

DIARY OF HENDERSON GEORGE (100th PA Inf -- Roundheads) PART 1

HENDERSON GEORGE

Henderson George was the oldest son of William George, who was the oldest son of James George, was born June 16th. 1838, on the farm of his father adjoining the village of North Liberty, Liberty Township, Mercer Co., Pa. Here I lived until I was nineteen years of age going to school and helping with the ordinary work on the farm.

At about the age of six years was started to school in a log school house that stood in the village. School facilities very inefficient; the school system of the state, was, in a general way, in a formative or developing period; public school funds were inadequate; teachers were employed with little or no training because they were willing to put in the time at small compensation, a part of which had to be raised among the patrons by subscription; at the same time school terms were limited to from three to six months in the year.

These briefly outlined conditions continued in a general way throughout the nine or ten years of my school life; education therefore very limited.

On the 9th day of September 1857, I took leave of home with the intention of making my own way through the world. I had made up my mind to go to the city of Pittsburg, about fifty five miles away, somewhat in a spirit of adventure, without any definite plans as to what I would do when I arrived there.

Accordingly passage was engaged the day before with the agent of the Ohio Stage Co., which ran its line through the village and at two o'clock next morning in company with my boy friend John W. Morrison, boarded the four horse

Stage Coach

and were off. We arrived in Pittsburg about six o'clock that evening. The next day I was fortunate to find employment in the retail dry goods house of Alexander Bates, located at that time on the N. W. corner of the Diamond and Market street, and was told to report on the following Monday Morning.

Never having heretofore been in a large city, every thing was new, strange, and interesting.

In 1859, I left the Bates store to take employment with the dry goods firm of White & Smiley, at 58 and 60 Market street. I was only a few weeks with the firm before I was sent to Zanesville Ohio, practically in charge of a stock of dry goods which the firm had sold to a young man who was starting a dry goods store in that city.

The young man, (his name not recalled) the party to whom they sold this stock, had just been married. He was probably twenty five years of age, and I soon learned altogether inexperienced in business. He had some money, probably inherited, with which he decided to start a dry goods store in Zanesville Ohio. He came to Pittsburg to buy his stock; and instead of going to one of the wholesale dry goods houses, he way fell into the hands of White & Smiley. The firm deliberately took advantage of his callowness and inexperience, and sold him a large bill of goods, which for the most part were old and out of date, and at the same time charged exhorbitant prices.

Zanesville at this time was a city of about 8,000 population and had some very good retail dry goods stores. Opening up his stock in a store room not well located, the young man soon found that he could do nothing with his stock; it was absolutely dead and unsalable. The firm sent me with the young man

ostensibly as one of his salesmen, and instructed me to make frequent reports of how business was succeeding; this I did from time to time with nothing favourable to report. The end of the matter was, that in about five or six weeks the sheriff closed the store. After about ten days legal notice, and advertising, the stock was sold out under the hammer. It caused a financial loss to the young man of several thousand dollars.

The whole transaction was a deliberate and palpable fraud, which I did not realize until after my arrival in Zanesville. On my return to Pittsburg I resigned my position because of the fraud, and the part the firm led me to play in carrying it through.

This incident proved to be the turning point in my whole future business life.

About 1848, Hough and Anthony brought from Paris France a stock of materials for making the newly discovered Dagueratypes, the process of making pictures by sun-light, and established themselves in business at 64, fourth street Pittsburg. It may be here mentioned that from this French discovery by Daguerre, have been developed the present day marvelous system of instantaneous photos, and moving pictures.

In 1855, Mr. John Haworth of Philadelphia Pa., son of a wealthy manufacturer of that city, becoming interested in the new process for making pictures by sun-light, came to Pittsburg and bought out the firm of Hough and Anthony.

Soon after leaving the firm of White And Smiley, which was in 1859, and being out of employment, I was offered a place in the store of Mr. John Haworth. This position was offered without solicitation on my part; I had, however, some acquaintance with Mr. Haworth, through John W. Morrison, my boy friend,

who was
his brother-in-law, and who probably used his influence in my behalf. I
was
glad to take the position, and was with Mr. Haworth when the war broke
out in
the spring of 1861.

JUNE 1863

Wednesday June 24th.
Weather very hot and sultry. Troops working on entrenchments. Unusual
heavy
cannonading on our Vicksburg front.

Friday June 26th.
As company clerk I began making out muster and pay rolls. All seems to
be quiet
to-day both on our front and rear.

Saturday June 27th.
Weather very hot and oppressive. Working on master and pay rolls.

Sabbath June 28th.
Finished payrolls. Roundheads working on entrenchments.

Monday June 29th.
Break camp at Haines Bluff and march eastward about eight miles in the
direction of Jackson Miss. Bivouac near the the Big Black River.

Weather very hot and sultry. Muster at eight A.M. At noon troops called
for
action with loaded arms. Move forward about a quarter of a mile. It may
be that
we are in immediate danger from attack, but it is not apparent to me.

JULY 1863

Wednesday July 1st.
All apparently quiet. Found a lot of books in a ravine. Weather hot and
sultry.
Mosquitoes are our rmost annoying enemies; they will be with us
constantly as

long as we are in this region.

Friday July 3d.

Many rumors are afloat in camp as to the fate of Vicksburg; the city is said to have surrendered; we know not the exact news because we are several miles in the rear and now following Johnston.

Saturday July 4th.

To-day all Quiet. Gathered some blackberries from a wild patch near by at the risk of snake bite; cooked berries, thought I never ate anything so fine; first fruit tasted in many months. About ten A.M. persistent rumors that Vicksburg had surrendered. About noon news confirmed. Called into line about four P.M., march to the Big Black River.

Sabbath July 5th.

March at two P.M. and bivouac; our advance have come up with the enemy. This is the rebel General Johnston's army who threatened the rear of our Vicksburg besieging forces. Vicksburg now in our hands the whole Union Army is now in pursuit. There was lively picket firing and cannonading about sundown. The number of prisoners taken at Vicksburg was about thirty thousand.

Monday July 6th.

No movement to-day; orders to be ready to march at a moments warning. We anticipate lively times soon.

Tuesday July 7th.

All ominously quiet on our front. March at two P.M. cross the Big Black River in the direction of Yazoo city; about nine miles march. Weather exceedingly oppressive and sultry. Thunder storm came on at dusk which lasted until after mid-night; on picket exposed to the storm; the terrific lightning and thunder, the sheets of rain driven by the wind, seemed as though it would swallow us up in our exposed position; we are right on the heels of the

enemy.

Wednesday July 8th.

Relieved from picket at ten A.M., join regiment at noon; at two P.M. march in the direction of Clinton; bivouac at midnight; Very tired and thirsty; spent an hour in the woods and adjoining country hunting in the dark for water; found water in a mudhole; horrible stuff; swallow some of it under protest with the thought of sickness. Water in this region generally bad both for man and beast; poisoned ponds have killed some of our horses.

Thursday July 9th.

March at seven A.M. in the direction of Jackson Miss., the Capitol of the State; heavy skirmishing and some cannonading in our immediate front; form line of battle at dusk, lie down on our arms; remain here all night; weather very sultry; mosquitos busy.

Friday July 10th.

March at eight A.M. through fields and thickets; arrive about two P.M. within four miles of Jackson Miss. An hour later form line of battle near the State Lunatic Asylum; advance in battle line with the 79th. N.Y.V. in our front as skirmishers; advance about two miles; no enemy found in force; bivouac on arms for the night.

Saturday July 11th.

Early in the morning advance in line of battle to within a few hundred yards of the enemies works. This movement was accomplished under cover of a low hill. Our Brigade holds the extreme left resting on Pearl River; we are now exposed to an enfilading fire causing our men to lie close to the ground in a scorching sun; notwithstanding some of our men were killed or wounded where they lay. We are grateful for the shades of night.

Sabbath July 12th.

Heavy skirmishing began at daylight and continued throughout the day.

Our

batteries began to shell the enemies works about seven A.M. orders expected to

charge which we felt would be a bloody affair. At 12 noon we are relieved by

the second division of our Corps. (9th.) and ordered out on picket on Pearl

River.

Monday July 13th.

Remain on picket all night; during the night six companies of the Roundheads

were ordered to report to the Brigade; four companies remain viz. A, F, K, & G.

G is my company.

Tuesday July 14th.

Still on picket on Pearl River; about about two P.M., I was sent out alone as

an out post picket; rather hazardous, but nothing unusual occurred.

Wednesday July 15th.

Still on outpost picket alone; word brought by a scout of the third Iowa

Cavalry of the approach of a force of rebel mounted men; preparation by the

picket force to meet them should they appear.

Thursday July 16th.

Ten guns captured from the enemy, so rumor says; on our right the enemy attempt

to break our lines but were severely repulsed.

Friday July 17th.

Report this morning that the enemy evacuated Jackson last night. Orders at noon

to march; move in the direction of Canton, and bivouac at Grants Mill on Pearl

River. If the enemy have evacuated Jackson, our campaign is practically ended.

Saturday July 18th.

March early this morning in the direction of the N.O., J. & C.N. R.R.

Arrive at

Madison Station; burn the station and tear up several miles of R.R. track. To make our work effective, the ties are piled in large heaps and the iron rails laid across these heaps and then set on fire. The heat from the burning ties softens the rails, causing the ends to drop, making the rail crooked and useless.

Sabbath July 19th.

Continue tearing up the R..R. track until noon; orders to march; Move back to Jackson Miss., a distance of about ten miles. Weather blistering hot and dusty.

Monday July 20th.

Take leave of Jackson Miss. at Four o'clock this morning; march in the direction of Flower Hill, twenty two miles. Terrific heat and dust. This is a heavy march for such weather.

Tuesday July 21st.

March at daylight; pass through Brownsville arriving at the Big Black River an hour after dark. Bivouac in a corn field; distance marched to-day twenty miles. Several cases of sun stroke causing one or two deaths; intense heat and dust; we are in the midst of the hot season.

Wednesday July 22nd.

March at noon after the burial of one or two of our men on account of the heat; cross the Big Black River and a few miles beyond encamp; heavy rain thoroughly drenching our troops to the skin; put in the hot sultry night in wet clothes.

Thursday July 23d.

March early this morning and arrive at Millvale about ten o'clock; This is one of our old camping grounds; distance marched about thirteen miles.

Friday July 24th.

All quiet; resting to-day; no enemy near us; men busy cleaning up; this

is
believed to be the end of a strenuous campaign. We have come through
intense
heat, dust, storms, malaria, and all sorts of mosquitos. The results
have been
the surrender of Vicksburg with thirty thousand prisoners; the fight
with
General Johnston at Jackson, and his retreat. This campaign opens the
Mississippi River throughout its length. Millvale is near Haines Bluff
on the
Yazoo River.

Saturday July 25th.

This fore noon I was on duty with fatigue squad at the landing on the
Yazoo
River. The indications are that troops will embark soon for the north.

Sabbath July 26th.

Resting in camp.

Monday July 27th.

Resting in camp.

Tuesday July 28th.

Resting in camp.

Wednesday July 29th.

Resting in camp.

Thursday July 30th.

Resting in camp.

Friday July 31st.

To-day on fatigue duty with squad; physically I feel quite under the
weather,
probabi y from malaria. Troops receive orders to break camp and go on
board the
stearn wheel Steam Boat, Hastings. This is glad news.

AUGUST 1863

Saturday Aug. 1st.

On board steamer; leave landing about mid-night. About three P.M.
arrive at the
mouth of the Yazoo; we are now steaming up the muddy waters of the
Mississippi.

Sabbath Aug. 2nd.

Steam all day; occasionally pass a gun boat patrolling the river; no annoyance from guerrillas.

Monday Aug. 3d.

Steaming all day; saw a bear on shore scratching in the sand; pass a fleet of gunboats at the mouth of White River; Lie to for an hour on account of broken machinery; during the day pass Helena, Arkansas. Three of us are quartered on a raised temporary platform opposite a little window opening into the boat kitchen; cultivate good terms with the cook by slipping him each day our rations of whiskey; so each day about noon he would quietly slip to us through the little window a generous pan of hot biscuit, roast beef, and potatoes, with other vegetables; we are living on the "fat of the boat." Our position on the raised platform just large enough for three of us was isolated from observation of the boys who must subsist on hard tack and coffee; otherwise they might have become envious and given us away. So we had good living on the boat while the trip lasted. Would say I have never swallowed a ration of whiskey in the army.

Tuesday Aug. 4th.

Arrive at Memphis Tenn. about noon; boat coaling; will not leave here until tomnorrow.

Wednesday Aug. 5th.

Leave Memphis at seven o'clock A.M. Pass Fort Pillow, also Forts Wright, and Randolph. Fort wright is about seventy miles above Memphis.

Thursday Aug. 6th.

Boat lay to during the night; proceed at day break; at six P.M. pass Island No.10. We are now within about sixteen miles of Cairo.

Friday Aug. 7th.

Arrive at Cairo about ten A.M. Disembark; board cars on the central Illinois R.R. Train leaves Cairo about ten P.M.

Saturday Aug. 8th.

Arrive at Sandoval about two P.M. Change cars to the St.L. and C. R.R. and pull out eastward, our supposed destination is Cincinnati Ohio.

Sunday Aug. 9th.

Arrive at Cincinnati O. at four P.M. After supper on hard tack and coffee march across the Ohio River to Covington Ky. Occupy soldiers barracks for the night.

Monday Aug. 10th.

Remain in Covington until four P.M. Board cars on the Kentucky Central R.R. and proceed south.

Tuesday Aug. 11th.

Arrive at Nicholasville, Ky. about nine A.M. March to Camp Nelson, arriving there about four P.M. Encamp.

Wednesday Aug. 12th.

Resting in camp.

Thursday Aug. 13th.

Resting in camp.

Friday Aug. 14th.

Move camp about two miles; beautiful place; it is said we are here to have a few days rest to recuperate from the wearing effects of the Mississippi campaign and the long boat and rail journey returning. Our journey northward was begun July 21st. We have therefore been sixteen days making the trip. Our traveling accommodations both on board the boat and cars were very uncomfortable; our troops suffered much hardship. Almost every man was to some extent affected with malaria we contracted from mosquitos, and the bad water of the Bayous in Mississippi. Several of our men have sickened and died suddenly since we arrived here. I am now feeling quite well again, although

somewhat
indisposed before starting north.

Saturday Aug. 15th.

To-day I was appointed to the position of clerk and orderly in the
Brigade
Commissary Department under Lieutenant Jefferson Justice. This will be
an
agreeable change from the ranks.

Sabbath Aug. 16th.

Doing nothing--resting. Brother Samuel left for home on a fifteen day
furlough.

Monday Aug. 17th.

Doing some clerical work in the Commissary Office tent.

Tuesday Aug. 18th.

To-day I have been at the camp of the 79th.,N.Y.V., collecting money
from the
officers for commissary supplies sold them on credit during the
Mississippi
campaign.

Wednesday Aug. 19th.

Lying quiet; resting.

Thursday Aug. 20th.

Lying quiet; resting.

Friday Aug. 21st.

Lying quiet; resting.

Saturday Aug. 22nd.

Lying quiet; resting.

Sabbath Aug. 23d.

Formal receipt for commissary supplies signed by Captain Bell;
instructed to
telegraph Lieut. Justice if teams are furnished; if no teams telegraph
Captain
Curtain to let Lieut. Justice know.

Monday Aug. 24th.

Doing some office work; was out at the 79th.,N.Y.V. collecting.

Tuesday Aug. 25th.

Lying quiet; as Dr. Taylor and I were walking along near our quarters
about 11

o'clock A.M., we were startled by a terrific explosion near a point about one hundred and fifty yards in front of us, which we at first took to be a rebel shell; the whole camp was alarmed with the thought that a rebel force had surprised us. On investigation was found to have been a stroke of lightning; it made a hole in the ground much like a shell.

Wednesday Aug. 26th.
Doing some office work.

Thursday Aug. 27th.
Orders received this P.M., be ready to march to-morrow morning at daylight.

Friday Aug. 28th.
March at daylight; arrive at Camp Dick Robinson after noon; bivouac for the night; distance marched ten miles; this is our old campground of last April.

Saturday Aug. 29th.
March at daylight and encamp at eleven o'clock at a point about three miles east of Lancaster Ky. About ten miles march.

Sabbath Aug. 30th.
March at daylight; arrive at crab orchard about 11 A.M. distance marched ten miles.

Monday Aug. 31st.
All quiet; wrote some letters to home and friends. Troops encamp as if to stay a few days. There is no enemy force at this time in Kentucky.

DIARY OF HENDERSON GEORGE (100th PA Inf -- Roundheads) PART 3

JANUARY - APRIL 1864

From December 29th., the date of our re-enlistment, until April 22nd.,

1864, no
daily record was kept. Briefly we march from Blains Cross Roads, Tenn.,
and in
five or six days arrive at Crab Orchard Ky. Here we rest for a few days
while
the men are being fitted out with clothing and shoes. From Crab Orchard
we
march to Nicholasville Ky., and there take cars (box cars) to
Cincinnati Ohio,
and from there to Pittsburg Pa. At Pittsburg we leave our arms and
equipments,
and on the 8th., of February separate for our respective homes, where
most of
us visit for the first time since our enlistment in the army, of almost
two
years and six months. Our homes are scattered through Lawrence, Butler,
and
Mercer Counties. We shall greatly enjoy a well earned veteran furlough
of
thirty days.

At the end of our furlough of thirty days March 8th., we report for
duty at
Camp Copeland, Pittsburg. We remain in camp here until April 20th. on
which
date orders are received to report at Annapolis Maryland.

Up to the first of January (1864) brief notes have been transcribed
from diary.
at this time it was thought to omit daily notes, and in place write a
brief
narrative covering this year and the five months of 1865. But this
thought it
has seemed to me would be unsatisfactory; therefore it has been
concluded to
continue brief notes from diary. These notes are not intended to be
considered
in the light of military history, but a sketch of the inconspicuous
part played
by the writer in the great civil war drama.

APRIL 1864

Friday April 22nd.

Roundheads arrive at Annapolis Md., and go into camp. Orders received to be ready to march next day. Lieut. Justice appointed acting Commissary of Subsistence first Division ninth Army Corps. At the same time I was detailed in the A.C.S. Department as clerk and orderly. In the evening was in Annapolis on business for the A.C.S.

Saturday April 23d.

Troops break camp and march in the direction of Washington D.C. Was at Annapolis early this morning on business for the acting Commissary. Later come up with troops; encamp about six P.M. Days march about sixteen miles.

Sabbath April 24th.

Troops march at seven A.M. Remained with wagon train, delay on account of an accident, until two o'clock next morning; raining; little sleep.

Monday April 25th.

Troops march at nine A.M. Arrive in Washington at 12, M. At one P.M. pass in review before the President, Mr. Lincoln and his cabinet, and other high officials. Cross the long bridge and encamp near Alexandria Va.

Tuesday April 26th.

Was in Alexandria twice during the day on business for the A.C.S. Drew rations and issued to the Brigades; after midnight before I got through. Very tired and sleepy.

Wednesday April 27th.

Troops march at nine o'clock A.M. and encamp at Fairfax C.H. Days march sixteen miles.

Thursday April 28th.

Troops march from Fairfax C.H. at seven A.M. Our march to-day was over some of the old battle fields, Chantilly, Centerville, first and second Bull Run,

Manassas Junction. Encamp in the evening near Bristows Station on the
O. & M.,
R.R. To-days march 15 miles.

Friday April 29th.
Troops march at seven A.M. Pass near Warrenton Junction and Catlets
Station and
bivouac near Bealton. Issued to the first Brigade. Am somewhat
indisposed this
P.M.

Saturday April 30th.
Weather cloudy, raining. Remain to-day at Bealton Station. Issued
rations to
first Brigade. First Division of the ninth Corps is distributed along
the R.R.
Orders tonight to have on hand ten days rations -- three days cooked
and in
haversacks -- and three days cooked and in knapsacks. We are now a part
of the
great army of the Potomac which has lain here. A great movement of the
army
seems about to take place.

MAY 1864

Sabbath May 1st.
Lieut. Justice appointed Post Commissary; under him I have been placed
in
charge of sales to officers.

Monday May 2nd.
Took charge of my position to-day as sales clerk. No army movement.
Heavy rain
this morning.

Tuesday May 3d.
Busy with sales. Orders to be ready to move on short notice. Lieut.
Justice
left for Washington D.C.

Wednesday May 4th.
Weather clear. Troops begin moving early; the whole army seems to be in

motion

and is probably the beginning of an advance against Richmond. About nine

o'clock A.M., saw a train of loaded freight cars wrecked as it was passing

Bealton Station; one man killed and a number injured. Troops are said to be

crossing the Rapidan River at Germania Ford; this point is about twelve miles

distant and in the direction of the enemy. Late in the evening was ordered to

return to Brintons Station and bring forward a drove of beef cattle. As all

fences and roads were obliterated because of army occupation, and darkness

coming on it was impossible to see the road, or to know where I was going,

except that I felt I was moving in the right direction. The whole country for

miles around was denuded of all trees and fences, which had been used up by the

the soldiers for fuel and quarters, during the winter. At the same time roads

and paths were leading in every direction. The place of course was entirely

deserted, nothing but the wreckage of former camps covered the whole locality.

Saw a bright fire burning and a man diligently gathering the wreckage and

throwing it on the fire. Rode up and spoke to him but he made no response; he

was hatless and almost naked; watched him a few minutes and concluded he was

insane, and quietly withdrew fearing somewhat an insane attack.

While deliberating in the darkness a little way from the insane mans fire, the

lowing of cattle was heard, and turning my horse in the direction from which

the sound came, and riding about half a mile was glad to find the corral of

cattle with a detail of men in charge. Unsaddle my horse and giving him something to eat, and with the saddle for a pillow lay down until morning.

Thursday May 5th.

This morning early start to the front with the drove of cattle; arrive

at

Germania Ford in the after-noon; turn cattle over to the Division Commissary.

Cannonading and lively skirmishing is heard on our front. The whole army has crossed the Rapidan.

Friday May 6th.

Was up this morning about two o'clock; move head quarters about two miles. At

daylight a great battle seems to be on; owing to the heavy forest, and thick

under growth, and the broken rough country, our fighting lines are hid from

view. As the day advances musketry firing grows more and more furious, crashing

along our lines in a continuous rattling roar, rising and falling as it waves

destruction along the different sections of our widely extended lines. Artillery not much in use because of the unfavorable topography of the field.

The field hospital has been established near our head quarters; crores of

wounded are being brought in and many surgeons are at work. General Grant, also

General Mead, both on the field. Heavy fighting all day. Fire broke out in the

underbrush on a part of our line, and some of the wounded lying on the field

were burned. at sun-down the enemy broke our right causing confusion and alarm.

General Wadsworth who was in command on the right was killed in this charge of

the enemy, also General Hayes. Darkness ends the terrible struggle of the day,

but the groans of the wounded and dying fill the air.

Saturday May 7th.

The fierce battle of yesterday became known as the battle of the Wilderness.

The Roundheads were engaged but fortunately our casualties were light; brother

is all right. no heavy fighting to-day; late this evening the enemy made two

unsuccessful assualts on our left. The battle of yesterday seems to have been

without result or advantage to either side. Was at Chancelorsville

during the
day. Army ordered to move at dark; our move appears to be in the
direction of
Fredericksburg.

Sabbath May 8th.

Weather very warm and sultry. Was on the road all night, but making
little
progress. Encamp at noon on the site of battle of Chancellorsville
fought last
year. Human bones and skulls were in evidence here and there over the
field.
Cannonading heard in the direction of Spottsylvania C.H. Encamp on the
Spottsylvania road with about six miles of the Court house. The Union
and
Confederate armies seem to be moving side by side in parallel columns.

Monday May 9th.

Weather warm and sultry. Arose this morning from my couch under the
blue sky
about two o'clock, and move with troops on the road to Spottsylvania;
arrive
about noon within shelling distance. General Stevenson in command of
the third
Division of the ninth corps was killed to-day; also General Sedgwick.

Tuesday May 10th.

Considerable fighting during the day at Spottsylvania. Colonel Leasure
of the
Roundheads is in command of the First Division of the 9th. Army Corps;
it made
an advance this evening pushing the enemy back some distance,
sustaining
comparatively small loss; this movement was made on the left of our
line.

Wednesday May 11th.

Raining. Skirmishing all day on our front. This evening our troops fell
back
across the Little Annie River, but recrossed after dark; suppose this
movement
was intended as a feint. Lieut. Justice left for Acquia Creek.

Thursday May 12th.

Weather cloudy, raining all day. Hard battle fought to-day in which our
Regiment suffered severely; do not at this time know the casualties; a
large

number of prisoners -- upward of ten thousand were taken. Move wagon train about six miles back from the front; roads bad on account of the heavy continuous rains.

Friday May 13th.

Weather cloudy, raining, no fighting to-day along the lines of the 9th. Corps.

The Roundheads were badly cut up yesterday in the fight. Some of the killed of company E. are Stewart Gill, Milton Campbell, James McCune, and W. Bently; many wounded but have not their names. Brother Samuel is all right.

Saturday May 14th.

Weather showery. Comparative quiet on our lines to-day.

Sabbath May 15th.

Weather continuous showery. Preparations appear to be going on for another battle; reinforcements are hurriedly brought up; all wagon trains ordered to Fredericksburg.

Monday May 16th.

Arrive at Fredericksburg; wagon train sent to the front with supplies; unload and return to Fredericksburg. From Fredericksburg wagon train sent to Belle Plane our present base of supplies to reload; this place is on the Potomac River. Arrive at Belle Plane in the evening, but other trains ahead of us prevent us from reloading until next day. John Burns and I are in charge of train. Know little about affairs at the front; our army seems to be shifting considerably to the left; the fighting that has been going on since the 6th, does not appear much to our advantage. The two opposing armies appear to be moving toward Richmond in parallel columns.

Tuesday May 17th.

Return with wagon train from Belle Plane to Fredericksburg, and unload; immediately sent back to Belle Plane to reload; arrive at the latter place in

the evening but other trains ahead of us delay reloading until we come in turn.

Wednesday May 18th.

Weather raining. Could not get in to load until this after-noon. after loading ordered to park train for the night, and to await military escort; rebel cavalry it is said threaten our line of communication.

Thursday May 19th.

Leave Belle Plane at six P.M., arrive at Fredericksburg at noon. Sent in charge of a wagon train to the front; within three or four miles of the front attacked by the enemy causing us to turn back in haste to Fredericksburg. Enemy repulsed after a fight two hours without the loss of a wagon; arrive back at Fredericksburg about mid-night; lay down under a wagon for a nap. This was a strenuous days experience.

Friday May 20th.

remain at Fredericksburg awaiting orders. Lieut. Justice and John Burns arrive from the front this evening.

Saturday May 21th.

Leave for the front at sunrise; arrive at Massapony Church at ten A.M. Found troops on the move. Not knowing where to find the 9th. Corps fell in with General Grants head quarters train and remain with it during the night.

Sabbath May 22nd.

A general movement of the army appears to be in progress. Not much firing can be heard.

Monday May 23d.

Army still on the move. Heavy cannonading to-day on our front on the James River.

Tuesday May 24th.

Our supply train parks near the South Anna River; heavy fighting this

evening

on our front. The enemy is probably making a stand at the South Anna River.

Part of our force is said to have crossed over.

Wednesday May 25th.

Heavy skirmishing all day. Our regiment on the skirmish line; several of the

Roundheads wounded -- two or three mortally. Lieut. Justice returned from Belle

Plane; I was sent this evening to Belleford to bring forward a supply train.

Thursday May 26th.

Lieut. Justice and John Burns went to Port Royal to-day to reload wagons. I

issued rations to the second Division of the 9th. Corps Order received after

dark to move train and park at the Church, and await further orders.

Friday May 27th.

Weather showery. Order received about 11 A.M. to move out on a road in an

eastern direction; move some distance and park on a small stream in a corn

field. The 9th. Corps has been defending our rear.

Saturday May 28th.

On the move this morning at six o'clock in the direction of the Pamunkey River;

in the evening cross the stream. Every thing ordered over. The enemy said to be

near in heavy force. Fierce battle at Cold Harbor; the Roundheads were engaged

and met with some casualties; Lieutenant Gilfillan was killed; do not know

further particulars.

Sabbath May 29th.

There is apparent quietness in our immediate vicinity. Distant cannonading is

heard. The Roundheads crossed the Pamunkey River this morning; and after an

hours rest was ordered to the front.

Monday May 30th.

Weather fair and warm. Move wagon train a short distance toward the

front. From
the sound of cannon and musketry a lively fight seems to be going on at
the
front. This fighting has been kept up most of the day. Issued to the
Brigade
last night.

Tuesday May 31st.

Brisk skirmishing along our lines; the Roundheads are on skirmish line.

JUNE 1864

Wednesday June 1st.

Heavy skirmishing all day ending in a considerable battle in the
evening.

Thursday June 2nd.

Weather raining. Troops fall back with the Roundheads bringing up the
rear,
which resulted in casualties, as they were vigorously pressed by the
enemy.

Lieut. John Offut, John McGee, and William Eastlick are among the
wounded.

Brother Samuel is safe.

Friday June 3d.

Weather raining. Heavy fighting during the day with little
intermission. Wagon
train arrived from the White House Landing on the York River. This
point is our
new base of supplies. The train was attacked by the rebels along the
way, and
David Henry one of the guards was killed.

Saturday June 4th.

Weather cloudy raining. Met Lieut. Justice and the supply train; I
expect to be
up all night issueing rations. No severe fighting to-day; the 9th.
Corps is
shifting to the right.

Sabbath June 5th.

Cloudy and raining. Continual rain seems to follow the army; it is said

to be
caused by cannonading and musketry firing. Was up all last night
looking after
the issueing of rations. Issued to some of the Brigades this A.M.

Monday June 6th.

Last night the rebels made a desperate charge on our lines and were
repulsed
with heavy loss. Several casualties in our Regiment but have no
particulars.
Supply train remained where we parked last night. During the afternoon
rebel
shells began falling among our wagons causing us to make a hasty move;
some of
our teamsters were wounded; wagons were struck without much damage.
Moved back
a mile or so out of range.

Tuesday June 7th.

Weather warm cloudy. Lying quiet; Lieut. Justice arrived with a wagon
train of
supplies. Issued to Brigades. Lieut. Justice relieved from the A.C.S.
department, and Captain England assumes charge. This change in the
A.C.S. may
relieve me also; therefore I anticipate an order to join my Regiment.
All
apparently quiet on our front.

Wednesday June 8th.

Weather very warm raining. Busy to-day getting receipts and papers
signed
closing up the business of Lieut. Justice with the A.C.S. 1st. Division
9th.
Army Corps. No order yet relieving me has yet been received.

Thursday June 9th.

Was out at the front this A.M. Lieut. Justice had an ague chill.

Friday June 10th.

Move supply train toward White House Landing about three miles; this is
our
present base of supplies.

Saturday June 11th.

Was sent with a message to General Burnside and instructed to deliver
it to him
in person, which I did. Was also at Division Head Quarters on business.

Both

armies have been lying quiet for the last day or two. Troops move this evening in the direction of Bottoms Ridge.

Sabbath June 12th.

Weather clear and warm. Orders at noon to move wagon train to White House Landing; arrive there after dark a distance of twelve miles.

Monday June 13th.

Move this morning with wagon train to Harrisons Landing. Pass New Kent Court House, arrive at Broadville on the Williamsburg road, and park for the night.

Tuesday June 14th.

Leave Broadville about 8 A.M., move in the direction of the Chicahominy near Dyers Church; park train.

Wednesday June 15th.

Weather clear and warm; cross the Dianisong, also the Chicahominy; was on the road all night. Our troops are crossing the James River at Bermuda Hundred.

Thursday June 16th.

Park train about nine o'clock A.M. Very tired and worn out with the long day and night march of twenty seven hours. Rest from nine A.M. until noon. Move to the James River and during the after-noon cross the river with wagon trains over a Pontoon Bridge two thousand one hundred feet in length, near Bermuda Hundred. The whole army seems to be crossing the James River.

Friday June 17th.

Leave the James River about seven A.M., and drive toward Petersburg. Hard fighting near Petersburg. Several casualties occurred in our Regiment, (the Roundheads); among them was Captain Morrow, killed; Colonel Dawson; Lieut. Kirk; Jacob Ball; David Book; and D. Breckenridge among the wounded. So far as

I can learn brother Samuel is safe. Have not full particulars.

Saturday June 18th.

Moved wagon train to the front. Lieut. Justice has been appointed Acting Commissary of Subsistence for the first Division Hospital. hard fighting to-day; rebels driven back; Rail Road occupied by our troops. Was engaged this evening issuing rations to Hospital.

Sabbath June 19th.

Weather clear warm and dusty. All quiet on our lines.

Monday June 20th.

All comparatively quiet along our lines. Our troops are now erecting breastworks and forts in anticipation of a prolonged siege of the city of Petersburg Va. This is the key to Richmond. Constant fighting day and night.

Tuesday June 21st.

All quiet except picket firing which is constant.

Wednesday June 22nd.

Heavy fighting on our left. It is reported that the rebels [captured] one of our batteries and some prisoners. Samuel Moore of Co. C. of the Roundheads was wounded from which he died. Other casualties but do not know particulars.

Thursday June 23d.

Heavy fighting and picket firing all day and night long. Our lines are being tightened around the city.

Friday June 24th.

Sharp fighting this morning in which our troops made a capture of about two thousand prisoners and six pieces of artillery.

Saturday June 25th.

Was down at City Point on business in the morning; return in the evening. Lieut. John W. Morrison came up with me. Dr. Taylor who has been connected with

the Commissary department for some time was relieved at his request to return to duty with his company, G. Roundheads.

Sabbath June 26th.

Nothing important going on along our lines; constant picket firing day and night. City point is our present base of supplies and is situated on the James River about twelve miles N.E. of Petersburg. It is also the Head Quarters of General Grant.

Monday June 27th.

Weather clear and very warm. The rebels have been shelling us some to-day with large guns. So far not much damage done. Continual picket firing day and night.

Tuesday June 28th.

Some of our regiment were wounded to-day by rebel sharpshooters. Earth works are being thrown up by our troops. On the right of the line held by the Roundheads is Fort Steadman, and on our left is Fort Haskel. On the right of our regiment there is a battery of Cohorn Mortars, mounted, near Fort Steadman.

Wednesday June 29th.

Some desultory fighting on our lines without result so far as I know.

Thursday June 30th.

Nothing unusual in a military way on our lines to-day.

JULY 1864

Friday July 1st.

Weather clear and very warm. An artillery fight began last night, suddenly, about ten o'clock, which was kept up for more than two hours. All the artillery

along the lines of both armies seemed to be in action. It was estimated that more than a thousand guns of all calibers, both sides included, were belching forth fire and destruction. It seemed as though both sides would be annihilated. The tremendous roar of the guns, the shrieking, screaming, and bursting shells as they flew back and forth over our heads, was an exhibition awe inspiring, and indeed fearful beyond the power of words to express. The results, however, were of little consequence; nothing appeared to be gained on either side; and so far as I know few casualties were reported, but the spectacle was grand and exciting and not to be forgotten. Dick Holmes was up from City Point this evening.

Saturday July 2nd.

Nothing unusual occurred on our lines to-day. Was engaged in making out muster and pay rolls for our Co. G.

Sabbath July 3d.

Weather clear and warm. Nothing of importance transpiring on our lines. Still working on pay rolls. Dr. Taylor was down from the front on a visit to City Point and remained until after-noon.

Monday July 4th.

All quiet on our lines except constant picket firing day and night. Our investment of Petersburg began about June 16th., and since that date has been under seige. How long will it continue? On June 7th., Lieut. Justice was relieved from the official position of A.C.S. 1st. Division 9th. Army Corps by Captain Englund who was the regular C.S. Lieut. Justice was the A.C.S. during the absence of Captain Englund. This change it was supposed at the time would automatically remove me, and an order was expected by me to join my company. In the mean time Lieut. Justice was appointed C.S. of the field hospital, and I was detailed with him as assistant clerk and orderly. This is my

present
position.

Saturday July 30th.

Have made no notes in my diary since July 4th. On this date (July 30th.)

occurred what we called the Mine Explosion. Our troops had undermined a rebel

fort that to-day was blown up; this fort was in front of the lines of the 9th.

Army Corps. after the explosion of the mine a heavy fight took place in an

effort to break through the rebel lines, but the effort was unsuccessful. The

Roundheads lost twenty two men. The whole 9th. Corps was engaged and the

agregate loss was heavy. Our troops were repulsed. It is said with reference to

the Mine Explosion that plans were not properly carried out. It ws a disasterous failure.

DIARY OF HENDERSON GEORGE (100th PA INF -- ROUNDHEADS) PART 3

JANUARY - APRIL 1864

From December 29th., the date of our re-enlistment, until April 22nd., 1864, no daily record was kept. Briefly we march from Blains Cross Roads, Tenn., and in five or six days arrive at Crab Orchard Ky. Here we rest for a few days while the men are being fitted out with clothing and shoes. From Crab Orchard we march to Nicholasville Ky., and there take cars (box cars) to Cincinnati Ohio, and from there to Pittsburg Pa. At Pittsburg we leave our arms and equipments, and on the 8th., of February separate for our respective homes, where most of us visit for the first time since our enlistment in the army, of almost two years and six months. Our homes are scattered through Lawrence, Butler, and Mercer Counties. We shall greatly enjoy a well earned veteran furlough of thirty days.

At the end of our furlough of thirty days March 8th., we report for duty at Camp Copeland, Pittsburg. We remain in camp here until April 20th. on which date orders are received to report at Annapolis Maryland.

Up to the first of January (1864) brief notes have been transcribed from diary. at this time it was thought to omit daily notes, and in place write a brief narrative covering this year and the five months of 1865. But this thought it has seemed to me would be unsatisfactory; therefore it has been concluded to continue brief notes from diary. These notes are not intended to be considered in the light of military history, but a sketch of the inconspicuous part played by the writer in the great civil war drama.

APRIL 1864

Friday April 22nd.

Roundheads arrive at Annapolis Md., and go into camp. Orders received to be ready to march next day. Lieut. Justice appointed acting Commissary of Subsistence first Division ninth Army Corps. At the same time I was detailed in the A.C.S. Department as clerk and orderly. In the evening was in Annapolis on business for the A.C.S.

Saturday April 23d.

Troops break camp and march in the direction of Washington D.C. Was at Annapolis early this morning on business for the acting Commissary. Later come up with troops; encamp about six P.M. Days march about sixteen miles.

Sabbath April 24th.

Troops march at seven A.M. Remained with wagon train, delay on account of an accident, until two o'clock next morning; raining; little sleep.

Monday April 25th.

Troops march at nine A.M. Arrive in Washington at 12, M. At one P.M. pass in review before the President, Mr. Lincoln and his cabinet, and other high officials. Cross the long bridge and encamp near Alexandria Va.

Tuesday April 26th.

Was in Alexandria twice during the day on business for the A.C.S. Drew rations and issued to the Brigades; after midnight before I got through. Very tired and sleepy.

Wednesday April 27th.

Troops march at nine o'clock A.M. and encamp at Fairfax C.H. Days march sixteen miles.

Thursday April 28th.

Troops march from Fairfax C.H. at seven A.M. Our march to-day was over some of the old battle fields, Chantilly, Centerville, first and second Bull Run, Manassas Junction. Encamp in the evening near Bristows Station on the O. & M., R.R. To-days march 15 miles.

Friday April 29th.

Troops march at seven A.M. Pass near Warrenton Junction and Catlets Station and bivouac near Bealton. Issued to the first Brigade. Am somewhat indisposed this P.M.

Saturday April 30th.

Weather cloudy, raining. Remain to-day at Bealton Station. Issued rations to first Brigade. First Division of the ninth Corps is distributed along the R.R. Orders tonight to have on hand ten days rations -- three days cooked and in haversacks -- and three days cooked and in knapsacks. We are now a part of the great army of the Potomac which has lain here. A great movement of the army seems about to take place.

MAY 1864

Sabbath May 1st.

Lieut. Justice appointed Post Commissary; under him I have been placed in charge of sales to officers.

Monday May 2nd.

Took charge of my position to-day as sales clerk. No army movement. Heavy rain this morning.

Tuesday May 3d.

Busy with sales. Orders to be ready to move on short notice. Lieut. Justice left for Washington D.C.

Wednesday May 4th.

Weather clear. Troops begin moving early; the whole army seems to be in motion and is probably the beginning of an advance against Richmond. About nine o'clock A.M., saw a train of loaded freight cars wrecked as it was passing Bealton Station; one man killed and a

number injured. Troops are said to be crossing the Rapidan River at Germania Ford; this point is about twelve miles distant and in the direction of the enemy. Late in the evening was ordered to return to Brintons Station and bring forward a drove of beef cattle. As all fences and roads were obliterated because of army occupation, and darkness coming on it was impossible to see the road, or to know where I was going, except that I felt I was moving in the right direction. The whole country for miles around was denuded of all trees and fences, which had been used up by the the soldiers for fuel and quarters, during the winter. At the same time roads and paths were leading in every direction. The place of course was entirely deserted, nothing but the wreckage of former camps covered the whole locality. Saw a bright fire burning and a man diligently gathering the wreckage and throwing it on the fire. Rode up and spoke to him but he made no response; he was hatless and almost naked; watched him a few minutes and concluded he was insane, and quietly withdrew fearing somewhat an insane attack.

While deliberating in the darkness a little way from the insane mans fire, the lowing of cattle was heard, and turning my horse in the direction from which the sound came, and riding about half a mile was glad to find the corral of cattle with a detail of men in charge. Unsaddle my horse and giving him something to eat, and with the saddle for a pillow lay down until morning.

Thursday May 5th.

This morning early start to the front with the drove of cattle; arrive at Germania Ford in the after-noon; turn cattle over to the Division Commissary. Cannonading and lively skirmishing is heard on our front. The whole army has crossed the Rapidan.

Friday May 6th.

Was up this morning about two o'clock; move head quarters about two miles. At daylight a great battle seems to be on; owing to the heavy forest, and thick under growth, and the broken rough country, our fighting lines are hid from view. As the day advances musketry firing grows more and more furious, crashing along our lines in a continuous rattling roar, rising and falling as it waves destruction along the different sections of our widely extended lines. Artillery not much in use because of the unfavorable topography of the field. The field hospital has been established near our head quarters; crores of wounded are being brought in and many surgeons are at work. General Grant, also General Mead, both on the field. Heavy fighting all day. Fire broke out in the underbrush on a part of our line, and some of the wounded lying on the field were burned. at sun-down the enemy broke our right causing confusion and alarm. General Wadsworth who was in command on the right was killed in this charge of the enemy,

also General Hayes. Darkness ends the terrible struggle of the day, but the groans of the wounded and dying fill the air.

Saturday May 7th.

The fierce battle of yesterday became known as the battle of the Wilderness. The Roundheads were engaged but fortunately our casualties were light; brother is all right. no heavy fighting to-day; late this evening the enemy made two unsuccessful assaults on our left. The battle of yesterday seems to have been without result or advantage to either side. Was at Chancellorsville during the day. Army ordered to move at dark; our move appears to be in the direction of Fredericksburg.

Sabbath May 8th.

Weather very warm and sultry. Was on the road all night, but making little progress. Encamp at noon on the site of battle of Chancellorsville fought last year. Human bones and skulls were in evidence here and there over the field. Cannonading heard in the direction of Spottsylvania C.H. Encamp on the Spottsylvania road with about six miles of the Court house. The Union and Confederate armies seem to be moving side by side in parallel columns.

Monday May 9th.

Weather warm and sultry. Arose this morning from my couch under the blue sky about two o'clock, and move with troops on the road to Spottsylvania; arrive about noon within shelling distance. General Stevenson in command of the third Division of the ninth corps was killed to-day; also General Sedgwick.

Tuesday May 10th.

Considerable fighting during the day at Spottsylvania. Colonel Leasure of the Roundheads is in command of the First Division of the 9th. Army Corps; it made an advance this evening pushing the enemy back some distance, sustaining comparatively small loss; this movement was made on the left of our line.

Wednesday May 11th.

Raining. Skirmishing all day on our front. This evening our troops fell back across the Little Annie River, but recrossed after dark; suppose this movement was intended as a feint. Lieut. Justice left for Acquia Creek.

Thursday May 12th.

Weather cloudy, raining all day. Hard battle fought to-day in which our Regiment suffered severely; do not at this time know the casualties; a large number of prisoners -- upward of ten thousand were taken. Move wagon train about six miles back from the front;

roads bad on account of the heavy continuous rains.

Friday May 13th.

Weather cloudy, raining, no fighting to-day along the lines of the 9th. Corps. The Roundheads were badly cut up yesterday in the fight. Some of the killed of company E. are Stewart Gill, Milton Campbell, James McCune, and W. Bently; many wounded but have not their names. Brother Samuel is all right.

Saturday May 14th.

Weather showery. Comparative quiet on our lines to-day.

Sabbath May 15th.

Weather continuous showery. Preparations appear to be going on for another battle; reinforcements are hurriedly brought up; all wagon trains ordered to Fredericksburg.

Monday May 16th.

Arrive at Fredericksburg; wagon train sent to the front with supplies; unload and return to Fredericksburg. From Fredericksburg wagon train sent to Belle Plane our present base of supplies to reload; this place is on the Potomac River. Arrive at Belle Plane in the evening, but other trains ahead of us prevent us from reloading until next day. John Burns and I are in charge of train. Know little about affairs at the front; our army seems to be shifting considerably to the left; the fighting that has been going on since the 6th, does not appear much to our advantage. The two opposing armies appear to be moving toward Richmond in parallel columns.

Tuesday May 17th.

Return with wagon train from Belle Plane to Fredericksburg, and unload; immediately sent back to Belle Plane to reload; arrive at the latter place in the evening but other trains ahead of us delay reloading until we come in turn.

Wednesday May 18th.

Weather raining. Could not get in to load until this after-noon. after loading ordered to park train for the night, and to await military escort; rebel cavalry it is said threaten our line of communication.

Thursday May 19th.

Leave Belle Plane at six P.M., arrive at Fredericksburg at noon. Sent in charge of a wagon train to the front; within three or four miles of the front attacked by the enemy causing us to turn back in haste to Fredericksburg. Enemy repulsed after a fight two hours without the loss of a wagon; arrive back at Fredericksburg about mid-night; lay

down under a wagon for a nap. This was a strenuous days experience.

Friday May 20th.

remain at Fredericksburg awaiting orders. Lieut. Justice and John Burns arrive from the front this evening.

Saturday May 21th.

Leave for the front at sunrise; arrive at Massapony Church at ten A.M. Found troops on the move. Not knowing where to find the 9th. Corps fell in with General Grants head quarters train and remain with it during the night.

Sabbath May 22nd.

A general movement of the army appears to be in progress. Not much firing can be heard.

Monday May 23d.

Army still on the move. Heavy cannonading to-day on our front on the James River.

Tuesday May 24th.

Our supply train parks near the South Anna River; heavy fighting this evening on our front. The enemy is probably making a stand at the South Anna River. Part of our force is said to have crossed over.

Wednesday May 25th.

Heavy skirmishing all day. Our regiment on the skirmish line; several of the Roundheads wounded -- two or three mortally. Lieut. Justice returned from Belle Plane; I was sent this evening to Belleford to bring forward a supply train.

Thursday May 26th.

Lieut. Justice and John Burns went to Port Royal to-day to reload wagons. I issued rations to the second Division of the 9th. Corps Order received after dark to move train and park at the Church, and await further orders.

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Weather showery. Order received about 11 A.M. to move out on a road in an eastern direction; move some distance and park on a small stream in a corn field. The 9th. Corps has been defending our rear.

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On the move this morning at six o'clock in the direction of the Pamunkey River; in the evening cross the stream. Every thing ordered over. The enemy said to be near in heavy force. Fierce battle at Cold Harbor; the Roundheads were engaged and met with some casualties;

Lieutenant Gilfillan was killed; do not know further particulars.

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There is apparent quietness in our immediate vicinity. Distant cannonading is heard. The Roundheads crossed the Pamunkey River this morning; and after an hours rest was ordered to the front.

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Weather fair and warm. Move wagon train a short distance toward the front. From the sound of cannon and musketry a lively fight seems to be going on at the front. This fighting has been kept up most of the day. Issued to the Brigade last night.

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Heavy skirmishing all day ending in a considerable battle in the evening.

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Weather raining. Heavy fighting during the day with little intermission. Wagon train arrived from the White House Landing on the York River. This point is our new base of supplies. The train was attacked by the rebels along the way, and David Henry one of the guards was killed.

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Weather cloudy raining. Met Lieut. Justice and the supply train; I expect to be up all night issueing rations. No severe fighting today; the 9th. Corps is shifting to the right.

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Move supply train toward White House Landing about three miles; this is our present base of supplies.

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Was sent with a message to General Burnside and instructed to deliver it to him in person, which I did. Was also at Division Head Quarters on business. Both armies have been lying quiet for the last day or two. Troops move this evening in the direction of Bottoms Ridge.

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Nothing unusual occurred on our lines to-day. Was engaged in making out muster and pay rolls for our Co. G.

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Weather clear and warm. Nothing of importance transpiring on our lines. Still working on pay rolls. Dr. Taylor was down from the front on a visit to City Point and remained until after-noon.

Monday July 4th.

All quiet on our lines except constant picket firing day and night. Our investment of Petersburg began about June 16th., and since that date has been under seige. How long will it continue? On June 7th., Lieut. Justice was relieved from the official position of A.C.S. 1st. Division 9th. Army Corps by Captain Englund who was the regular C.S. Lieut. Justice was the A.C.S. during the absence of Captain Englund. This change it was supposed at the time would automatically remove me, and an order was expected by me to join my company. In the mean time Lieut. Justice was appointed C.S. of the field hospital, and I was detailed with him as assistant clerk and orderly. This is my present position.

Saturday July 30th.

Have made no notes in my diary since July 4th. On this date (July 30th.) occurred what we called the Mine Explosion. Our troops had undermined a rebel fort that to-day was blown up; this fort was in front of the lines of the 9th. Army Corps. after the explosion of the mine a heavy fight took place in an effort to break through the rebel lines, but the effort was unsuccessful. The Roundheads lost twenty two men. The whole 9th. Corps was engaged and the aggregate loss was

heavy. Our troops were repulsed. It is said with reference to the Mine Explosion that plans were not properly carried out. It was a disastrous failure.

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DIARY OF HENDERSON GEORGE (100th PA Inf -- Roundheads) PART 3a

JANUARY - APRIL 1864

From December 29th., the date of our re-enlistment, until April 22nd., 1864, no daily record was kept. Briefly we march from Blains Cross Roads, Tenn., and in five or six days arrive at Crab Orchard Ky. Here we rest for a few days while the men are being fitted out with clothing and shoes. From Crab Orchard we march to Nicholasville Ky., and there take cars (box cars) to Cincinnati Ohio, and from there to Pittsburg Pa. At Pittsburg we leave our arms and equipments, and on the 8th., of February separate for our respective homes, where most of us visit for the first time since our enlistment in the army, of almost two years and six months. Our homes are scattered through Lawrence, Butler, and Mercer Counties. We shall greatly enjoy a well earned veteran furlough of thirty days.

At the end of our furlough of thirty days March 8th., we report for duty at

Camp Copeland, Pittsburg. We remain in camp here until April 20th. on which date orders are received to report at Annapolis Maryland.

Up to the first of January (1864) brief notes have been transcribed from diary. at this time it was thought to omit daily notes, and in place write a brief narrative covering this year and the five months of 1865. But this thought it has seemed to me would be unsatisfactory; therefore it has been concluded to continue brief notes from diary. These notes are not intended to be considered in the light of military history, but a sketch of the inconspicuous part played by the writer in the great civil war drama.

APRIL 1864

Friday April 22nd.
Roundheads arrive at Annapolis Md., and go into camp. Orders received to be ready to march next day. Lieut. Justice appointed acting Commissary of Subsistence first Division ninth Army Corps. At the same time I was detailed in the A.C.S. Department as clerk and orderly. In the evening was in Annapolis on business for the A.C.S.

Saturday April 23d.
Troops break camp and march in the direction of Washington D.C. Was at Annapolis early this morning on business for the acting Commissary. Later come up with troops; encamp about six P.M. Days march about sixteen miles.

Sabbath April 24th.
Troops march at seven A.M. Remained with wagon train, delay on account of an accident, until two o'clock next morning; raining; little sleep.

Monday April 25th.

Troops march at nine A.M. Arrive in Washington at 12, M. At one P.M. pass in review before the President, Mr. Lincoln and his cabinet, and other high officials. Cross the long bridge and encamp near Alexandria Va.

Tuesday April 26th.

Was in Alexandria twice during the day on business for the A.C.S. Drew rations and issued to the Brigades; after midnight before I got through. Very tired and sleepy.

Wednesday April 27th.

Troops march at nine o'clock A.M. and encamp at Fairfax C.H. Days march sixteen miles.

Thursday April 28th.

Troops march from Fairfax C.H. at seven A.M. Our march to-day was over some of the old battle fields, Chantilly, Centerville, first and second Bull Run, Manassas Junction. Encamp in the evening near Bristows Station on the O. & M., R.R. To-days march 15 miles.

Friday April 29th.

Troops march at seven A.M. Pass near Warrenton Junction and Catlets Station and bivouac near Bealton. Issued to the first Brigade. Am somewhat indisposed this P.M.

Saturday April 30th.

Weather cloudy, raining. Remain to-day at Bealton Station. Issued rations to first Brigade. First Division of the ninth Corps is distributed along the R.R. Orders tonight to have on hand ten days rations -- three days cooked and in haversacks -- and three days cooked and in knapsacks. We are now a part of the great army of the Potomac which has lain here. A great movement of the army seems about to take place.

Subject: DIARY OF HENDERSON GEORGE (100th PA Inf -- Roundheads) PART 3b

JANUARY - APRIL 1864

From December 29th., the date of our re-enlistment, until April 22nd., 1864, no daily record was kept. Briefly we march from Blains Cross Roads, Tenn., and in five or six days arrive at Crab Orchard Ky. Here we rest for a few days while the men are being fitted out with clothing and shoes. From Crab Orchard we march to Nicholasville Ky., and there take cars (box cars) to Cincinnati Ohio, and from there to Pittsburg Pa. At Pittsburg we leave our arms and equipments, and on the 8th., of February separate for our respective homes, where most of us visit for the first time since our enlistment in the army, of almost two years and six months. Our homes are scattered through Lawrence, Butler, and Mercer Counties. We shall greatly enjoy a well earned veteran furlough of thirty days.

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MAY 1864

Sabbath May 1st.

Lieut. Justice appointed Post Commissary; under him I have been placed in charge of sales to officers.

Monday May 2nd.

Took charge of my position to-day as sales clerk. No army movement.

Heavy rain
this morning.

Tuesday May 3d.

Busy with sales. Orders to be ready to move on short notice. Lieut.
Justice
left for Washington D.C.

Wednesday May 4th.

Weather clear. Troops begin moving early; the whole army seems to be in
motion

and is probably the beginning of an advance against Richmond. About
nine

o'clock A.M., saw a train of loaded freight cars wrecked as it was
passing

Bealton Station; one man killed and a number injured. Troops are said
to be

crossing the Rapidan River at Germania Ford; this point is about twelve
miles

distant and in the direction of the enemy. Late in the evening was
ordered to

return to Brintons Station and bring forward a drove of beef cattle. As
all

fences and roads were obliterated because of army occupation, and
darkness

coming on it was impossible to see the road, or to know where I was
going,

except that I felt I was moving in the right direction. The whole
country for

miles around was denuded of all trees and fences, which had been used
up by the

the soldiers for fuel and quarters, during the winter. At the same time
roads

and paths were leading in every direction. The place of course was
entirely

deserted, nothing but the wreckage of former camps covered the whole
locality.

Saw a bright fire burning and a man diligently gathering the wreckage
and

throwing it on the fire. Rode up and spoke to him but he made no
response; he

was hatless and almost naked; watched him a few minutes and concluded
he was

insane, and quietly withdrew fearing somewhat an insane attack.

While deliberating in the darkness a little way from the insane mans
fire, the

lowing of cattle was heard, and turning my horse in the direction from which the sound came, and riding about half a mile was glad to find the corral of cattle with a detail of men in charge. Unsaddle my horse and giving him something to eat, and with the saddle for a pillow lay down until morning.

Thursday May 5th.

This morning early start to the front with the drove of cattle; arrive at Germania Ford in the after-noon; turn cattle over to the Division Commissary. Cannonading and lively skirmishing is heard on our front. The whole army has crossed the Rapidan.

Friday May 6th.

Was up this morning about two o'clock; move head quarters about two miles. At daylight a great battle seems to be on; owing to the heavy forest, and thick under growth, and the broken rough country, our fighting lines are hid from view. As the day advances musketry firing grows more and more furious, crashing along our lines in a continuous rattling roar, rising and falling as it waves destruction along the different sections of our widely extended lines. Artillery not much in use because of the unfavorable topography of the field. The field hospital has been established near our head quarters; crores of wounded are being brought in and many surgeons are at work. General Grant, also General Mead, both on the field. Heavy fighting all day. Fire broke out in the underbrush on a part of our line, and some of the wounded lying on the field were burned. at sun-down the enemy broke our right causing confusion and alarm. General Wadsworth who was in command on the right was killed in this charge of the enemy, also General Hayes. Darkness ends the terrible struggle of the day, but the groans of the wounded and dying fill the air.

Saturday May 7th.

The fierce battle of yesterday became known as the battle of the Wilderness.

The Roundheads were engaged but fortunately our casualties were light; brother

is all right. no heavy fighting to-day; late this evening the enemy made two

unsuccessful assaults on our left. The battle of yesterday seems to have been

without result or advantage to either side. Was at Chancellorsville during the

day. Army ordered to move at dark; our move appears to be in the direction of

Fredericksburg.

Sabbath May 8th.

Weather very warm and sultry. Was on the road all night, but making little

progress. Encamp at noon on the site of battle of Chancellorsville fought last

year. Human bones and skulls were in evidence here and there over the field.

Cannonading heard in the direction of Spottsylvania C.H. Encamp on the Spottsylvania road with about six miles of the Court house. The Union and

Confederate armies seem to be moving side by side in parallel columns.

Monday May 9th.

Weather warm and sultry. Arose this morning from my couch under the blue sky

about two o'clock, and move with troops on the road to Spottsylvania; arrive

about noon within shelling distance. General Stevenson in command of the third

Division of the ninth corps was killed to-day; also General Sedgwick.

Tuesday May 10th.

Considerable fighting during the day at Spottsylvania. Colonel Leasure of the

Roundheads is in command of the First Division of the 9th. Army Corps; it made

an advance this evening pushing the enemy back some distance, sustaining

comparatively small loss; this movement was made on the left of our line.

Wednesday May 11th.

Raining. Skirmishing all day on our front. This evening our troops fell back across the Little Annie River, but recrossed after dark; suppose this movement was intended as a feint. Lieut. Justice left for Acquia Creek.

Thursday May 12th.

Weather cloudy, raining all day. Hard battle fought to-day in which our Regiment suffered severely; do not at this time know the casualties; a large number of prisoners -- upward of ten thousand were taken. Move wagon train about six miles back from the front; roads bad on account of the heavy continuous rains.

Friday May 13th.

Weather cloudy, raining, no fighting to-day along the lines of the 9th. Corps. The Roundheads were badly cut up yesterday in the fight. Some of the killed of company E. are Stewart Gill, Milton Campbell, James McCune, and W. Bently; many wounded but have not their names. Brother Samuel is all right.

Saturday May 14th.

Weather showery. Comparative quiet on our lines to-day.

Sabbath May 15th.

Weather continuous showery. Preparations appear to be going on for another battle; reinforcements are hurriedly brought up; all wagon trains ordered to Fredericksburg.

Monday May 16th.

Arrive at Fredericksburg; wagon train sent to the front with supplies; unload and return to Fredericksburg. From Fredericksburg wagon train sent to Belle Plane our present base of supplies to reload; this place is on the Potomac River. Arrive at Belle Plane in the evening, but other trains ahead of us prevent us from reloading until next day. John Burns and I are in charge of train. Know little about affairs at the front; our army seems to be shifting

considerably to the left; the fighting that has been going on since the 6th, does not appear much to our advantage. The two opposing armies appear to be moving toward Richmond in parallel columns.

Tuesday May 17th.

Return with wagon train from Belle Plane to Fredericksburg, and unload; immediately sent back to Belle Plane to reload; arrive at the latter place in the evening but other trains ahead of us delay reloading until we come in turn.

Wednesday May 18th.

Weather raining. Could not get in to load until this after-noon. after loading ordered to park train for the night, and to await military escort; rebel cavalry it is said threaten our line of communication.

Thursday May 19th.

Leave Belle Plane at six P.M., arrive at Fredericksburg at noon. Sent in charge of a wagon train to the front; within three or four miles of the front attacked by the enemy causing us to turn back in haste to Fredericksburg. Enemy repulsed after a fight two hours without the loss of a wagon; arrive back at Fredericksburg about mid-night; lay down under a wagon for a nap. This was a strenuous days experience.

Friday May 20th.

remain at Fredericksburg awaiting orders. Lieut. Justice and John Burns arrive from the front this evening.

Saturday May 21th.

Leave for the front at sunrise; arrive at Massapony Church at ten A.M. Found troops on the move. Not knowing where to find the 9th. Corps fell in with General Grants head quarters train and remain with it during the night.

Sabbath May 22nd.

A general movement of the army appears to be in progress. Not much

firing can
be heard.

Monday May 23d.

Army still on the move. Heavy cannonading to-day on our front on the James River.

Tuesday May 24th.

Our supply train parks near the South Anna River; heavy fighting this evening on our front. The enemy is probably making a stand at the South Anna River. Part of our force is said to have crossed over.

Wednesday May 25th.

Heavy skirmishing all day. Our regiment on the skirmish line; several of the Roundheads wounded -- two or three mortally. Lieut. Justice returned from Belle Plane; I was sent this evening to Belleford to bring forward a supply train.

Thursday May 26th.

Lieut. Justice and John Burns went to Port Royal to-day to reload wagons. I issued rations to the second Division of the 9th. Corps Order received after dark to move train and park at the Church, and await further orders.

Friday May 27th.

Weather showery. Order received about 11 A.M. to move out on a road in an eastern direction; move some distance and park on a small stream in a corn field. The 9th. Corps has been defending our rear.

Saturday May 28th.

On the move this morning at six o'clock in the direction of the Pamunkey River; in the evening cross the stream. Every thing ordered over. The enemy said to be near in heavy force. Fierce battle at Cold Harbor; the Roundheads were engaged and met with some casualties; Lieutenant Gilfillan was killed; do not know further particulars.

Sabbath May 29th.

There is apparent quietness in our immediate vicinity. Distant cannonading is heard. The Roundheads crossed the Pamunkey River this morning; and after an hours rest was ordered to the front.

Monday May 30th.

Weather fair and warm. Move wagon train a short distance toward the front. From the sound of cannon and musketry a lively fight seems to be going on at the front. This fighting has been kept up most of the day. Issued to the Brigade last night.

Tuesday May 31st.

Brisk skirmishing along our lines; the Roundheads are on skirmish line.

DIARY OF HENDERSON GEORGE (100th PA Inf -- Roundheads) PART 3c

JUNE 1864

Wednesday June 1st.

Heavy skirmishing all day ending in a considerable battle in the evening.

Thursday June 2nd.

Weather raining. Troops fall back with the Roundheads bringing up the rear, which resulted in casualties, as they were vigorously pressed by the enemy.

Lieut. John Offut, John McGee, and William Eastlick are among the wounded.

Brother Samuel is safe.

Friday June 3d.

Weather raining. Heavy fighting during the day with little intermission. Wagon train arrived from the White House Landing on the York River. This

point is our
new base of supplies. The train was attacked by the rebels along the
way, and
David Henry one of the guards was killed.

Saturday June 4th.

Weather cloudy raining. Met Lieut. Justice and the supply train; I
expect to be
up all night issueing rations. No severe fighting to-day; the 9th.
Corps is
shifting to the right.

Sabbath June 5th.

Cloudy and raining. Continual rain seems to follow the army; it is said
to be
caused by cannonading and musketry firing. Was up all last night
looking after
the issueing of rations. Issued to some of the Brigades this A.M.

Monday June 6th.

Last night the rebels made a desperate charge on our lines and were
repulsed
with heavy loss. Several casualties in our Regiment but have no
particulars.
Supply train remained where we parked last night. During the afternoon
rebel
shells began falling among our wagons causing us to make a hasty move;
some of
our teamsters were wounded; wagons were struck without much damage.
Moved back
a mile or so out of range.

Tuesday June 7th.

Weather warm cloudy. Lying quiet; Lieut. Justice arrived with a wagon
train of
supplies. Issued to Brigades. Lieut. Justice relieved from the A.C.S.
department, and Captain England assumes charge. This change in the
A.C.S. may
relieve me also; therefore I anticipate an order to join my Regiment.
All
apparently quiet on our front.

Wednesday June 8th.

Weather very warm raining. Busy to-day getting receipts and papers
signed
closing up the business of Lieut. Justice with the A.C.S. 1st. Division
9th.

Army Corps. No order yet relieving me has yet been received.

Thursday June 9th.

Was out at the front this A.M. Lieut. Justice had an ague chill.

Friday June 10th.

Move supply train toward White House Landing about three miles; this is our present base of supplies.

Saturday June 11th.

Was sent with a message to General Burnside and instructed to deliver it to him in person, which I did. Was also at Division Head Quarters on business. Both armies have been lying quiet for the last day or two. Troops move this evening in the direction of Bottoms Ridge.

Sabbath June 12th.

Weather clear and warm. Orders at noon to move wagon train to White House Landing; arrive there after dark a distance of twelve miles.

Monday June 13th.

Move this morning with wagon train to Harrisons Landing. Pass New Kent Court House, arrive at Broadville on the Williamsburg road, and park for the night.

Tuesday June 14th.

Leave Broadville about 8 A.M., move in the direction of the Chicahominy near Dyers Church; park train.

Wednesday June 15th.

Weather clear and warm; cross the Dianisong, also the Chicahominy; was on the road all night. Our troops are crossing the James River at Bermuda Hundred.

Thursday June 16th.

Park train about nine o'clock A.M. Very tired and worn out with the long day and night march of twenty seven hours. Rest from nine A.M. until noon. Move to the James River and during the after-noon cross the river with wagon

trains

over a Pontoon Bridge two thousand one hundred feet in length, near Bermuda

Hundred. The whole army seems to be crossing the James River.

Friday June 17th.

Leave the James River about seven A.M., and drive toward Petersburg.

Hard

fighting near Petersburg. Several casualties occurred in our Regiment, (the

Roundheads); among them was Captain Morrow, killed; Colonel Dawson; Lieut.

Kirk; Jacob Ball; David Book; and D. Breckenridge among the wounded. So far as

I can learn brother Samuel is safe. Have not full particulars.

Saturday June 18th.

Moved wagon train to the front. Lieut. Justice has been appointed Acting

Commissary of Subsistence for the first Division Hospital. hard fighting

to-day; rebels driven back; Rail Road occupied by our troops. Was engaged this

evening issuing rations to Hospital.

Sabbath June 19th.

Weather clear warm and dusty. All quiet on our lines.

Monday June 20th.

All comparatively quiet along our lines. Our troops are now erecting breastworks and forts in anticipation of a prolonged siege of the city of

Petersburg Va. This is the key to Richmond. Constant fighting day and night.

Tuesday June 21st.

All quiet except picket firing which is constant.

Wednesday June 22nd.

Heavy fighting on our left. It is reported that the rebels [captured] one of

our batteries and some prisoners. Samuel Moore of Co. C. of the Roundheads was

wounded from which he died. Other casualties but do not know particulars.

Thursday June 23d.

Heavy fighting and picket firing all day and night long. Our lines are being tightened around the city.

Friday June 24th.

Sharp fighting this morning in which our troops made a capture of about two thousand prisoners and six pieces of artillery.

Saturday June 25th.

Was down at City Point on business in the morning; return in the evening.

Lieut. John W. Morrison came up with me. Dr. Taylor who has been connected with the Commissary department for some time was relieved at his request to return to duty with his company, G. Roundheads.

Sabbath June 26th.

Nothing important going on along our lines; constant picket firing day and night. City point is our present base of supplies and is situated on the James River about twelve miles N.E. of Petersburg. It is also the Headquarters of General Grant.

Monday June 27th.

Weather clear and very warm. The rebels have been shelling us some to-day with large guns. So far not much damage done. Continual picket firing day and night.

Tuesday June 28th.

Some of our regiment were wounded to-day by rebel sharpshooters. Earth works are being thrown up by our troops. On the right of the line held by the Roundheads is Fort Steadman, and on our left is Fort Haskell. On the right of our regiment there is a battery of Cohorn Mortars, mounted, near Fort Steadman.

Wednesday June 29th.

Some desultory fighting on our lines without result so far as I know.

Thursday June 30th.

Nothing unusual in a military way on our lines to-day.

JULY 1864

Friday July 1st.

Weather clear and very warm. An artillery fight began last night, suddenly, about ten o'clock, which was kept up for more than two hours. All the artillery along the lines of both armies seemed to be in action. It was estimated that more than a thousand guns of all calibers, both sides included, were belching forth fire and destruction. It seemed as though both sides would be annihilated. The tremendous roar of the guns, the shrieking, screaming, and bursting shells as they flew back and forth over our heads, was an exhibition awe inspiring, and indeed fearful beyond the power of words to express. The results, however, were of little consequence; nothing appeared to be gained on either side; and so far as I know few casualties were reported, but the spectacle was grand and exciting and not to be forgotten. Dick Holmes was up from City Point this evening.

Saturday July 2nd.

Nothing unusual occurred on our lines to-day. Was engaged in making out muster and pay rolls for our Co. G.

Sabbath July 3d.

Weather clear and warm. Nothing of importance transpiring on our lines. Still working on pay rolls. Dr. Taylor was down from the front on a visit to City Point and remained until after-noon.

Monday July 4th.

All quiet on our lines except constant picket firing day and night. Our investment of Petersburg began about June 16th., and since that date

has been
under seige. How long will it continue? On June 7th., Lieut. Justice
was
relieved from the official position of A.C.S. 1st. Division 9th. Army
Corps by
Captain Englund who was the regular C.S. Lieut. Justice was the A.C.S.
during
the absence of Captain Englund. This change it was supposed at the time
would
automatically remove me, and an order was expected by me to join my
company. In
the mean time Lieut. Justice was appointed C.S. of the field hospital,
and I
was detailed with him as assistant clerk and orderly. This is my
present
position.

Saturday July 30th.

Have made no notes in my diary since July 4th. On this date (July
30th.)
occurred what we called the Mine Explosion. Our troops had undermined a
rebel
fort that to-day was blown up; this fort was in front of the lines of
the 9th.
Army Corps. after the explosion of the mine a heavy fight took place in
an
effort to break through the rebel lines, but the effort was
unsuccessful. The
Roundheads lost twenty two men. The whole 9th. Corps was engaged and
the
agregate loss was heavy. Our troops were repulsed. It is said with
reference to
the Mine Explosion that plans were not properly carried out. It ws a
disasterous failure.

DIARY OF HENDERSON GEORGE (100th PA Inf -- Roundheads) PART 4

AUGUST - DECEMBER 1864

In the latter part of August, Lieut. Justice was transferred from the
field

Hospital to City Point and placed in charge of a prisoners camp or Barracks, and I was taken with him as assistant. The prisoners confined here were our own men, made up of the off scourings of the Union Army, such as deserters, bounty jumpers, and various other offenders and crooks awaiting trial by Court Marshall. There were two or three hundred of these men, many of whom were criminals in civil life.

My duties continued at City Point until Dec. 26th., when an order was received relieving me and sending me to my company at the front. This order was in line with the fact that our fighting ranks at the front were becoming so decimated from sickness and casualties, that they were under a heavy strain of duty; and therefore to afford some relief all men on special duty were called to the colors.

This will be a marked change in my army service, and will give me a taste of genuine seige work. Reported to my Co. G. on Dec. 29th., and was ordered to be ready to go on night watch at mid-night. Next day was detailed for picket, going on post immediately after dark, to remain twenty four hours. Weather was cold, snow covered the ground, making my first experience on the Petersburg picket line any thing but pleasant. The rebel picket line, and our own, are not more than fifty to one hundred yards apart. The men often chide and bluff one another; they calling us "Yanks," and we calling them "Johnnies." Sometimes we would sing a song to which they would either cheer or jeer. Then they would sing us a southern song and we would laugh and make fun of it. Often stories were told by one side or the other; in this way often during the night, time was whiled away.

The rebels changed pickets at the same time we did, that is, just after dark.

It was customary to keep up firing from both sides for the purpose of annoying and harrassing each other, while the lines were being changed. Finally some of our men shouted over asking whether they would not agree to cease firing until after nine o'clock if we would do the same. To our proposition they willingly agreed. And from that time, to the credit of both parties, during the next four months of the seige not a shot was fired until after nine o'clock P.M.

Our pickets were posted along our line about fifty feet from one post to another -- three men on a post. Each post has thrown up a redoubt or pit for protection against rebel bullets; much care must be used against rebel sharpshooters, one cannot show his head without danger. Pickets are stationed for twenty four hours, day and night, completely exposed to the weather, be it blistering sun, storm, rain, sleet or snow. Sometimes the rains are so incessant that these posts become mud-holes making them truly a nightmare of patient suffering and endurance. The seige of Petersburg was begun on June 16th., and it is now the last of December, so that it has been under way for more than six months.

JANUARY 1865

Thursday Jan. 5th.

Was on the picket line last night on the right of the 39 section. Orders to keep up firing during the night; rebels doing the same. This part of the picket line is much exposed, and we expect a vigorous fire from the enemy during the night, and especially about the time the relief comes. It is bright moon-light;

but to our surprise in keeping with our agreement not to fire on each other until after nine P.M., not a shot was fired.

Tuesday Jan. 10th.

Weather cloudy; commenced raining at three o'clock this morning and continued without intermission all day. Pickets are having a rough time on account of being flooded out of their redoubts.

Saturday Jan. 14th.

Weather cloudy, raining and cold. On picket last night on the right of the 35 section opposite the breast of the rebel dam.

Sabbath Jan. 15th.

Weather clear and cold. Company inspection at 10 A.M. By an agreement of both parties, (meaning the rebels and ourselves) shouting across to each other, there is to be no picket firing on our lines from dusk until after nine o'clock P.M. I saw several little white rags stuck up over the rebel picket posts as a truce that they would strictly observe our agreement. This little act on their part impressed us with a kindly if not brotherly feeling. Following their example many little white flags appeared over our picket posts.

Saturday Jan. 21th.

Weather cloudy with a cold sleety rain. Stood quarter guard last night.

Monday Jan. 23d.

Weather cloudy raining. Was on picket last night on a dangerous vidette post.

This post can only be occupied at night, it is lonely and exposed, only one man is placed on it, who is instructed to vacate it at the first streak of day. The rebels know about where it is and sometimes fire on it. Heavy cannonading and musketry on our right.

Tuesday Jan. 24th.

Report that the heavy cannonading on our right yesterday was an attempt

of the
rebel gun boats to descend the James River to destroy our base of
supplies at
City Point, and also to cut off our communication by river. It is said
one boat
was sunk and the other blown up.

Sabbath Jan. 29th.

Weather clear and cold. An unusual scene took place to-day along our
lines
about three o'clock P.M. This unusual scene was the rebels by hundreds
and
thousands mounting the top of their breastworks unarmed, and wildly
cheering
and waving their hats; in response to this action our men did the same;
this
continued for a space of more than five minutes during which time not a
shot
was fired. The rebels were the first to dismount. The whole movement
seemed to
be spontaneous. It started speculation among our troops as to the cause
or
meaning. We were inclined to believe that the enemy were exulting and
rejoicing
over the achievement of some great victory of which we had not yet
heard.

Tuesday Jan. 31st.

Weather clear and cold. Bid good bye to Lieut. Justice, who resigned
and was
mustered out of the service to return home. There is a feeling of
regret on my
part that our association of many months on the field of strife has
come to an
end. I can never forget the kindness and consideration of Lieut.
Justice under
whom I served as assistant in the Commissary department. There seems to
be a
feeling of optimism in the air that great things are going to happen at
the
opening of spring. It is reported that the rebel Vice President of the
so-called Confederate States came into our lines at Fort Sedgewick
under a flag
of truce with two or three C.S. officials, on a peace mission. General
Grant,
it is said, met them at Meads Station.

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Wednesday Feb. 1st.

Weather clear and pleasant. Orders this morning to to pack knapsacks, except tents, and be ready for action at a moments notice. No unusual occurrence on our lines to-day.

Thursday Feb. 2nd.

Weather clear and pleasant. We are still under marching orders. Visited Captain Burns at his quarters at the 3d. Maryland. Was at Meads Station with Lieut. Doughlass, and from there we went to our Division Hospital to see some of our wounded. Returned in the evening, found I was detailed for picket.

Friday Feb. 3d.

Cloudy with light rain. On picket on the R.R., on a lonely post, that is I am alone; considerable shelling on both sides during the day; shells scream just over my head; imagine I can feel the rush of the air. Report that a movement is in progress on our left.

Sabbath Feb. 5th.

Orders this morning to pack knapsacks and be ready to march. A general military movement is believed to be in progress on our left.

Monday Feb. 6th.

Weather cloudy and cold. Still under marching orders. Picket detail for to-night is revoked. This is certainly unusual.

Tuesday Feb. 7th.

Weather raw with sleety rain. Heavy firing is heard on our left; an important movement seems to be in progress.

Wednesday Feb. 8th.

Weather clear and cold. The report this morning is that our forces have

captured the South Side R.R., if so it must be accepted as a heavy blow to the enemy as it severs his communication with the south. This is the outcome of the movement started two or three days ago for which we have been under orders with knapsacks packed, in order to be ready for any emergency that might develop. Will go on picket to-night. The heavy charge yesterday on our main lines at the Yellow House was by the enemy. Enemy repulsed with heavy loss.

Thursday Feb. 9th.

Clear, cold, on picket last night with No. 4. Division, which is directly in front of our regiment. Considerable artillery firing on our right, which rests on the Appomattox, broke out about ten o'clock to-night. Also unusual brisk picket firing along the rail road on our front.

Saturday Feb. 11th.

Weather clear and pleasant. Was down at City Point this morning returning on the three o'clock train. Lively shelling during the day in front of our regiment. Not many casualties.

Monday Feb. 13th.

Weather cold and windy. Was on picket last night with No. 5. Division; I occupy post on the R.R. alone; put in very uncomfortable 24 hours from wind and cold.

Tuesday Feb. 14th.

Weather not so cold. Brigade inspection at one o'clock P.M. Captain Robinson of the 20th. Michigan Regiment was shot and killed by a rebel sharp shooter as he was riding along the breastworks of our regiment. Private Moorhead was shot on the picket line last night and is thought to be mortally wounded. Some shelling to-day.

Wednesday Feb. 15th.

Weather raining all day. Took four rebel deserters to Brigade Head Quarters

to-day. Rebel deserters are coming in almost every night. Was over at the
the
Division Commissary on a visit. R. D. Holmes has been appointed R. Q. M.
Robert
McLain Q. S., and Captain Robbins Division Commissary. All quiet.

Thursday Feb. 16th.

Weather clear and pleasant. Was on picket on a lone vidette post last
night;
this is one of those dangerous posts. Was instructed to leave it and
return to
quarters at the first streak of day.

Monday Feb. 20th.

Weather clear and pleasant. Our Regiment received one hundred and fifty
recruits to-day; twelve were assigned to Co. G. The enemy surprised us
to-day
by giving us a severe shelling from a new position. They did us some
damage; we
did not suffer so much as some other Regiments. As soon our artillery
get a
line on it, it will be silenced.

Tuesday Feb. 21st.

Clear and pleasant. Received another squad of forty eight recruits, five
of whom
were assigned to Co. G. I understand that most of these recruits are
substitutes and drafted men. Was on fatigue duty last night until
midnight
repairing Fort Steadman.

Wednesday Feb. 22nd.

Heavy cannonading on the Appomattox; brisk picket firing all along our
lines
during the day. Warning from Head Quarters to be diligently on the
alert. Was
on quarter guard last night.

Thursday Feb. 23d.

Weather cloudy raining. Much picket firing last night; there is a
restless
feeling in the air; nothing, however, unusual occurred on our lines
to-day.
Writing letters.

Friday Feb. 24th.

Weather cloudy and misty rain. The enemy gave us a lively shelling

to-day about
noon. Various reports in the air of rebel movements; these reports are
brought
in by rebel deserters who are coming in every night. Official
announcements of
the capture of Wilmington.

Saturday Feb. 25th.
Cloudy raining all day. Heavy artillery firing on our right beginning
about 5
P.M. and continuing for several hours. There is a fire in Petersburg
to-night
causing us to infer that the rebels may be preparing to evacuate.

Sabbath Feb. 26th.
Weather partially cloudy warm. On our left there are two rebel forts
not far
apart on our left that are especially annoying to our troops; one of
these
forts our men have named "Fort Hell," the other "Fort Damnation." These
opprobrious names became attached to these forts and so became known to
our
enemy. It is reported that the enemy is massing troops in the vicinity
of these
two forts. There is considerable picket firing and a feeling of unrest
seems to
be in the air.

Monday Feb. 27th.
Normally quiet.

Tuesday Feb. 28th.
Normally quiet.