

A. Stanley Camp Letters 18th Ohio Infantry

Letter from A. Stanley Camp to his wife, Hetta, dated August 15, 1862 Manchester, TN

(This was in an envelope. Stamp made on paper. 3 cents postage)

Manchester Coffee County Tenn. August 15th. 1862

Hetta, Dear Wife, I wrote a letter to Cerena on the 13th. inst. Since that time my eyes have got better, but I am not on duty yet. This seems the most like Sunday of any day that has passed for a long time. It is not Sunday though. I suppose the reason it is so lonesome is this: Last night on dress parade Colonel Stanley issued an order that no man or woman in this town should sell goods, practice law, Medicine, preach, teach, or carry on any kind of trade or traffick [sic], without first taking the oath of allegiance, and if any one undertakes to evade the order their goods shall be seized and confiscated for the good for the good of the Government and the vilator [sic] shall be punished. The consequence is that every store and shop in town is closed, and very few citizens are to be seen on the streets. The order has created quite a fluttering among the rebels. Last night and early this morning the citizens were seen in squads in different places, but whether they have made up their minds to take the oath is more than I can say. Some of them are willing to take, but others think they had better all go one way or the other. I for one think they had better take the oath for the Col. Says he has consulted higher authority, and he intends to enforce it rigidly. He has never issued an order since has been in the service that has been so universally approved as this one and I do hope and believe he will enforce it. I think our officers now see that the rebels will have to be treated with more rigor, if the rebellion is put down. A brigade passed through this town yesterday, and took a few negroes with them, and camped near the town. So mister negro worshipper thought he would just walk over into camp and get his ebony idols, but Mrs. General cursed him and told him he had no business inside of his lines and to move his boots in a hurry, so the Idol worshipper came away without his Idols. That is the way to treat them. What is the use of giving up negroes to their rebel masters, to be employed in helping to create war material to crush down the best Government in the world, the Government that has always protected them, and enabled them to get rich, and act like a lord over the poor. The poor have a hard time in Ohio, but their lot is not half as hard there as here. There they can go to school, and learn and practice the noble and God given rights of manhood, but here they must go ignorant, and obey the commands of a God for saken human seller and driver, with a head about as large as a peck measure and twice as empty. Many of the poor here would take the oath but they are absolutely afraid to, for fear that they will suffer for it when the yankees are not present to take their part. Those so called union officers that consult the convenience of the rebels more than the convenience of the loyal, are growing unpopular at the north and I am heartily glad of it. This thing of treating the disloyal to all the protection they

call for. While they are carrying on a heathenish guerilla warfare against the very men that they claim protection from is an absurdity too glaring to be tolerated by a General with a thimble full of common sense. It would do you good to see one of these peckmeasure headed chaps walking down street under a black nail keg, with a silver headed cane in his hand, and moving with as much importance as if the movements of the world depended on the nod of his head. If I had my way I would put them in the trenches with the negroes, and make them heave dirt for their life. But enough of that. It rained a nice shower here night before last, and since that the weather has been very cool and nice. The nights are rather cool. I sold my revolver so there is no danger of my killing myself with that. Peaches are plenty in this country but they are nearly all clings, a kind that I do not like. Myself and one other man stay in a nice room upstairs near the courthouse, and see plenty of soldiers and citizens every day, but for some reason I feel quite lonesome, or if I could get 2 or 3 letters a week from you, I would have plenty of company. I have been dreaming a good deal about you for the last two or three nights. I want you to write often, and send me a few postage stamps every now and then, for I am nearly out, and I cannot get them here. I had to let John have part of the stamped envelopes that I got in Shelbyville last June. The most of the boys get their postage stamps from home. One old chap came in with peaches to sell today, but he would not take the oath, so the boys made a requisition on him for peaches, and took them without price or money. I knew nothing about it till they were all gone. The Colonel told the boys not to be too hard on him and of course they were not. It would do you good to see a rebel hold on to a piece of silver, and give out Tennessee shinplasters in change. I guess a good many of them would rather take the oath than part with a five cent piece. I wash my eyes from six to eight time a day with warm water. John is well and "knocking about" as the negroes say. If my eyes improve as fast as they have since yesterday they will soon be well. I am hungry, but there is no danger of my eating enough to hurt myself for I have no appetite for any thing but biscuit and butter, and that I cannot get, at least I have not yet. I will put a couple of envelopes [sic] in this letter directed to myself. So you can just write and put your letters in them, and they will come right along. I would like to know if Lorenzo Stevens has gone with his company yet. Has Frank Brown gone to war. Have they commenced drafting yet. Hoping to hear from you very soon. I remain as ever

Your affectionate husband

A. Stanley Camp

Mrs. Hetta Camp

Rutland

Meigs Co.

Ohio

Letter from A. Stanley Camp to Hetta dated September 12, 1862 from Nashville

Hospital No. 6 Ward No. 1 Bunk No. 15 Nashville Tenn. Sept. 12th. 62

Dear Hetta My eyes are a good deal better this morning. It rained a hard shower yesterday and one day before and since that there has been no dust flying and the air is much purer. I tried to give a description of this hospital in the letter that I wrote Sophia, but for fear you may not see her letter I will try it once more. It is a brick building about 80 or 85 feet wide and 90 or 100 long and three stories high with three rooms on each floor about 25 feet wide and running the whole length of the building. There is a cellar under it which is partly full of stinking water. It has a flat roof made of pitch like Merrills porkhouse. In front and rear of the building are very stinking gutters [sic]. 3 rooms on the 3rd floor 2 on the 2nd and 1 on the first are occupied by the sick. There are from 40 to 45 beds in each room or ward as they are called and each one is numbered for convenience of the doctor and apothecary. The beds consist of a hay or cotton mattress, a hay pillow, and a white cotton slip, one sheet, and one light comfort. There are three doctors, two apothecaries, a number of cooks, 4 nurses for each room, two female nurses for whole concern, a woman to boss the linnen [sic] room where the clean clothes are kept, a number of women who was all the time, 1 steward, store keeper, and an orderly, employed in the building. The dining room and dispensatory are on the second floor. The doctors rooms, store rooms, bath room and kitchen are on the first. The washing is done on the first floor and the drying of clothes on the top of the house. The building is illuminated with gas. There are hydrants in all the rooms. The sinks are in the front ends of the wards and are rather unpleasant appendages of a sick room. Each man is wash when he comes into the hospital, and clothed with a clean cotton shirt and generally with drawers of the same kind, and his dirty clothes are washed and boiled which is generally a loyal act as they are apt to be infested with rebels, which are nothing but body lice. We have bread and coffee for breakfast, bread a little beef and soup for dinner, and supper the same as breakfast. Those that cannot eat bread and coffee get toast, beef, tea, chicken broth and a good deal of nothing. Many of the boys say they do not get as much as they want to eat and judging from my own feelings that is true, for I have went to bed as hungry as a wolf. They have forbid the boys bringing in any thing to cook and the doctor will not allow the cooks to cook any thing for the boys and they have made a fuss when they boys get the negroes to cook for them. I went out and bought some bread last night and one man looked daggers at me for a good while, but none of them wounded me. So I enjoyed the bread finely. They dont [sic] want any of the boys to walk out on the streets, and many are ordered back to their bunks. The second floor in authority gave me a blowing up yesterday because I went down stairs without he shade over my eyes. It was cloudy and I told him I thought it hardly necessary to wear it then. He nor any doctor prescribed it for me. I called for it in the linnen [sic] room. I would never have known that they had shades in the hospital if I had waited for the doctors to tell me. Two of the doctors talk very nice to the boys but they do not make the grub matter right. One of

them has the power for he is boss of this whole concern. I think he does not know just how things are going. The old tyrant that blows the boys up is second in authority and is hated by every soldier here. There are 14 hospitals in the city and when I came in every one was full. This one was so full that I had to lay on the floor two nights. When a man gets able to move around he is sent from the hospital to the convalescent barracks to gain still more strength, and then he is sent to his regiment. This is such a hard place that many of the boys have slipped [sic] off to their regiments before they were able for duty. All hands hate the barracks. I would have left here before this but for two things. One thing the sun on the tents, and the dust in camp is nearly enough to put a mans eyes out. 2nd. They had my knapsack locked up and I have too many clothes in it to run away from it. I have given this minute description of things so that you may know the good and bad both. If this hospital was in a location and was rid of one or two doctors it would do very well. It is scrubed [sic] only once a week. It ought to be scrubed [sic] every other day. The floors are so dirty that when a man walks over them in his bare feet and lays down on the bed it puts me in mind of a man going to bed with dirty slippers on. You may ask why I came to this hospital. The reason is this. There is a medical director here and he has charge of all the sick in the city and they have to go where they are ordered and they cannot go any place else. No one can get into a hospital in this city without an order from him. You may ask why our men chose this building for a hospital. They did not do it. The secesh riged [sic] it out and used it till we came in last spring, and when our men commenced falling back to this city a few weeks ago, and as other hospitals were full they very naturally occupied this as it was all riged [sic]. The musquitoes [sic] are very numerous and have their recruiting head quarters in the cellar. They make charges every night and many of our boys are badly wounded in the face. They have wounded me in the palm of my hands several times. I think General Frost will completely rout them soon. Opposite this hospital is Uncle Sam bakery and they way they turn out the bread is a caution. It is hauled away in wagons and the street is crowded nearly all day with them waiting for their turns to load. Last Saturday and Sunday the streets were full of soldiers marching over the river. The regiments were generally small as the ranks have been thined [sic] disease and bushwackers [sic], but the boys were in fine spirits and cheered lustily. It was a grand sight to look out an army as they pass along the streets. The cannons and men reminded me that some one was in danger. There are 12 large cannon laying on the warf [sic] here. Five of them are as large or larger than a molases barrel at the bu and rom 8 to 12 feet long. They were in the hands of the secesh and were spiked by them before they left. There are a good many soldiers here. One camp is visible from the window of my room. I am on the third floor. The nicest room in the building. I forgot to tell you that the roof leaks in many places. A few days ago a member of the 4th Ohio Cavalry was riding up the street by this hospital as drunk as he ought to be, and he got his eye on a man that had been a captain in the rebel army and drew his revolver and fired at him. The ball hit the ends of his fingers on one hand and hit again on his side, glancing off a rib doing little harm. It is a pity that it did not strike between his ribs. The wind blew a door shut in the state house the other day during the storm. It knocked a

gun down and the jar caused it to go off and the ball passed through the heart of a soldier belonging to the 1st. Tennessee regiment [sic] killed him instantly. This is a perfect Sodom of a city and I do hope there will be fire rained upon it some day soon. That is may be consumed as Sodom of old was. I went to the Post Office yesterday to get some stamps, and they would take nothing but Federal money for them, and as I had none of that kind I thought I would go to a brokers office sell an Ohio or Kentucky bill for silver but I could only get 80 cents for a dollar, so I went away in bad humor. One man asked me a dollar for a pair goggles, but I left him with his goggles. Every day that I live I hate the rebellion a little more, and when I see how tenderly our government has used the rebels and particularly the effeminate policy of Buel [sic], I have hard work to keep hear. I dont [sic] believe there is a man under Buel [sic], but what would rejoice at his removal. They just brought in a man with both legs broke. He belongs to the 16th Ill. Regt. and was on a waggon [sic] coming to this city from Athens, Ala. He was hit in the leg with a ball and jumped off to get his gun when the waggon [sic] ran over both legs and broke them below the knees. One is broke in two places. Our men had to fight all the way from Athens, with the bushwacker [sic] and guirrillas [sic]. They hung 3 of them rebels on one tree and left them hanging.

Your affectionate husband

A.S. Camp

[Letter from A. S. Camp to Hetta dated October 6, 1862 from Nashville, TN](#)

(This letter was in an enevope addressed to Mrs. Hetta Camp Rutland Meigs Co. Ohio)

Nashville Tenn. Oct. 6th. 1862

Dear Hetta, I have not herd [sic] from you since the 25 of August. I have written several letters to since that time but I fear you have not received any of them. I sent the last one by captain Miles but we have not heard one word from him and do not know whether he has got through or not. My health is good and my eyes are mending slowly. The inflammation has been reduced but I cannot see good. I am doing duty regularly now. John is well and very anxious to hear from home. I expect you worry a good deal about us. The weather is fine and we are getting along very well. We have plenty to eat. Though not as great variety as we have had some times. We have very good light bread every day and the boys are well clothed. We are all praying for rain enough to raise the Cumberland river for we are all cut off from communication with the north at present, but as soon as there is water enough to come up with the baby wakers we will be all right again. I do wish I could hear from home again and how you got along on your visit. I nothing happens we will hear from home sweet home again some day. I was at church yesterday and heard the first Christian sermon since I have been in the service. It is reported that our captain will be a Rutland man and our Lieut. a Middleport

man, but nothing is certain in times of war. The boys are in better health than they have been for a long time, hoping to hear from you soon I am dear wife your affectionate husband.

A. Stanley Camp

(This was written on a ledger page instead of stationery)

[Letter from A. S. Camp to Hetta dated November 14, 1862 from Fort Negley in Nashville](#)

Dear Hetta

The mail came in on the 12 and I received 3 letters. One from Sophia dated Sept. 7 One from Blakes of Sept 31st. and one from you dated Sept 28th and written by Frank Stacy. I was glad to hear from you but sorry that the letter had been on the way so long. It has been so long since we have had any mail that we are all very anxious to hear from home. I sent a letter by Capt. Miles for you and one by W. L. Packard. I have been well all fall but my eyes are not quite well yet. I am very fleshy. We have had a hard time of it here this fall. I do not think there were over 12,000 troops here while Buels [sic] command was up in Kentucky and we had to keep a heavy picket guard and fortify the city and forage for our living and the guerillas were so numerous that we had to send out a strong guard with forage trains, but we received strong reinforcements last week and since that time we have not had it so hard. For about one month before were reinforced the guerillas were so numerous and made so many dashes on the pickets that they were doubled every night and that brougns us on guard twice a week and we had to forage 2 and 3 days a week besides, but now we get crackers and pork from Louisville. Before McCook came in with his force we lived on bread and meat and rye coffee and part of the time we had only half rations of meat. So that we all know how to go to bed hungry. Now we have plenty of every thing and sugar in our coffee. We were out for aging yesterday but did not go over 5 miles from the city. We were told before we went to bed to be ready for picket this morning at 7 oclock [sic] and went to bed early so as to get a good sleep, but at 1 oclock [sic] companies D I E and G were called up and ordered to fall in quick and did so but not without some little grumblng and marched up to this fort which is about 1/2 mile from our camp. After stacking arms we lay down to sleep but the air was so cold that there was not very much sleeping done. When daylight came this morning we found every conceivable kind of filth in the fort and set to work and cleaned things up nice and about 1 oclock [sic] Gen Rosecrans paid us a visit for which we felt very thankfull [sic]. He is just the man for me for it seems as though he intends to do something for he has sent away a force form here already. I do sincerely hope he will prove the right man in the right place. The boys are all very proud of him. He reviewed Gen. Negleys and Palmers divisions on the 11th. of this month and it was the grandest military scene I ever saw in my life. He is not above talking to a soldier. McCook is a fine looking man, but he is too fond of taking the oath to look well

in the face. I believe this fort will be the strongest inland fort in the United States when it is done. It is on a hill that is round like a potato hole and overlooks the city and country for miles. I will not undertake to describe it, for I do not know how to, but I will say there has been a large force of darkies working on it ever since we came to this city last fall and it is not done yet.

[letter ends]

[Letter from A. S. Camp to Hetta dated December 6, 1862 from Nashville, TN](#)

(This was in an envelope postmarked Louisville, Ky. Oct. 20)

Nashville, Tenn. Dec. 6, 62

Dear Hetta

The weather is quite wintry here at this time. It snowed rapidly the greater part of the forenoon yesterday, but most of the snow melted as it fell though enough remained to cover the ground about two inches deep, and it froze quite hard last night. Today the sun shone out quite warm though there was a cold wind all day and it froze in the shade.

We were paid on the third of this month for three months. I sent forty dollars to you by the same pay agent that took the last pay to you. I would have sent more but I spent several dollars when I was in the hospital last fall and I had to replace it. The pay agent said in my hearing that he heard the paymaster general say that we would be paid between the first and middle of next month for four months, so that we could commence the next year on an even scale. Some of the boys in the regiment have behaved very badly since they have been paid, and been drunk most of the time. Quite a number are in the guard house for drunkness [sic] and will be court martialed. Company D is decidedly the best behaved company in the regiment. Our only drunkard is in the guard house and will be court martialed. I was over in the city to day for the first time for a long time. The streets were full of soldiers & officers, and money was as plenty as dirt, and goods are awful high.

Sunday Dec. 7. It froze very hard last night, but the sun shines brightly this morning. O [sic] how I wish the war was over so we could all be at home where we could be sure of a few minutes repose after the days work was done. Here if a man sits down ot rest he may be called up in one minutes time to do some duty. We bought two singing books in our mess yesterday so there will be some awful singing in our mess. Our clothes were settled in, in the last pay roll. We got new clothes for what we lost at Athens, Ala. and if a man drew more than 42 dollars in clothing he had to pay for what he drew over that out of his monthly p[ay, and if he did not take 42 dollars in clothing he go the balance in cash. Our company did not send home half as much money this time as it did before.

The boys have been on half rations so much of the time since they were last paid that they are bound to have a little change on hand. John is well. He is officer of the guard today. Our 1st. Leuts. Wife came here last evening to pay him a visit. She has a small child and I (griefs)(?) she has a cold time of it so far. John received a letter from his wife and she wants to come and see him. Lieut. Cables wife is here paying him a visit. I have a good supply of Postage Stamps.

Write soon. I have been acting as orderly for more than a month and have not had as much time to write as I used to. A. Holt is commissary.

Yours affectionately,

A. Stanley Camp

[Letter from A. S. Camp to Hetta dated December 12, 1862 from the Franklin Pike in Nashville, TN](#)

Camp 5 miles from Nashville on the Franklin Pike Dec. 12th. 1862

Dear Hetta

The twenty ninth brigade marched from Nashville to this camp in the afternoon of the tenth and put up tents on a nice piece of ground among the weeds which were as high as a mans [sic] head. Soon after we lay down to sleep a small squad of rebels made a dash on the pickets who fired on them and rove them away with the exception of one darky who was wounded and taken prisoner. We were called out in line of battle and stood a few minutes. Then went to bed. Yesterday morning 4 regiments of cavalry and 2 pieces of artillery went out on the Franklin pike on a rout. The 4th Ohio cavalry was in the advance and if they do not wake up the rebels it will be because they cannot find them. There are a great many troops in this camp, and they extend from here to Lebanon. The weather is fine here. Water is exceedingly scare and some have to haul it 2 miles. We are badly crowded in the tents there being from 16 to 17 men in a tent. I sent a receipt in the last letter that I wrote, for forty dollars and I hope you have received it before this time. We have a good reviews these times and are going to have tone this afternoon by Gen. Rosecrans. I have received but one letter form you since the 28th.of September. 13th. We were reviewed by Generals Rosecrans and Hamilton yesterday afternoon. By the way I will give you an idea of how a review is conducted. The men have to fallin dressed in their best clothes theirs shoes and accoutrements blacked, their arms in the best order. Their knapsacks packed and on their backs and also their haversacks and canteen. After the companies are equalized and the regt. properly formed, it marches to some place where there is room for the whole division to form in regular order. After the division is properly formed arms are stacked and the boys who are tired by this time lay down to rest. In about an hour they are called to attention, take arms and stand 1 or 2 hours while the Gens. Rides along the line and takes a view of

the men and their general appearance. After he has satisfied himself as to the appearance of the men he takes his place on the right of the division and it then marches by him in review, and then to quarters. It generally takes about 4 hours to go through the whole performance. The wind blew all night and is blowing now. The cavalry that went out on the Franklin pike the other day came in yesterday with a few rebels and a rebel flag.

Your [sic] affectionately

A. Stanley Camp

To Mrs. Hetta Camp

I have been acting orderly for nearly 2 months. John Benedict is acting as Lieut. My health is good.

Direct your letters to

A. Stanley Camp

Co. D 18th Ohio O.V.P.U.J.W.

Gen Negleys Div.

Nashville

Tenn.

A.S.C.

[A. Stanley Camp Memorandum Book](#)

First page of book -----

A. Stanley Camp

Memorandum [sic] Book

Who volunteered on the 23rd day of September 1862 (1861?) at Camp Wool, Athens Ohio

On the same page but upside down on the other end---

Top Sargt Camp and party into Murfreesbrough [sic] and return after rations Salen Mar. 13, 63 Do SI given Lt. Col Conag (can not make out this last line very good)

June 5 William A. Sil Kirk hung for murdering --- Weaver of Wilson Co. Tenn

1. A short history of the 18th. Ohio regiment to which I belong. It remained in Camp Wool under drill until after the October election. It then proceeded to Camp Dennison

and received military instructions from Vanstrader. It left Camp Dennison the first of November for Louisville and marched to Elizabethtown by way of Salt river. It remained in Elizabethtown about 3 weeks and then marched to Camp Nevin and remained a few days, when it marched to Bacon creek Kentucky. when [sic] I took the measles on the 21st. day of November 1862. I lay in a poor hospital 2 weeks and was then taken to Louisville where the sick received all the attention that the good people could render. I lay in the hospital there 2 weeks when I was furloughed home, where I arrived on the 23rd. of January 1862 very much reduced by sickness. While I was at home the 18th. regt. marched to Nashville (arrived at Nashville Feb. 2) by way of Bowling green [sic]. It then marched to Murfreesborough where I overtook it after a journey of 12 days from the 13th. of March. Then the 18th. regt. built a railroad bridge over Stone river [sic]. The 18th. brigade left Murfreesboro on the 5 day of April and marched to Shelbyville on the 8th. of April and marched to Fayetteville in the advance of General Mitchels division. We arrived in Fayetteville on the 11th. about six oclock [sic] in the morning. We rested than until the 13th. when we left for Decatur on the cars. There we had a good time reading rebel accounts of the fight at Pittsburgh landing [sic] Tenn. 15th. Left Decatur on the cars for Tuscumbia 16 Marched 15 miles and went into camp near Tuscumbia where we captured clothing, bacon and 1 cannon.

24th. Left Decatur 25 were drawn up in line of battle and waited for the rebels till noon in the rain. when [sic] we started up the mountain in the rain. Staid [sic] in the mountain that night and slept in a cotton house in cotton. 26th. Marched to Courtland where our men burned the bridge as soon as we were over. We left the same day on the cars for Decatur where we arrived just after dark and went into camp on this side of the river. 28th. The 18th. O. V. regiment started for Athens Alabama when we arrived just after noon and camped on the fair ground.

30 5 companies went out on a scout on the Browns ferry road [sic], while the rest struck tenets and held themselves in readiness, for anything that might happen. Returned to camp that night and pitched tents when the whole regiment came in May 1st. Just after seven oclock [sic] in the morning the rebel cavalry made a dash on our pickets and fell back on their artillery when they came up with the whole force and we retreated towards Huntsville 14 miles and camped for the night. 2nd. Entered Athens about noon in a good state of mind for a fight but no enemy was there to fight. So the boys made most of the valuable in town change hands double quick time. 4th. company D pressed(?) 45 negroes and went down the railroad 2 1/2 miles and repaired the railroad where the rebel tore up the track. Then camped in an old stable for the night.

5th. Rained very hard nearly all day. We turned away 35 of our darkies.

May 6th. 1862

Moved on down the railroad about 5 miles and pressed some teams and negroes and repaired a bridge, that the rebels partly destroyed and retuned to Athens same night.

10th. 100 men out of the 18th. regt. went to Elkton to guard a provision train which returned on the 12th. 30th. the 18th. left Athens at 5 in the morning for Fayetteville to join the rest of the brigade.

31st. Joined the brigade June 2nd. 1862

About 1200 picked men from the 8th. brigade left for an expedition toward Chatanooga [sic] I did not go. 30 privates and 2 sargents [sic] went from our company. Nothing of interest transpired while our men were gone on the expedition.

12 of our company left with a train going to Shelbyville for supplies. We left Fayetteville at 3 1/2 oclock [sic] in the morning and arrived at Shelbyville at 10 a.m.

13 Left for our camp near Fayetteville at 4 p.m. and rive through without feeding. I had captain Trimble of Winchester in my charge. We got into camp at 2 a.m. All quiet until the 16 when our brigade returned from Chatanooga [sic] just at dark by Huntsville

17 We drew our pay. I drew eighty five dollars. We also drew a lot of new clothing.

18 I paid the Ohio pay agent eighty dollars and took his receipt for it. I also wrote a letter to my wife and sent her the receipt that I got of the pay agent. Our company sent home over five thousand dollars by the agent. The 19th. and 24th. Illinois regiments and also the 37 Ind. regt. left camp for different town east of this. So there are only the 18th. and a small attachment of the 4th Ohio Cavalry in camp here.

19 Company D went on guard in Fayetteville. My post is on the Huntsville road 1 square from the court house under nice shade. We are going to have light bread butter and butter milk for supper. This afternoon the citizens turned out with their darkies and cleaned up a camp for us rather than have us in town. The citizens in this town are secesh up to the hub. Last night about twelve oclock [sic] companies A and P (or I) of the 18th. start on a scout to catch a band of guerillas.

June 20 The eighteenth moved over into Fayetteville this day and the Secesh were urathy (?) [sic]

22 I went to the Presbyterian church and heard a good sermon. The 18th. received marching orders in the morning and left about the middle of the afternoon for Huntsville.

23 The 18th. arrived in Huntsville about dark after a hot and dusty march. I was sick and cramped a good deal in the fore part of the night but cured myself by starving. 24 The reveille was sound at 4 oclock [sic] and the 18th. left on the cars for Stevenson at 6 oclock [sic]. we [sic] arrived at Stevenson just before dark after stalling many times on the way.

25 We marched from Stevenson to the mouth of Battle creek in Marion county Tenn. I also wrote a letter home and one on the 18th. of this month.

Marion Co. Tenn. June 27 Co. D went out about 12 oclock [sic] last night on picket and came in at day light this morning. I went up on the mountain this afternoon ad took a

view of the surrounding county and as, I drew near the camp a heavy storm was coming up, and just as it commenced raining, our tents which had arrived from Stevenson in time to be partially pitched promised to be a good shelter for us but many of them blew down and the one I was in amount the rest, but I kept my things dry. It rained a good shower. A flag of truce left our camp this morning for Chatanooga [sic] accompanied by --- Brown of Athens Ohio.

June 28 Wrote to Hetta

30 Wrote to Margretta yesterday I went out on an expedition for provisions and got a good dinner and plenty of honey.

Monday July 1st 1862 Company D went on pickett guard this morning at 7 oclock [sic] on the bank of the Tenn. river. Our men dug two rifle pits opposite those of the rebels on the other side of the river. The rebels lay in their pits all day and stuck up their heads to see what was going on. They kept out a strong picket during the night, but withdrew on the morning of the 2nd.

July 2nd. The 18th. moved their camp into the cove between the mountain.

July 4 spent this day on guard in camp. It seemed very little like the fourth. Our men fired a salute at noon. The rebels fired on a squad of our cavalry up the river three or four miles from camp. They killed one and wound three and captured three. I bought 1 pint of huckle berries and eat them. The Lieut. Col went to Huntsville this morning. We were called in line of battle and stacked arms.

July 5th 62

I wrote a letter to Hetta today. July 5 the 18th. went out to drill at 5 oclock [sic] and after we had been drilling a few minutes the col. [sic] rode up with an order stating that the 18th. Ohio 24 and 19th. Illinois regiments were relieved from the 18th. brigade. The 24 and 19th. were ordered to guard the railroad between Stevenson and Nashville, by way of Huntsville, but they were not allowed to remain in any large towns. The 18th. was to be posted on the Chatanooga [sic] railroad, 6 companies at Tullahoma (this could be Fullahoma) and 4 companies at Cowan.

6 The 18th. was all ready to march at 7 oclock [sic] this morning and marched out on the parade ground and formed in soldi column on the left of the 24 Ill. to receive Col Turchin who rode up and was received with three rousing cheers. He then reviewed the doings of the 8th. brigade. He was then greeted with three rousing cheers. The brigade voted to present Col. Turchin with a sword worth 500 dollars. Just as Col. Turchin left Col. Stanley received and [sic] order from General Smith to Col. Starkweather to delay any movements of the 18th. and 24 Ill. until further orders. We then returned to our old camp ground and our tents in the very same place where the old ones stood. At 5 oclock [sic] the chaplain preached on the sin of stealing and robing [sic]. Our men threw some 50 or 60 shells over into the rebels camp about 11 oclock [sic] last night.

7 Col. Stanley received a dispatch stating that the 8th. brigade had been reorganized and the command tendered to Col. Turchin who would not receive it from Buel [sic]. The 18th. detailed 100 men to throw up fortifications. The rebels have been reinforced and threaten to cut us off from the water in our front. The rebels commenced falling trees last night on the opposite side of the river. Our men fired on them with rifles and put a stop to it. I received a letter from home informing me that Hetta had received the receipt for my money that I sent to her I also wrote a letter to her.

7 I tried my pistol this morning which I bought of Captain Witch on the -----(blank) It went every time

8 Nothing of interest transpired today

9 Company D went out on picket on the bank of the river opposite the enemy. They had pickets on the opposite side of the river but were much more shy than we were. They had two negroes armed and equiped [sic] like the rest of the soldiers.

July 8th 1862

Our men went over with a flag of truce to deliver them a letter and they delivered up a captain that they captured last fall in Missouri. He belonged to the 7th Iowa regiment and was very much reduced by sickness. A detachment from the 2nd. Ohio expended out rifle pit 100 yds. Making in all 480 yards.

10th Our company were relieved at 7 in the morning by company F of the 18th. Our regiment was to move in the afternoon about 1 mile below on the river, but were prevented by rain. We were ordered out at 11 oclock [sic] and to strike tents immediately and we obeyed. The left wind sent away their tents and sick and the well remained until daylight.

11 when the whole regiment marched to the new camp in time to take breakfast, but before it was over it rained a hard shower. When the rain was over we move our tents and put them up in good order. In the evening we received a large mail. I receive 2 letter [sic] from home one dated June --- the other 18 of June, also 1 from my sister dated June (blank) and one from E. S. Branch of June 4

12 We fixed up our camp in fine order in the forenoon and whole regiment was called out to hear the regulations of war read, and went on drill at 5 p.m. and received orders to march to Cowan on the 13th and I wrote a long letter to my wife, and also got my pants washed.

13 The 18th. and 5 com. Of the 24th. Ill. left Battle Creek at 8 oclock [sic] for Cowan on the mountain road. Before we got outside of the picket company I's and G's wagon broke down. We marched up Battle Creek to the blue spring and camped for the night where we had plenty of apples, and my mess bought a good mess of potatoes.

14 We had breakfast early, and stared on the march at sun up, and marched to the foot of the mountain, which is about 1 1/2 mile from the spring. Here about one doz. men

were detailed to each waggon [sic] to push up the mountain, which was very steep and rocky [sic]. We were nearly all the forenoon getting up the mountain.

14 We stopped at a small stream on the mountain and made coffee for dinner. We started at 2 o'clock [sic] P.M. and marched several miles and stopped [sic] at a good spring and got water, blackberries and huckleberries in abundance, then pushed on to Cowan, where we arrived a little after dark. My feet were very sore and I lay down without my supper, and slept till near eleven, when we started for Dochar [sic] where we arrived about 2 o'clock [sic], without halting on the road. We then stacked arms and slept till after sunup on the [sentence ends]

15 We then moved down on the bottom and took breakfast, then moved on the west side of the railroad. Our men opened this railroad on the 12 of the present month. The 18th. marched Elk river [sic] at 1 o'clock [sic]. It was the warmest day I ever experienced. During the march it rained a hard shower. We first bivvacked [sic] on the north bank of the river, then moved further back, and cleared off the underbrush near the railroad and lay down for the night.

16 Com. D went on picket. The 18th. also commenced a fortification on the hill.

17 The 1st. Lieut. and orderly begged the privilege of remaining on picket another day and it was granted. It rained hard most of the day. 2 pieces of artillery arrived from Tullahoma [sic] just after dark.

18 Came off picket about 8 o'clock [sic] in the morning and took breakfast, then went on the hill to work in the fortification. No cars passed here this day. The 18th. is living on half rations and have been for several days.

19 It is foggy this morning and all of clothing is wet, and things look rather gloomy. Hirsion [sic] Stebbins, R.H. Miles, A. Russell and John Hysell started home to day. They were all discharged. Hirsion [sic] took a letter for Cerena. We moved our camp to day several trains passed today.

20 Sunday No work done on the fortifications today. The long roll beat in the morning, and were marched out but the enemy did not come. It rained a little. No cars.

21st. I volunteered on the water squad. I wrote one letter home today to Sophia. Work resumed on the fort to day. I wrote a letter to my wife. The cars came from Tullahoma. Company D went on picket on the south side of Elk river [sic] just at dark.

22 We came off of picket at 7 A.M. and worked on the redoubt (?) through the day. I received a letter from A. Persons. Company D guarded the cannon through the night.

23 Work 3 hours on the fort. I got a pass and made 2 trips for apples and cider. It rained a hard shower but at night.

24 Company D went on picket at 7 A.M. relieved at sundown I went on camp guard at 10 P.M. and slept in the commissary.

25 Company D and B started for Dowan at 6 A.M. and arrived there at noon.

26 Rested all day.

27 Wrote a letter to Hetta

28 Went foraging with Lieut. Saunders and came back in bad humor.

29 Went out 1 1/2 miles for honey and apples. It rained a hard shower just before night and also in the night.

30 Wrote a letter home.

31 Rested. Drew full rations

Aug. 1st Went on picket on the road leading to Dichard [sic]. Our reserve was near the railroad. Henry Mercer brought a letter to me from John McLin who was at Winchester Franklin County. Mercer had been out on a trading spree.

2nd. Came off of picket at 8 oclock [sic]. Wrote a letter to E. S. Branch, and one to Quincy. Two com. of the 37th. Ind. vol. came here on the cars from Stevenon and went into the stockade on the north of the creek, and com. B moved to the south side.

3rd. Nothing of interest transpired.

4th. My eyes were very sore and I was excused from duty. I bought 11 papers and sold ten. Last night the 15 regulars came in on the cars. I. Benedict went to Huntsville.

5 More soldiers came in the night and the forces were called out before day a while. It rained in the night. I bought 23 papers and sold 22.

6th. I wrote a letter to Hetta. It is exceedingly warm today. J. Benedict returned today and Harvey Decoy came to camp.

7 Received a letter from Sophia.

8 Four companies of the 18th. left Cowan on the cars at 9 oclock [sic] at night and came to Tullahoma leaving 13 men of company D on guard at the tunnel. I came across John at Dechard [sic]. We went to see John McLin then in the 31st Ohio regt. but only saw a few convalescent men of that regt.

9 4 companies of the 18th. left Tullahoma on the cars for Manchester. We arrived there about noon. Company G came through as a guard for the teams. 5 companies came from Elk river [sic]. They came in before day this morning.

The 10th. I wrote a letter to Sophia and one to Margretta. The 18th. moved from the fair ground to Town. Got letters from home.

11th. I and A. Barlow (?) came into a room in town, cashed C. B. Saunders note.

12th. Wrote home to Hetta. My eyes are very sore.

13th. Kept very quiet. A brigade of soldiers came in here.

14 Bought 1 pack of apples and wrote to Cerena. Eyes very sore.

15th. Another brigade passed through town today. Rained hard last night.

16th. Wrote a letter to Hetta. Eyes better. Weather cool. Last night Col. Stanley issued an order that no one should do business without taking the oath. Wrote to S. Blake.

17th. Went to church.

18 Wrote to Hetta and Darius. Eyes better.

19th. Eyes worse. Got a Nashville paper. Put on half rations. Quite a large force of cavalry left here this morning.

20 Wrote a long letter home.

22 Com. D went into the stockade near the trussell and Com. B, H. and C to the courthouse and the other six companies to the depot to take the cars to go toward McMinnville (?) to guard trussell. I commenced boarding at the hospital.

23 The six companies did not get away till today.

24 Six companies ordered back to Mcchester (?) [sic]

25 Came to Tullahoma on the cars in company with 24 others. Received a letter from home dated July 11th.

26th. Wrote a letter home. The cars left here this morning for Manchester. I got medicine of the doctor for my eyes.

27 A. Reynolds of Co. C was found dead in his bed this morning.

28 All the sick belonging to the 18th. but one came back to Manchester. It rained a shower just at night. My eyes were worse. The drum major captured

29 Companies A. & P of the 18th. and one co. of the Michigan had a fight with Col. Forests [sic] rebel cavalry on the railroad between this place and McMinnville. There was 9 (?) hundred of the rebels on foot engaged and one hundred of our men. There were eleven rebels killed and 43 wounded, most of them mortally. Seven of ours were wounded.

30th. The cars went up to where the battle was fought and brought down our wounded and five of the rebels. One rebel died on the way. Most of the rebels are in the citizens houses near where the fight occurred. The four wounded in this place are in a private house.

31 Crittenden's division passed through Manchester about noon today and camped just out of town and drew rations at the depot. The Chaplain was preaching when they

approached and the Col. ordered the long roll beat, and the meeting house was cleared in a hurry. It rained a little just at night. My eyes are bad.

Sept 1st. wrote home. Sept. 1st. I and about thirty of the sick of the 18th. came from Manchester to Tullahoma on the cars and remained on the cars till noon next day then started for Nashville and arrived there on the 3rd. I was ordered to hospital No. 6 and soon after arriving there 6 wounded from the 37th. Ind. arrived from Stevenson in care of the Chaplain.

4th. Wrote to my wife.

5 Got a bunk for the first time.

6 My eyes doctored for the first in this hospital.

8 The 18th. arrived in this city

9 Received 5 letters, one paper, 1 letter and paper from Sophia 2 letters from my wife, one from A. Hogg, one from E.S. Branch.

10 Wrote a letter to Sophia and Hetta. Rained.

11 Wrote a few lines to brother John. My eyes were better. The doctor promised that I should have more to eat, but I got less. So I bought some bread on my own hook. It rained hard in the afternoon and at night. The musketoes [sic] were very bad all night.

12 my eyes are much better this morning. I feel fine. Wrote a long letter to Sophia and Hetta. A fire broke out just after dark and a horse ran away with the hook and ladder waggon [sic]. A building burned that had been used by the rebels for filling shells and tow of them bursted [sic] during the fire.

13 Had a light turn of cholera morbus. John paid me a visit.

14th. Wrote to E. S. Branch. Went ot church and heard a citizen read a long time.

15th. Thomas Division left for Bowling Green. Tow soldiers belonging to the 19th Ill. were shot by a citizen in Nashville. He was arrested and confined and also a woman was arrested who was emplicated [sic] and her house burned to the ground.

16 Commenced a letter for Hetta.

17th. I was ordered to convalescent barracks, but returned to the company. It rained just a night.

18th. I visited the state house and took view of the city from the dome.

19 Captain Miles resigned. I wrote to Hetta. I drew 2 pair of drawers. Our company was on fatigue digging rifle pits.

20 (blank)

26 120 of the 18th. went out foraging on the northwestern R.R. in company with 3000 men. I was out. We got in about 11 at night.

27th. Captain Miles left on a boat for the mouth of the Cumberland.

28 I visited the grave yard.

29 Lieutenant C. B. Saunders left for Louisville in company with many other officers who had resigned.

Oct. 1 I was on picket on the Harding pike [sic].

2 I visited the penitentiary.

4 Drew an overcoat.

Sunday Oct. 5th. I went to church at the Christian church and visited the Garden of John M. Hill who resides opposite the Christian Church. It is very nice one and contains a fountain in which are a large No. of Goldfish.

6th. Wrote to Hetta. The 18th. started for Laverne at 8 oclock [sic] P.M. and marched all night. The 21st. O.V. were in the advance and captured 2 picket 6 or 8 miles from Nashville and had 3 other skirmishes during the march. We were under the command of Col. Miller and his column arrived in sight of Lavern [sic] just after daylight after a circuitous march of 20 or 25 miles.

Most of the way the road was very bad and a part of the way there was none. The fight commenced just as we arrived in sight of the scene of action. We arrived in the rear of the enemy in about 10 or 15 minutes after our men fired on them, and cut off their chance for retreat on the Murfreesboro pike [sic]. They broke and run in every direction. There was about 300 captured 30 killed and 80 wounded. Our loss was 4 killed and 1 (or 7) wounded. We captured all their camp equipage & stores and burned four of their cars. The 18th. did not get a chance to fire. We started back to Nashville in about two hours after the fight commenced and arrived in the city about 2 oclock [sic]. I was in the fuss.

Oct. 10th. The 18th. started out foraging on the Charlotte pike [sic] about daylight and went out 7 miles. The train was loaded with hay and corn and many of the boys went foraging on their own hook. The 18th. brought in 9 deer and plenty of honey. We returned about 2 oclock [sic] in drenching rain.

12 The 18th. went foraging on the Charlotte pike [sic]. The train went out 6 miles. The men were not allowed to go for things. We returned between 1 or 2 oclock [sic]. I went to the Christian church at 4 oclock [sic].

13th. It is cloudy and has been since the 10th.

14th. The 18th. Went on picket. I was on the Clifton pike [sic] and saw a slave that was over 106 years and said he was well acquainted with Gen. Washington. He was very spry. I drew a pair of boots and halesoled [sic] with a saddle skirt.

16th. The 18th. went foraging on the Charlotte pike [sic]. There were a good many teams out and we got in about the middle of the afternoon.

17 about 100 men of the 18th. guarded the wood teams to haul two loads. I went out in the afternoon and got Hickory nuts.

18th. the rebels had a little fight with the pickets on the east of the city. We were in line of battle most of the forenoon. 2 rebels killed.

19 I went on camp guard

20 I saw frost for the first time. 20 Oct. I visited the fortifications on saint cloud hill [sic]. At 6 oclock [sic] in the evening on the 18th. went out to reinforce the pickets. Luet. Williams, sargent [sic] Scright, 2 corporals of Co. D and 1 form F and 25 privates from F and Myself were assigned to post. No. 11 and after marching about 1 mile out of our way we arrived at post No. 11 about 9 oclock [sic], and lay down to sleep but we suffered with the cold very much and slept but little.

21 The ground was white with frost

24 The 18th. and 74th. O. 37th. Ind. and 78th. Penn. And the 1st. Tenn Cavalry and 3 pieces of artillery went out on the Nolensville pike [sic] to reconnoiter for the enemy and returned on the Murfreesboro pike [sic] by the insane Asylum. We saw no enemy for they fled before our arrival. A few rebel clothes were found.

Oct. 25th. 62 It was quite cool all day and it commenced snowing about dark. The 18th. o. v. was ordered to be ready for picket at 7 oclock [sic]. I went out to Inad (?) [sic] street in the city and was counted off in the usual manner and went to different posts. I was at post No. 4 and a couple of us scraped away the snow which was about 2 inches deep and laid down on one blanket and covered with an other [sic] and lay there most of the time during the night. I was quite comfortable but my partner was rather cold most of the time.

26 The snow melted off. There was a hard frost on the night of the 26 & 27. We were relieved about 7 oclock [sic] on the 27.

29 The 18th. went foraging on the Harding Pike.

Nov. 1st. 1862

The 18th. went on picket about 7 oclock [sic] P.M. I was on post No. 9. We were relieved on the morning of the 3rd. at 7 A.M.

Nov. 5 The forces here stood under arms expecting a general attack.

6 The advance of Gen. McCooks army arrived in this city just at night.

7 Gen. McCook reviewed the 18th. and 69 O.V.I. and 11th. M.V.I.

8 On picket

11th. M.V.P. The wind blew from the north and it was very cold.

11 Gen. Rosecran reviewed Gen. Neglies [sic] and Palmer divisions, in the afternoon.

13th. Went foraging at 10 P.M. Cod. D. I. E. and G. went into Fort Negley.

14 Wrote to Blakes

18 Moved to Fort Negley

21 finished Co. Desk

23 Wrote to Hetta

Nov. 26 Co. D on picket moved camp from fort Negley .

30 Wrote Home

Dec. 2 Company on post

5 Snowed during the forenoon. The ground was covered 2 inches deep.

6th. 7th. 8th. Cold.

7 Wrote home and sent a receipt for forty dollars paid to Ohio pay agt.

8 On picket Received marching orders.

Dec. 9 Was relieved by a detachment of the 21st. Ohio.

June 6 Sent to Fowler and Wells for Books

7 Wrote to my wife.

11 Ecd. From duty by dr.

11 Wrote to H. G. Hamlin Jr. concerning col. [sic] Stanley sword.

12 Received a letter from Sophia & also 1 from Darius Black.

13 No coffee to be drunk for 1 month A.S.C. Wrote to Sophia.

Dec. 26 Marched to Nolinsville [sic]

27 Marched onto the Pike 11 miles from Murfreesboro.

28 Lay in camp.

29 Marched on an expedition to Reconnoiter E.C. McFee (?) and William Crosby were wounded by an accidental discharge of a gun.

30 Sharp fighting on the right in the evening.

June 15 Papers come down to five cts. each.

June 16 Wrote to Hetta and also Darius Black.

“ Went on corps drill

17 Went on Division drill

18 Wrote to H. G. Hamlin and sent the letter by sergt. Brannan of Co. C.

18 Received 2 books and 1 copy of Phrenological Journal from Fowler & Wells

20 Received a letter from Hetta & one from P. Blake

21 Wrote to Hetta

22 Recd. a letter from Sophia & 1 H. G. Hamlin

23 Received marching orders

“ Wrote to Sophia

(These pages skipped from Dec. to June then back to June)