of something better I dropped a Louisville Journal.

[Took] Bus to C[hristian] C[ommission] 14 Spruce St. 25 cts. Here spent the night in 3rd. story in room with 7 Delegates — hot.

Friday, July 8 [Nashville]

Loaded haversack [at] 8 A. M. at office of C[hristian] C[ommission] with papers, tracts, Testaments, writing-paper, & envelopes, etc, and spent the day visiting Tents of 2d & 3d Division.

Rev. R. Day (from N. J.) Chaplain, gentlemanly & polite.

Surgeons seem efficient & order good. Showers in aft. Wrote C. Dunham,<sup>15</sup> Hawkeye, giving partial list of Iowa soldiers seen today. Wrote Mrs. S[alter]. Wrote two letters for soldiers to their families. Met Mr. Sam'l Wolcott<sup>16</sup> of Cleveland, O. on his way to the front.

[Gave] To sick soldiers from Iowa Co. \$1.00.

Saturday, July 9

Wrote Deacon Foote.<sup>17</sup> Left Nashville [at] 7 A. M. on Hospital Train. At Murfresboro 10½. Distributed papers among soldiers at the stockades along the Road. Porter of valise to Rooms of Christian C[ommission] on Public Square 25cts. Rev. Mr. Geo. Parrott, Delegate, in charge here, from O[hio], active, pleasant man.

<sup>15</sup> Charles Dunham became a partner in the *Burlington Hawk-Eye* in 1851. In 1855 he, with J. L. Brown, purchased the *Burlington Telegraph*, combining them as the *Hawk-Eye and Telegraph*. On March 26, 1856, Mr. Dunham became sole editor and proprietor, continuing as such until 1864.

<sup>16</sup> The Reverend Samuel Wolcott, pastor of the Plymouth Church, Cleveland, Ohio.

<sup>17</sup> John G. Foote (April 21, 1814 — March 4, 1896) came to Burlington in 1843 where he carried on a hardware business for thirty-three years. In 1861 he was elected State Senator on the Republican ticket, serving in the Ninth and Tenth General Assemblies. — *Annals of Iowa* (Third Series), Vol. II, p. 406.

Rev. Mr. Ernshaw (from Pa.) Chaplain in Regular Army — fine looking man. Rev. Mr. Patterson<sup>18</sup> (mich) Chaplain. All gentlemenly men, Methodists, took their duties easy.

Wrote Br. Ben.,<sup>19</sup> Paterson, N. J.

“ Mrs. S[alter].

Rode out after tea on horseback with Chaplain Patterson and Mr. Parrott to Stone river toward the fortifications which are very extensive. Chaplain Patterson, who was in the battle Dec. 1862, pointed out the ground.

Visited preacher's family of African Ch[urch] — he absent at Nashville. Also Miss ————<sup>20</sup> teacher sent out of a Freedman's Association in Indiana. Baptist lady — has over 100 colored scholars.

In addition to the two chaplains whom I have seen, there are one or two other Regimental chaplains here who ought to do all the labor that is needed.

Sunday, July 10, Murfreesboro

Distributed some 400 papers in Hospitals No. 2, No. 3. Found 4 Iowa soldiers. Two natives of Georgia in 12th. & 10th. Tenn. Cavalry who can barely read. Wrote letter to Mrs. Nellie W. Woodin, Potter's Hollow, Albany Co., New York, for her husband with erysipelas in right leg. Took corn bread & butter, new potatoes & stewed (fresh) blackberries to him 12.30 P. M. from our dinner table.

Attended Preaching of Rev. Mr. Parrott in Campbellite Church, about 240 present, 1/2 soldiers, 1/4 ladies, 1/4 citizens.

At 1/2 past 1 P. M. held Divine Service in Hospital No. 3.

<sup>18</sup> The Reverend W. M. Patterson, serving in the 17th Corps hospitals.

<sup>19</sup> Benjamin Salter (September 4, 1818 — October 3, 1873), William Salter's oldest brother, was born at Portsmouth, N. H., moved to Brooklyn with his parents where he attended the Crosby Street High School, and became a member of the Laight Street Presbyterian Church. He engaged in various businesses in New York and in Paterson, New Jersey.

<sup>20</sup> This space was left blank in the diary.

(City Hotel) 127 beds. 32 present at service. Preached in midst of fine shower from Lu[ke] 23:— on the Three Crosses.

At 3 P. M. Held Divine Service in Branch of No. 4, 2 doors west of C[hristian] C[ommission] rooms. 30 present. Preached from Rom. 12:1.<sup>21</sup>

At 6½ P. M. preached in Post Chapel (Campbellite Church) from Matt. 24:6,<sup>22</sup> about 200 in attendance — Gen. Van Cleve & other officers. Choir (5 soldiers, 4 ladies) sang "Before Jehovah's awful Throne" to "Denmark",<sup>23</sup> & chanted 23d. Psalm.

Monday, July 11

Wrote Mr. Foote. [Wrote] Mary T[ufts]<sup>24</sup> [Salter].

Took pickles & dried apple to two sick soldiers in City Hotel. Left M[urfreesboro] at 11 A. M. on Locomotive 85, Engineer from Wisconsin, has run saw-mill near Lucas Grove, Muscatine Co., Iowa.

Dinner at Wartrace 75 cts. Took up Br. Pickett at Tullahoma, who reports an interesting work among the soldiers (5th. Tenn. Cavalry & others.)

At Decherd got into the caboot [sic] of a freight train & reached Stevenson [at] 10 P. M., through much grand scenery — tunnel through mts. over 2000 ft long. Conductor of caboose unwilling to carry us, but finally consented [?] that we c'd go.

<sup>21</sup> "I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable with God, which is your reasonable service."

<sup>22</sup> "And ye shall hear of wars and rumors of wars: see that ye be not troubled: for all these things must come to pass, but the end is not yet."

<sup>23</sup> "Before Jehovah's Awful Throne", music by F. M. A. Venua, words by I. Watts. — Weir's *Sacred Music the Whole World Loves* (1916). "Denmark by whose verdant strand", a Danish patriotic song. Words by R. Bay. — Sousa's *National, Patriotic, and Typical Airs of All Lands* (1890).

<sup>24</sup> Mary Tufts Salter (February 4, 1849 — November 5, 1864), born at Burlington, was William Salter's oldest child. She attended Denmark Academy.

At Soldiers' Home, Stevenson, where Stephen A. Douglass made a speech in 1860 in Presidential canvass, & Jeff. Davis made a rebel speech a year or more ago. It was formerly called "the Alabama Hotel."

Tuesday, July 12, Stevenson, Alabama

In morning called on Capt. W. A. Warren,<sup>25</sup> later Quartermaster & Mr. Davis, of Jackson Co. Iowa. Very politely rec'd. Capt. W[arren] got horses & took us to ride a very little. Mr. Bettis<sup>26</sup> of 5th. Iowa there — his wife a daughter of Rev. T. H. Canfield. Mr. D[avis] was a lad of 16 when I went to Maquoketa, & remembers my labors there.

Visited Rev. Mr. Marchill[?], Chaplain 132d. Indiana (100 days men) N[ew] S[chool] Pres[byterian] Ch[urch] in Indianapolis — pleasant, good man. Also called on Chaplain Boyd, but did not find him.

Capt. Warren took us to ride on horseback towards Tennessee river, & we visited the fortifications. Visited colored school taught by Miss Randall from Madison, Wis., in a log house erected for the purpose, without floor, & canvass roof. 110 scholars present, 4 of them white. Miss R[andall] faithful and devoted, & doing a noble work. Called on a colored woman who assured us she was the mother of 27 children, 10 girls, 17 boys. Her oldest daughter has 13 children. When her old master died, she was taken to the Court House, about 1848, in Campbell Co., Georgia, with ten children & came away with only one. She is now 53 years old. Capt. Warren had her picture taken for me with her youngest child.

<sup>25</sup> William A. Warren came to Bellevue from the Galena lead mines in 1836, became Sheriff of Jackson County in 1840, helping to subdue the famous "Brown Gang". He was a member of the Constitutional Convention of 1857. — *Annals of Iowa* (Third Series), Vol. VII, pp. 206-262, 599, Vol. III, pp. 32, 69, 633.

<sup>26</sup> Frank A. Bettis. Age 25. Residence Bellevue. — *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of Rebellion*, Vol. I, p. 693.



Dined with Capt. Warren — new potatoes, cabbage, beets, beans, onions, and pork with peaches from cans & apple pudding.

Heavy shower at 4 P. M.

*List of Prices*

Fixed by Col. Sam C. Vance, commanding Post.

Butter	25 cts a lb.	
Sweet Milk	25 cts a gallon	
Butter Milk	“ “ “ “	
Eggs	“ “ “ “	[sic]
Blackberries	50 “ “ “	
Chickens	30 “ a piece	
Potatoes	2.00 a bushel	
Beans	2.00 “ “	

[Wednesday July] 13th.

132d Indiana leaves for Tullahoma, July 13th. mostly from about Indianapolis — under poor discipline. One of Co. S. killed this morning by discharge of his gun while passing between cars. His body sent to Indiana by Adams' express.<sup>27</sup> 135th. Indiana (Col. Wilson) take their place — 100 day men.

Distributed papers. Visited military prison, full of deserters, thieves, & hard cases of all kind, & dirt & filth. A disgrace to the army and the country. The prisoners sought for papers with great avidity. Saw a squad led out to work on the fortifications. I asked one soldier (prisoner) of a Wisconsin Regiment what he had done wrong. He said nothing. Had only wanted a 2d. furlough. I spoke of the guilt of deserting his country. He replied that he was willing to fight for his country, but not for the niggers! A genuine Copperhead from Fon Du Lac, Wis.

<sup>27</sup> For a detailed account of the work of the Adams Express Company in shipping home bodies of soldier dead, see Harlow's *Old Waybills* (1934), pp. 299, 300.

Distributed papers among 135th. Indiana, & Michigan Engineers, & Ohio Artillery.

Rev. Mr. Boyd (Methodist) Chaplain, from northern Indiana, engaged to attend to distribution of reading matter — seemed a pleasant [man], efficient, promised to look after the work generally & among the children in colored school.

Surgeons generally drinking men. Capt. W. A. Warren & Quartermasters too.

Met Dr. Helton, a respectable physician, Union man from the beginning. Has wife & one daughter, both sickly, lives 5 miles west of Stevenson.

Dr. H[elton] has two children, boy 5 years old, girl, 3 yrs old, by a slave mother. She belonged to his family, but has left & become abandoned. She obtained an order for the children from Col. Vance, 132 Indiana, commanding the Post, & a squad of soldiers were sent to secure the children for their mother.

Dr. Helton came to town today to intercede for the restoration of the children to him. He & his family treat them with affection & care, & are very anxious for their return.

Also met Gen. Austin who marched into Stevenson with Union flag & 400 men in 1861.

[Thursday, July 14]

Chattanooga, Tenn.

Staid Wednesday night in Soldiers' Home with bugs, & fleas &.

Left at 3 A. M. July 14 for Bridgeport & Chattanooga, where arrived at 7½ P. M. At rooms of C[hristian] C[ommission] on Main St. Rev. Mr. Lathrop,<sup>28</sup> Episcopalian, from Ohio in charge, pleasant gentleman.

Visited 3 P. M. Military Prison, full of captured de-

<sup>28</sup> H. D. Lathrop, superintendent of Christian Commission rooms at Chattanooga. His home parish was Springfield, Ohio.

serters, rebel prisoners, & citizens from Georgia sent north by Gen. Sherman — a motley set, 1/2 clad, some 15 & 16 years of age & others over 60.

Distributed papers among them & conversed with about 100. One of the sad and shocking scenes of war.

Chattanooga, July 15. Friday

Walked out to General Field Hospital, [at] 8 A. M., two miles South, East of Railroad, with Br. Gilchrist<sup>29</sup> (from Indianapolis). The Hospital has Lookout Mountain on the South West, & Mission Ridge lies to the East. Visited several wards in morning, wrote letters for 3 wounded soldiers. In afternoon held prayer meeting & preached from Jno. "Let not your heart be troubled."<sup>30</sup> 20 present. Walked to town 7 P. M.

Had dysentery symptoms through the day.

Saturday, July 16. Chattanooga

Took dose of podophyllum in Seidlitz powder.

Rode out on horseback to Gen'l Field Hospital carrying package of papers & books.

Preached at 2 P. M. from Ps. 72:4.<sup>31</sup> (15 present) Some 200 patients sent North this afternoon, & as many rec'd from the front.

Called on Dr. Byrne.

Walked to town, 2 miles. Very hot day.

Mr. Sunderland, Sutter of 25th. Iowa & Mr. Greggs<sup>32</sup> called to see me.

Asked a very bright young soldier from Ohio with whom

<sup>29</sup> Reverend William A. Gilchrist, Greenwood, Indiana.

<sup>30</sup> "Let not your heart be troubled: ye believe in God, believe also in me." — John 14:1.

<sup>31</sup> "He shall judge the poor of the people, he shall save the children of the needy, and shall break in pieces the oppressor."

<sup>32</sup> William Gregg. Age 31. Residence Burlington. — *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*, Vol. III, p. 919.

I had had some pleasant conversation, if he had written home to his mother. He hesitated, but finally said, No. I asked him what was the matter. He still hesitated, but finally said there was a coldness between them. Why, says I, what's the matter. Oh, replied he, she is a copperhead. (!)

Sunday, July 17, 1864

Chattanooga, Tenn.

Preached in Post Chapel (Old Baptist ch.) on the hill East of Main St. Rev. John Dillon,<sup>33</sup> Chaplain of 18th. Ohio (seems like a correct good man) in pulpit. Preached from Ex. 15:3.<sup>34</sup>

Lieut. Daniels (Assistant Quartermaster) invited me to dinner, (with Mr. Martin) from New Albany, Ind. Christian gentleman.

On returning [at] 4 P. M. stopped at Chapel, where a negro meeting (very disorderly & tumultuous) was in progress.

Preached at 7 P. M. at Convalescent Camp [of] 15th. Army Corps, on Bank of Tenn. River, East of Lookout Mt., the moon and stars for witnesses. About 100 soldiers gathered with Mr. Gregg of Des Moines Co., Quartermaster Sergeant in charge of baggage & Capt. Lockwood,<sup>35</sup> Quartermaster, formerly of Mt. Pleasant.

Preached from Rev. 12:1.<sup>36</sup> Delegates Pickett & Roberts (from Galesburgh, Ill.) with me and Mr. McDowell from

<sup>33</sup> John Dillon. Age 46. Mustered September 16, 1861. Mustered out November 9, 1864. — *Official Roster of the Soldiers of the State of Ohio* (Cincinnati, 1886), Vol. II, p. 575.

<sup>34</sup> "The Lord is a man of war: the Lord is his name."

<sup>35</sup> John C. Lockwood. Age 51. Residence Louisa County, Appointed Quartermaster October 15, 1862. Mustered out June 5, 1865. — *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*, Vol. III, p. 1486.

<sup>36</sup> "And there appeared a great wonder in heaven; a woman clothed with the sun, and the moon under her feet, and upon her head a crown of twelve stars."

Mt. Pleasant who is working here for U. S. blacksmith, at 60\$ a month. He speaks well of the blacks who work in the shop as intelligent & having capacity for mechanical work.

Monday, July 18. Chattanooga

Rode out at 10 A. M. (after waiting an hour) with Mrs. Wittenmeyer to Gen'l Field Hospital. [In] Ward A Prayed with Wisconsin soldier, Baptist, from Fox Lake — lost a leg — very weak.

Gave House-wife<sup>37</sup> to Wm. Hymen, Co. H. 66th. Ill., [a] nurse.

Visited Tents to Ward "C", Tent 2. Several good fellows who had lost left arm — one from Wisconsin, particularly resigned & cheerful — wounded on Chattohookie [sic] in supporting a battery.

[He said] I am going home a better man than when I came out. Parents died when I was 5 years old. Lived with an uncle a good physician, now surgeon in 125th. Ohio. Learned painters business — but c'd not save any money — have since learned to be saving, & have sent home 500\$ since in the army. Am trying to improve, & mean to go home confirmed in my moral purposes.

(Bugler) H. C. McHenry<sup>38</sup>

Co. B. 38th. Ohio V. I.

Preached at 2 P. M. from Is. 50:10<sup>39</sup> & had good prayer

<sup>37</sup> These were little bags of various shapes and sizes, many of them made by Sunday School children. The bags contained needles, pins, thread, yarn, buttons, and frequently a pair of scissors, thimble, steel pens, lead pencil, handkerchiefs, and other small articles. Nearly five thousand of these "comforters" were distributed by the Christian Commission. — Moss's *Annals of the United States Christian Commission*, p. 651.

<sup>38</sup> Henry B. McHenry. Age 20. Mustered August 19, 1861. Mustered out with company, July 12, 1865. — *Official Roster of the Soldiers of the State of Ohio*, Vol. X, p. 46.

<sup>39</sup> "Who is among you that feareth the Lord, that obeyeth the voice of his servant, that walketh in darkness, and hath no light? let him trust in the name of the Lord, and stay upon his God."

meeting. The two ladies of the Diet Kitchen (from Quincy, Ill. & Keokuk) present.<sup>40</sup>

Wrote letters for Jas. Miller to his mother in Logan Co. O[ho]. Mrs. Hannah Richardson. wounded through left ankle & right hip. Joseph Sawyer to his father, Gordon, in Decatur, Ill. Mr. Catherell to his wife, Mrs. Mary C[ath-erell], Roseville, o[ho].

Visited Ward "E".

Tuesday, July 19. Chattanooga, Tenn.

Wrote Sarah S. Linn, Melrose, Seneca Co., New York, particulars of death of her son, Jas.<sup>41</sup> Co. H. 55th. Ohio.

Called on Dr. Dewey, Ass't Sur[geon] from Meadville, Pa. On Dr. Johnson, from Va., has been with Southern Army Volunteer Surgeons. Caterer of the mess — politely offered to take me in the mess for about 2.50 or 3.00 per week.

Wrote Mrs. Marg. J. Izzard, Creek Oak, Ind., for her husband. West Randall for his brother. Wrote Mrs. Salter & told her of plans to remain at Gen'l Field Hospital when Mr. Lathrop came in with orders to go to Marietta tomorrow. Wrote Mrs. S. of the change.

30 at Prayer Meeting. [Preached from] Ps. 46.<sup>42</sup>

Called in eve on Dr. Francis Salter, Medical Director of Post, native of Chester, England, from Ohio about Circleville. Has stuck to the Army, not been out of the lines from the beginning. Left England after getting into practice there — about 40 — complained of indisposition — fever (Southern) — not been sick before since entering the service.

<sup>40</sup> These probably were Miss Louisa Vance and Miss Carrie Wilkins. — Moss's *Annals of the United States Christian Commission*, p. 684.

<sup>41</sup> James Linn. Age 19. Mustered August 25, 1862. Died July 27, 1864, in hospital at Chattanooga. — *Official Roster of the Soldiers of the State of Ohio*, Vol. V, p. 72.

<sup>42</sup> Psalms 46, beginning: "God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble."

Wednesday, July 20.

Hooker's Corps. Battle in front of Atlanta 4 P. M.

Left Chattanooga, 8-30 A. M. in company with Rev. Wm. Barrett<sup>43</sup> of Greenfield, Highland Co. O[hio]. (O[ld] S[chool] Pres[byterian]) who goes to Rome, Ga.

At junction of Knoxville road detained 1½ hour waiting for other trains. In charge of bag for Mrs. Wittenmeyer, Mr. Critchfield,<sup>44</sup> haversack & canteen, rubber blanket &. Detained at Ringold, & several stations. At Dalton 4. 15 P. M. At Marietta ½ past 12 midnight. Rode in caboose in which remained till daylight. At Kingston got bread & boiled ham at rooms of Sanitary C[ommission].<sup>45</sup> Mr. Wilson<sup>46</sup> (whose family are in Oxford, O[hio] in company.

Thursday, July 21. Marietta, Georgia

At house of Rev. John Francis Lanneau, graduated Yale College, 1829, occupied by C[hristian] C[ommission]. pleasantly situated — fine oaks.

Labored in Hospital of 4th. Division 16th. Corps among sick & wounded of 27th, 39th, Ohio & 64th. Ill.

Wrote letters to Manasseh Hupp, Graysville, O[hio] for his son, Wm., badly wounded July 4 in shoulder. P. W. Sperry, for Wm. Morrison, brought up by him. Thos. Hill, for son Chas. Trenton, N[ew] Jersey.

In Prayer Meeting at 4 P. M. 30 soldiers present in Rooms of C[hristian] C[ommission]. Preached at night from vestibule of Pres. Ch. from Ps. 101:1.<sup>47</sup> About 75 present. Met. Dr. Patterson, 23rd. Corps Hospital, with

<sup>43</sup> Reverend Jno. Barrett, Greenfield, Ohio.

<sup>44</sup> Reverend N. B. Critchfield, New Lexington, Pennsylvania.

<sup>45</sup> For a full description of the Christian Commission work at Kingston, Georgia, see Moss's *Annals of the United States Christian Commission*, pp. 498-501.

<sup>46</sup> Reverend R. W. Wilson, Bloomingburg, Ohio.

<sup>47</sup> "I will sing of mercy and judgment: unto thee, O Lord, will I sing."

newsletter. [Wrote] Sister Mary,<sup>48</sup> Portsmouth, N. H. Mr. Lanneau commissioned to labor in the Rebel Hospitals at Marietta. His salary from Jan. 19 to Ap. 1, 1864 was sent him in check 355\$.

Friday, July 22. Marietta, Georgia

Fight on left. McPherson killed.

At 6½ rode in ambulance with Magill,<sup>49</sup> Koeligh,<sup>50</sup> & Mrs. Wittenmeyer to Vinings, over track of rebel breast-works & dead mules etc., 9 miles, & visited Gen'l Field Hospital, Dr. Woodworth, Trumbull Co., O[hio]. Heard from ammunition train [the news] of fall of Atlanta, & ascended to Signal Station & gained view of splendid landscape, very extended & grand — Kenesaw & Lost Mts. behind & valley of Chattohookie, Atlantic & Stone Mt. in front. Saw & heard smoke & reports of cannonading. Visited few soldiers wounded [the] 20th. Helped sick & wounded on train for Chattanooga. Returned to Marietta on cars.

After tea started out to visit 23d. Corps Hospital with Mrs. Wittenmeyer. Overtaken by rain, took shelter in a deserted dwelling. At Church (Pres[byterian]) Heard cannonading. Wrote T. Hedge<sup>51</sup> & spent pleasant hour in singing with Brethren.

Saturday, July 23d.

At 23d. Corps Hospital, Dr. Meacham,<sup>52</sup> situated on good rolling ground. Wrote several letters for soldiers wounded on 20th. inst. brought in last night, all of them

<sup>48</sup> Mary Elizabeth Salter, born May 18, 1820, in Portsmouth, N. H.

<sup>49</sup> Reverend Charles B. Magill, pastor of the Presbyterian Church, Birmingham, Iowa.

<sup>50</sup> Reverend Theophilus Koetzli, Cincinnati, Ohio.

<sup>51</sup> Thomas Hedge, Sr., a leading Burlington business man.

<sup>52</sup> Dr. F. Meacham, Williamstown, Miss., superintendent of the Twenty-third Corps Hospital.



lying upon the ground. one without shirt. many without shirts carried up in afternoon. 4 shirts & 3 pr. drawers & 5 packages of bandages. Met squad of over 100 able bodied negroes, some of them children of miscegenation, brought in by a cavalry raid — happy fellows on their way to join our army.

Met Rice (son of David Rice) Jacoby & Grange [?]

In aft. at 23d. Corps Hospital in company with Br. Stiles.<sup>53</sup> At Post Chapel in eve — large congregation, sermon by Br. Wilkersham. Heavy cannonading heard at intervals through the day. Lt. True, of N[ew] Y[ork], who brought a lot of wounded to Vinings from Hooker's Corps, at tea with us.

Wrote Mrs. S[alter].

Sunday, July 24. Marietta, Georgia

Cool. Heavy cannonading this morning. At 23d. Corps Hospital, Preached under trees from Heb. 10:35.<sup>54</sup>

Rebel Grave Yard S[outh] E[ast] of town. "Unknown (14) killed by R. R. Collision, Sunday Sept. 14, 1863". "D. Dupless Killed June 25, 1864. Co. F."

From walls of Georgia Military Institute in red pencil: "Good by Yanks — we have got sick of this country. You will find us at Cedar Bluff nine miles the other side of Atlanta. If you'uns drive us from there you will find us next time nine miles the other side of Hell. Men we are strongly fortified.

Enoch Saxon

14 Ga. Vols. Co. B."

"Sacred to the memory of Mrs. L. Roberts etc. Died Jan. 24, 1860. She was a devoted Christian, a good wife,

<sup>53</sup> Reverend Edmund R. Stiles, pastor of the Congregational Church, Brighton, Ohio.

<sup>54</sup> "Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward."

an affectionate mother, & a kind mistress, bearing all the fruits of a child of God."

Br. Pickett preached at Georgia Military Institute, Hospital of 17th. Corps. Dr. Miller & other surgeons very polite. 180 patients. Lt. Col. Abercrombie<sup>55</sup> reported wounded, & several captains of 11th. Iowa killed.

Preached in P. M. in Post Chapel from Jer. 47:6,7.<sup>56</sup> Large attendance.

Monday, July 25.

[At] 9½ A. M. went in car to Vining[s]. 11 (one of them rebel) died at Field Hospital of Cumberland (Vinings) yesterday. 9 of them wounded, 2 typhoid fever. saw "unknown rebel" carried to his grave on stretcher. Left Vinings 3 P. M. in an ambulance of 20th. corps with soldier from Washington Co., N. Y. Crackers & dried beef at Chattahooku [sic], cut cane in canebrak.

At hospital of 1st. Division, 20th. Corps, over 200 killed, 431 wounded in action of 20th. about dark. Kindly entertained by surgeons. fine running stream by Hospital in which had a good wash. camped for night in tent. Dr. Heatt, 2d. Mass., [is] social & communicative. Saw 4 rebels wounded from At[lanta] in one tent.

Thursday, July 26.

Hospital 1st. D[ivision] 20th. Corps. 3 wounded men died last night. About 150 loaded in ambulances for Vinings, all wounded.

Left 8 A. M. on march. Walked over battlefield of 20th.

<sup>55</sup> John C. Abercrombie. Age 36. Residence Burlington. Appointed Major October 19, 1861. Promoted Lieutenant Colonel September 1, 1862; Colonel August 7, 1864. Mustered out November 5, 1864. — *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*, Vol. II, p. 284.

<sup>56</sup> "O thou sword of the Lord, how long will it be ere thou be quiet? put up thyself into thy scabbard, rest, and be still. How can it be quiet, seeing the Lord hath given it a charge against Ashkeloa, and against the sea shore? there hath he appointed it."

Passed Gen'l Thomas' Headquarters, swinging from the right towards centre with 9th. Michigan. Dr. Bowman [?] very polite. Took our blankets on his horse — of 15th. Corps.<sup>57</sup>

At lines of 2d. D[ivision] 20th. Corps (Gen. Geary) saw rebel shell bursting in air on the right — country well watered — lies in ridges — mostly wooded — with Lt. Col. David Remick<sup>58</sup> & Mr. Cameron.<sup>59</sup>

Major Walker<sup>60</sup> (13th. Iowa) killed. 16th. Iowa 200 missing. Col. Saunders<sup>61</sup> wounded & taken prisoner.

Called on Gen. Howard — delightful interview — a man of faith in God.

The Iowa Brigade (Col. Hall<sup>62</sup> commanding) (11th. 13th. 15th & 16th) charged on the rebel works, the 21st. about 10 in the morning. The 13th. Iowa lost 99 men (killed & wounded) in 27 minutes. The Brigade lost 211. On the 22d the Brigade was on the extreme left & attacked the rebels about noon. The Rebels in force. The 16th. Corps came to relief but did not close up & it was in the gap that McPherson was killed.

<sup>57</sup> This incident is reported in detail in Salter's *Memoirs of Joseph W. Pickett*, p. 29.

<sup>58</sup> David Remick. Residence Burlington. Lieutenant Colonel and Commissary Officer, Fourth Army Corps, Department of the Cumberland.

<sup>59</sup> Robert Cameron, Commissary Clerk, Fourth Army Corps, Department of the Cumberland.

<sup>60</sup> William A. Walker. Age 29. Appointed Major March 13, 1863. Killed in action near Atlanta, Georgia, on July 22, 1864. — *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*, Vol. II, p. 710.

<sup>61</sup> Addison K. Sanders. Age 38. Appointed Lieutenant Colonel November 14, 1861. Missing in action near Atlanta, Georgia, on July 22, 1864. Promoted to Brevet Colonel of Volunteers and Brevet Brigadier General, March 13, 1865. — *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*, Vol. II, p. 1071.

<sup>62</sup> William Hall. Age 29. Appointed Colonel September 1, 1862. Resigned August 1, 1864. — *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*, Vol. II, p. 284.

Major Foster<sup>63</sup> 11th. Iowa wounded in left hip.

Wednesday July 27. Before Atlanta

Good nights rest — little rain.

On way out to hospital met 15th. Corps in motion to the right. saw Captain Clune<sup>64</sup> & company of 6th. Iowa. Also 25th. Col. Stone,<sup>65</sup> Adj. Perkins, Lt. Fiddler, Capt. Walter [?], Bill & Snow. Also Allan Lockwood, Thos. Troxel, & Wm. Gilbert & others.

<sup>63</sup> Charles Foster. Age 41. Residence Le Claire. Appointed Captain Oct. 1, 1861. Promoted Major Sept. 1, 1862. Wounded July 22, 1864, Atlanta, Georgia. Died of wounds August 21, 1864, Cincinnati, Ohio. — *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*, Vol. II, p. 320.

<sup>64</sup> William H. Clune. Age 28. Residence Burlington. Promoted Captain of Company I, November 26, 1862. Wounded July 22, 1864, Griswoldville, Georgia. Promoted Major July 29, 1864; Lieutenant Colonel December 30, 1864; Colonel June 8, 1865. Mustered out July 21, 1865, Louisville, Ky. — *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*, Vol. I, p. 816.

<sup>65</sup> Unless otherwise noted the following data concerning these men is taken from the *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*.

George A. Stone. Age 28. Residence Mt. Pleasant. Appointed Colonel August 10, 1862. Promoted Brevet Brigadier General United States Volunteers, March 13, 1865. — Vol. III, p. 918; and Stuart's *Iowa Colonels and Regiments*, pp. 407-414.

Adj. Perkins was probably Albert H. Perkins, of Co. D, Twenty-fifth Infantry. — Vol. III, p. 983.

John B. Fidler. Age 23. Residence Davenport. Enlisted August 14, 1862. Promoted Second Lieutenant February 5, 1863; First Lieutenant May 9, 1863. Wounded October 2, 1863, Cherokee, Florida. Mustered out June 6, 1865, Washington, D. C. — Vol. III, p. 945.

“Capt. Walter Bill” was probably John N. Bell. Age 23. Residence Burlington, nativity Ohio. Appointed Captain July 21, 1862. Mustered out June 6, 1865, Washington, D. C. — Vol. III, p. 927.

Samuel W. Snow. Age 24. Residence Burlington. Appointed First Lieutenant July 21, 1862. Promoted Adjutant March 1, 1863. Wounded in August, 1864, Atlanta, Georgia. Resigned for promotion as Captain and Adjutant General, United States Volunteers, April 8, 1865. — Vol. III, p. 995.

Sergeant Allen D. Lockwood. Age 18. Residence Burlington. Enlisted August 6, 1862. Wounded severely March 20, 1865, Mill Creek, N. C. Mustered out June 6, 1865. — Vol. III, p. 966.

Sergeant Thomas G. Troxel. Age 18. Residence Burlington. Enlisted Aug. 21, 1862. Mustered out June 6, 1865, Washington, D. C. — Vol. III, p. 1002.

William F. Gilbert. Age 18. Residence Burlington. Enlisted July 26, 1862. Mustered out June 6, 1865, Washington, D. C. — Vol. III, p. 950.

Dined at C[hristian] C[ommission] Tent. Spent aft. in 17th. army corps Hospital. wrote 9 letters for wounded soldiers, mostly of Iowa Regiments. Wrote for Green Belinger a rebel (Texas) to his father, Jas. F. Keokuk — Badly wounded, a defiant rebel. His father from Ky. He belonged to Hardee's Corps.

Two soldiers lying side by side — one has lost his right arm, the other his left.

Another his left arm & left leg from Cedar Co. Isaac Wickham died this evening. Ellery Sparks also died this evening — wrote letters for both.

Met Heizer<sup>66</sup> from Kossuth in Q[uartermaster] department, 30th. Iowa — son of Nathaniel H[eizer]. formerly worked with E. Jay [?] — looking very hearty & well.

Thursday, July 28. Before Atlanta, Georgia

4 companies of 13th. Iowa made 9 stacks of guns = 36 guns.

Dr. Thomas (of Keokuk) [and] Dr. Edgar surgeon in chief [of the] 6th. Division Hospital 17th. Corps.

wounded of 11th. Iowa	57
“ “ 13th. “	100
“ “ 15th. “	51
“ “ 16th. “	53

—  
241

Saw Chaplain Elrod<sup>67</sup> (13th. Iowa) formerly a Capt. in the Regiment. Had written no letters for soldiers — had no paper.

<sup>66</sup> Company C, Thirtieth Iowa, contained two Heizers from Kossuth — Martin L. Heizer and Samuel B. Heizer. — *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*, Vol. III, p. 1523.

<sup>67</sup> John Elrod. Age 43. Residence Washington. Appointed Captain November 2, 1861. Promoted Chaplain November 19, 1862. Mustered out November, 1864, expiration of service. — *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*, Vol. II, p. 606.

21 wounded of 3d. Iowa Infantry

241 as above

—  
262 copied list of these — whole number in Hospital this morning 410.

Gen. Gresham commanded the Division & was wounded in leg & tibia in advance of 21st.

Before Atlanta. Friday, July 29

Major Ennis<sup>68</sup> commanding 6th. Iowa mortally wounded in abdomen [on the] 28th, & died in 4 hours.

Gen. Corse commanding 2d D[ivision] 16th Corps — assumed command July 26, 1[st] at Rome. Ga., 2[nd] here. 2d. [and] 7th. Iowa in this division. 39th. at Rome. Battle of Proctor's Creek [on the] 28th. Fight commenced about noon [and] lasted 3½ hours. Rebels made 7 assaults.

Saw Gen. Giles A. Smith who commanded division in which is Iowa Brigade — 4th. D[ivision] 17th. Corps. Met Governor Stone<sup>69</sup> who said that Sherman will send to Hospital at Keokuk on furlough all the wounded Iowa soldiers able to bear transportation & are not likely to be fit for duty in six weeks.

Called on Gen. Corse

Lt. Col. Abercrombie

Met Capt. Perkins

Lt. Snow

Capt. Rogers<sup>70</sup> of 30th. Iowa one of the heroes of the

<sup>68</sup> Thomas J. Ennis. Age 20. Residence Lyons. Appointed Adjutant January 1, 1862. Promoted Major March 14, 1863. Killed in action July 28, 1864, Atlanta, Georgia.

<sup>69</sup> William Milo Stone (October 14, 1827 — July 18, 1893), sixth Governor of Iowa. — Shambaugh's *The Messages and Proclamations of the Governors of Iowa*, Vol. III, pp. 3, 4.

<sup>70</sup> This was apparently Aurelius Roberts. Age 26. Residence Des Moines County. Enlisted in First Iowa, April 20, 1861. Appointed Captain, Thirtieth Infantry, July 25, 1862. Promoted Lieutenant Colonel May 29, 1863. — *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*, Vol. I, p. 66, Vol. III, p. 1554.

Iowa First. Also Mr. Robinson,<sup>71</sup> of 30th, worn down with fatigue, & on his way to Hospital.

visited the battle ground of yesterday with Gen Corse & saw the revolting scene of dead rebels, some 30 lying close to each other & within 40 feet of our works. They had literally been mowed down — 40 had been buried in the morning.

returned to Col. Remick's under burning sun & afterwards, heavy showers — scorched & wet through.

Stopped near Gen. Sherman's Headquarters, at colored barber's.

Wrote John G. Foote  
rode about 20 miles.

Saturday, July 30.

At C[hristian] C[ommission] Tent — no stores, no papers. dined with Mr. Critchfield.

wrote Letters in Hospital 4th., 17th. Corps to Andrew Broadstone, Fort Dodge, Iowa for his son, [for] J. Snyder, Belleville, O[hio] from his brother dan'l, [and for] S. Pickler, Salem, Ind.

Heavy showers — atmosphere dense — very full in Hospital Tents, some of them covered only with branches.

Sunday, July 31. Before Atlanta

At hospitals of 4th & 15th. corps. Met Chaplain[s] Smith & Ross<sup>72</sup> of 4th. corps — good men. Talked with several rebel wounded.

At C[hristian] C[ommission] "fly". Rev. Sam'l Wolcott called — told of a rebel Colonel whose ruined home he had been in to in our lines. Found old papers there, among others a letter written early in 1861, from Convention of

<sup>71</sup> Probably William M. Robinson. — *Roster and Record of Iowa Soldiers in the War of the Rebellion*, Vol. III, p. 1553.

<sup>72</sup> Reverend Jno. B. Smith, 19th Ohio Volunteer Infantry, and Reverend Randal Ross, 15th Ohio Volunteer Infantry.

Georgia that passed Secession Ordinance. He writes: "Georgia has seceded from the Union as easy as you please. I felt no shock." Now his home is a ruin & his fields a desolation!

Heavy showers this aft. with fearful thunder & lightning. A tree struck near tent of C[hristian] C[ommission].

About dark made out way to Col Remick's Quarters.

Mrs. George from Ind. in one Division Hospital of 15th. Corps.

Mr. Wolcott concurs as to the importance of putting sanitary stores into hands of medical officers & dispensing with so much machinery of sanitary agents, and that Christian C[ommission] s'd not add to the confusion of dealing in sanitary stores.

Monday, Aug. 1. Before Atlanta

3d. Division 17th. Corps.

sick 106

wounded 253

—

359

Talked with Rebel Col. wounded in left shoulder [on the] 22d, captured by Col. (Gen.) Bellnap, from Barbour Co., Ala. Born there — merchant, traded in New York, seemed dissatisfied with the Rebellion, but reticent — desirous of peace.

23 Corps moving to the Right — saw Gen. Schofield — stout & solid looking.

wrote letters for Jos. W. Hartwell to his Father, Marion, Ill. A second hemorrhage [sic] in his left arm makes his case very critical — pious & very thankful for my interest in him. wrote letters for 3 other soldiers.

Col. Remick struck his tent this morning & the Prisoners & soldiers tore down the house in which I had been sleeping for several nights & commenced erecting breastworks to



protect the left flank of the army. The fortifications are directly through the house. Head Quarters were moved  $\frac{3}{4}$ ths. of a mile to the right in the deep woods. Soon after pitching his tent several shells from the enemy struck near it, one a 64 pounder, called by the boys, "camp-kettles", "blacksmith's shop." After this notice, Col. R[emick] moved his tent a little to the left.

Called on Gen. Stanley . . . had just heard of capture of Col. McCook & his cavalry (Brownlow only escaping with 500 by swimming a river.)

Gen. S[tanley] spoke in derogation of such raids in neighborhood of any large force of the enemy. Saw Chaplain Macy who was so long with Rosecrans, now an attache of Stanley — said he had but few opportunities for Divine Services — pleasant.

Gen. S[tanley] said, we should be in Atlanta in three days & that Sherman w'd scratch his head over the disaster to McCook. does not believe in Stoneman, thinks he will be captured & his command & that he is not competent to command a company. settled my acc't with Agent Critchfield for postage stamps — P'd Br. Pickett 3. for stamps (100) borrowed of him.

Tuesday, Aug. 2. Before Atlanta, Ga.

Tent fronts E. S. E. quiet in night — firing at right at daylight. 76 Regiment of Infantry, 7 Batteries of Artillery in 4th. Army Corps.

Brig. Gen. T. J. Wood, 3d. D[ivision] 4th. corps, a first rate officer & entitled to two stars. To be recommended to Senator Grimes.

Spoke to a white soldier belonging to Headquarters 4th. Corps from Alexandria, Virginia, who told me he c'd not read — had never been to school. also [spoke] to a black man who was with him from Washington D. C., who said he c'd not read, but his wife could & he was going to learn.

Wrote Sister Mary, Mrs. Salter & Mary, [and the] Hawkeye.

Wednesday, Aug. 3. Before Atlanta, Ga.

very bright, clear morning. very hot middle of the day. shower in aft. & very cool.

Br. P[ickett] unwell in morning. I was still troubled with dysentery — took little whiskey, pod[ophyllum] & aconite, very miserable through the day. [Applied] wet bandages at night. the noxious odors of the hospitals have infected my system.

4th. Corps advanced their lines today but found the Rebels too strong & withdrew.

Atlanta was designated in 1832 by John C. Calhoun for capital of his southern Confederacy.

Thursday, Aug. 4. near Atlanta

A little whiskey this morning with nutmeg — ate some fried mush with molasses (maple). showery.

At 8 A. M. started out on Robert Cameron's grey horse in search of C[hristian] C[ommission] Tent which Mr. Critchfield said we s'd find near the Railroad Track. Our search was unavailing.

Rebels reported as assaulting 23d. corps while getting into position yesterday & repulsed.

79th. Ohio — 258 effective men — over 300 present. Lt. Col.<sup>73</sup> sick [with] dysentery. dined with Chaplain Stillwell<sup>74</sup> who wears a silver cross on each shoulder — polite — showed me with a glass Rebel fortifications & buildings of Atlanta — formerly Captain in the Regiment — Methodist.

<sup>73</sup> Probably Azariah W. Doane. — *Official Roster of the Soldiers of the State of Ohio*, Vol. VI, p. 399.

<sup>74</sup> James R. Stillwell. Age 30. Entered service August 17, 1862. Served three years. Mustered out with regiment, June 9, 1865. — *Official Roster of the Soldiers of the State of Ohio*, Vol. VI, p. 399.

Dined with mess — Pork & Beans, Hard Tack, coffee — very rough. Started on return. met Mr. Critchfield who reported the Tent on the East Side of Railroad. Found 4th. Corps Headquarters in transit along the road. Col. R[emick] pitched his tent near former Headquarters of Sherman.

tired & slept well. much infested with jiggers.

Friday, Aug. 5. near Atlanta

Col. Remick procured an ambulance & we left from Vinings 8 miles at 8 A. M. over very rough ground. crossed Peach Tree Creek above battle ground of 20th. July.

Col. R[emick] & Mr. Rob[ert] Cameron have been very kind to us & made our stay as pleasant as they possibly could. Rob[ert] C[ameron] entrusted me with 200\$ for his mother & a letter for her.

At Vinings at 10½ [a. m.] warm. Jacob Owens, 57, born in S. C. reads but little, 6 children, 1 in Rebel army in Virginia, not heard from him since Christmas. He volunteered, aged 26. His children raised in the Factory at Rosewell at 6 to 8\$ per month.

John Henry Cobb, 10 years old, worked in the factory (cotton) at Rosewell for 10 cts. a day — has never been to school. His father was in the Rosewell Guard Co., Georgia Militia, got a furlough & staid at home, now chopping wood for the U. S. Railroad.

1400 in 23d. Corps Hospital [at] Marietta.

At Vinings Br. Pickett got me from the Sanitary C[ommission] few boiled potatoes (new) & soft crackers.

Rested waiting for cars till 2 P. M. when got a Government wagon (6 mules) of Stoneman's cavalry & rode to Marietta, roughly jolted & stirred, which we reached 5 P. M. The wagon master from S[outhern] Illinois told us of his work his wagons had done in woman-hauling, taking all the families within 5 miles of East side of Railroad to be sent North.

Found C[hristian] C[ommission] house in Marietta in better condition, with good negro woman for cook.

Saturday, Aug. 6. Marietta, Ga.

Rested. Brethren in better spirits. 20 boxes of stores rec'd this week. some 3000 sick & wounded in Hospital here.

10 Delegates here. Made up small package of "Gen. Howard's addresses" & left it at Commissary Blair's office to be forwarded to Col. Remick.

Many stores arrived in bad condition. cans busted — dried apples, moulded & rotten & goods stained. A woman greatly needed to preserve & save. Br. Pickett busy all day opening boxes.

Battle on the right. Our forces (23d & 14th. Corps) made an assault & were repulsed. Heard the heavy cannonading. heavy rain & terrific thunder & lighting.

Sunday, Aug. 7. Marietta, Ga.

Held Divine Service (about 15 minutes) in Hospital in Baptist Ch. of 16th. army corps. same hospital that I visited July 21. Some 60 soldiers, attentive. Thankful that I was able to do a little.

Pleasant sing in the evening with Brethren. Some hub-bub about a raid from Wheeler's cavalry.

Monday, Aug. 8. Marietta, Ga.

Town searched this morning for Rebel spies. good deal of excitement. One said to be a Rebel Major caught.

Br. Pickett bravely visited Kenesaw & Little Kenesaw & came back with glowing acc'ts of the scenery & extended landscape.

Mr. Field<sup>75</sup> (Agent) could not procure transportation for us this morning. Wrote Br. Ben[jamin], Paterson, [N. J.] Col. Remick called. no change at the front. Left Marietta

<sup>75</sup> Reverend Phineas E. Field, Charlemont, Mass.

2:30 P. M. on Freight car with Br. Pickett & McKee<sup>76</sup> (formerly capt. — wounded in side & shoulder at Stone River, going to Monmouth, Ill. to teach Preparatory School of U. P. College.

[Passed] By Kenesaw, Big Shanty, Altoona Mts., [and reached] Kingston [at] 7 P. M.

Br. Pickett brought specimen of cactus from Kenesaw Mt.

Left Marietta 2.30. Staid in car at Kingston until after midnight.

Tuesday, Aug. 9.

At Chattanooga at 10, 30 A. M. after very wearisome 20 hours in car — good company in Br. McKee, a sterling man. rested. at 3 P. M. rode over to Business Room of C[hristian] C[ommission] on Main St. distributed papers among a few soldiers — supplied 3 with Testaments — folded papers. rain. more comfortable & wholesome quarters in house at foot of hill where Bragg's Hospitals stand.

Wednesday, Aug. 10. Chattanooga

rain. wrote Mrs. S[alter].

Left Chattanooga 1:30 P. M. Mrs. Millspaugh (of Mt. Pleasant) brought me small block of Tenn. marble from Chattanooga.<sup>77</sup>

At tunnel 8 P. M. Tedious all night ride.

Thursday, Aug. 11. Nashville

Reached Nashville 7 A. M. Found C[hristian] C[ommission] house in better condition. Misses Shelton called, who have charge of (Hospital No. 14) Light Diet Kitchen — happy & devoted to their work.

rested in morning — showers.

<sup>76</sup> Reverend Jno. McKee, Hamalton, Ohio.

<sup>77</sup> This entry may have been made some time after Mr. Salter reached home.

In aft. visited Capitol, magnificent for position, elevation, & structure. staircase of siennite, like the Aberdeen marble, though coarser. 8 pillars, 15 ft. round on each side. enjoyed reflections on changes which have taken place & the miscalculations of the Rebels.

Col. Mussey, son of Dr. Mussey of Cincinnati, of organization of colored troops, states to Mr. Pickett that the poor blacks take much better care of themselves & are more disposed to work than the poor whites. Of government rations issued . . . he reported the following

100 to 1000 blacks  
1800 to 3500 whites

Friday, Aug. 12. Nashville.

called at Hospital No. 14 (formerly occupied by Elliot Female Seminary, a rich & popular school Methodist.)

The Diet Kitchen working very satisfactorily under the efficient management of the Miss Sheltons.

visited Photograph Gallery. 1.00

met Chaplain T. M. Goodfellow, formerly of Old Zion. Took tea at his house, 162 South Cherry st. Mrs. G. a good house Keeper. Br. G. happy & devoted to his work & determined to hold out to the end of the war.

Mosquitoes very annoying, called on a smoking brother to smoke them, which had a good effect.

called on Dr. Clendenin, Medical Director, friend of Mr. Pickett.

Saturday, Aug, 13, 1864. Nashville.

Left Nashville 7 A. M. At *Louisville* 5½ P. M. Country has enjoyed rain, & crops generally looking very much better than they did July 7. Thermometer 82° at 8 P. M. at Salt House. Took bath.

Mosquitoes & bad smells very annoying, c'd sleep but little — most miserable night since I have been in the field.

Business of C[hristian] C[ommission] in great need of efficient, business management.

Sunday, August 14, 1864. Louisville, Ky.

Held Divine Service 10 A. M. on Gunboat Victory, No. 33. Capt Reed.<sup>78</sup> Officers polite & attentive to service. Men (60) gathered on forecastle deck under awning. All very pleasant & cheering. Bible & Hymn Books distributed, & a large basket of papers etc. left. Mr. Hicket [?] & wife & Miss Bonton [?] in company. Mr. H. rowed us out to the boat lying up the river in the stream. Preached from Lu. 12:37.<sup>79</sup>

At Brown Hospital 6 P. M. 3 miles S. E. 1200 sick & wounded. Chaplain Bowman [?] from near Rochester, New York, read Episcopal prayer in sing-song. good cabinet organ purchased by subscription by officers of Hospital. Band played.

A colored man rode me out in an express wagon — clever fellow — member of Baptist Ch[urch] — bought himself.

Met. Mrs. Underwood,<sup>80</sup> from Muscatine, near neighbor of A. B. Robbins, in charge of Diet Kitchen — happy & devoted in her work.

Mosquitoes very annoying. Thermometer 84° 9 P. M.

Monday, Aug. 15, 1864. Louisville, Ky.

wrote Rev. Mr. Boardman,<sup>81</sup> Secy C[hristian] C[ommission] Philadelphia that I had spent 40 days in service, in Department of Cumberland, at Louisville, Nashville, Mur-

<sup>78</sup> Acting-Master Frederick Read. — Porter's *The Naval History of the Civil War* (1886), pp. 343, 811. There was also a Commander Abner Read.

<sup>79</sup> "Blessed are those servants, whom the Lord when he cometh shall find watching: verily I say unto you, that he shall gird himself, and make them to sit down to meat, and will come forth and serve them."

<sup>80</sup> Mrs. Mary Underwood, of the Sanitary Commission, also served in hospitals at Brown, Louisiana.

<sup>81</sup> Reverend W. E. Boardman. — Moss's *Annals of the United States Christian Commission*, pp. 122, 129, 137, 152, 172.

freesboro, Stevenson, Chattanooga, Tenn., Marietta, & . . . Vickery. Conducted 17 meetings, participated in 5 others, delivered 18 sermons & addresses — personally conversed with about 100 soldiers on their spiritual interest, benefited about 50 by personal ministration of stores, written 100 letters for soldiers, distributed 150 copies of Scriptures, 100 Hy[mn] Books, 50 Soldier's Books, 1500 pages of Tracts, 3000 papers, 100 pamphlets.

As full summary as I can give. I endeavored to keep daily records, but such [were] the multiplicity of labors & incidents & I was often so weary, that I failed to make complete memoranda. At the Front a painful lack of supplies & of facilities to Delegates in getting to their work. Some more efficient superintendence of your operations in the Field needed etc. etc. — W. S.

Left Louisville 11 A. M. on Steamer Gen. Buell — pleasant boat & delightful sail — beautiful scenery by moonlight — 150 miles. At Cincinnati 3½ A. M.

visited Spring Grove Cemetery — a charming place.

Generously entertained at Burnet House without charge.<sup>82</sup> Called at C[hristian] C[ommission] Rooms, Vine St. Met Mr. Chidlaw.<sup>83</sup> Met Rev. J. M. Chamberlain<sup>84</sup> of Des Moines on his way from Boston to Sherman's army.

Passes to Indianapolis. Left Cincinnati Tuesday 4 P. M. arrived at Chicago 9 A. M. Wednesday. At home Wednesday evening (17th. August) at 8 P. M. *Laus Deo!*

<sup>82</sup> Delegates were entertained at the Burnet House, Cincinnati, and the Lindell House, St. Louis, without charge. At Pittsburgh, they were provided with free meals at the Volunteers' Refreshment Rooms, opposite the railroad depot.

<sup>83</sup> Reverend B. W. Chidlaw, Cleveland, Ohio.

<sup>84</sup> Reverend Joshua M. Chamberlain (October, 1826 — November 11, 1897) came to Iowa in the fifties from West Brookfield, Mass., preached in Des Moines and Eddyville, located at Grinnell where he was editor of *The Grinnell Herald*. At various times he was secretary, treasurer, and librarian of Iowa College. — *Annals of Iowa* (Third Series), Vol. III, p. 318.