

Augustus Frederick Daviss Files

Card Numbers Form

Davis, A.F.

Co. K, 7 Mississippi Inf.

(Confederate.)

Sergeant Captain

CARD NUMBERS.

1 47466074

2 6131

3 6716

4 6350

5 6590

6 6469

7 6532

8 59637

9 66586

10 54697

11 666[two illegible numbers]

12 617

13 736

14 783

15 528

16 571

17 [illegible]

18 47488648

[numbers 19 through 38 are blank]

Number of medical cards herein 0

Number of personal papers herein 0

BOOK MARK:

See also

Register of Killed, Wounded and Missing at Battle of Shiloh Form
(CONFEDERATE.)

D 7 Miss

A.F. Davis

Sergt [sic] Co K 7 Reg Miss Inf

Appears on a Register containing a Report of the Killed, Wounded and Missing of the Second Corps, Army of the Miss., at the Battle of Shiloh, April 6 and 7, 1862.

Time and place of wound 6th 8 A.M. Right Wing

Nature of wound Thumb and Thigh

Remarks: Slightly

Confed. Arch., Chap. 2, File No. 220 ½, page 75

M. C. Leonard

Special Orders Form
(CONFEDERATE.)

D 7 Miss

A F Davis

2nd Lt Co K 7 Miss Regt

Appears on SPECIAL ORDERS No. [blank]

In obedience to Gen. Orders No. 5 Head Quarters Polk's Corps, Army of Tenn., dated Murfreesboro, Tenn., the following consolidations are announced.

The following officers are detailed and will report to Corps Hd. Qrs. for duty.

Special Orders dated Headquarters Reserve Division, A.T., near Shelbyville, Tenn., Dec. 26, 1862.

Regiments and Co's will be consolidated as follows: Co [illegible] C and K

Remarks: Retained on duty with their Regts [sic]

Box 51

No. 24

Bimpson

Register Form
(CONFEDERATE.)

D 7 Miss.

A.F. Davis [sic]

Co K 7 Reg Miss Inf

Appears on a Register containing Rosters of Commissioned Officers, Provisional Army Confederate States.

Date of appointment [blank], 186[blank].

Date of resignation, death, transfer or promotion Promoted Cap Dec 10, 1862.

Remarks:

Confed. Arch., Chap. 1, File No. 81, page 595

M.C. Leonard

Copyist

Pension Application Cover Form
PENSION APPLICATION

PROBATE

Warren County

Name of Application

George [illegible]

No. of Application 4

Form No. 4- Soldiers and Sailors PROBATE

Special Instructions to Chancery Clerks:

No application will be entertained unless made on the proper form and every blank in the form properly filled out.

Application for Pension Form

Application for Pension

How Made; What to Contain; Description of Disabilities; Oath Prescribed

Form No. 5 SOLDIER OR SAILOR

PROBATE

Application of Soldier or Sailor of the Late Confederacy, under Chapter [illegible] Code of 1906 as amended by Laws of March 13, 1922, H.B. 282

Applications must be filed in duplicate with the Chancery Clerk on or before the first Monday in September of the year in which the application is first filed.

(Applicant must answer all of the following questions.)

Q. What is your name? Answer George [illegible]

Q. In what county and state do you reside. Answer Warren County Miss

Q. What is the name of your post Office? Answer Vicksburg Miss

Q. Are you a bona fide citizen of the United States? Answer Yes

Q. Are you a bona fide citizen of the State of Mississippi? Answer Yes

Q. Are you an inmate of Beauvoir Soldiers' Home? Answer No

Q. What was the date of your enlistment? Answer Sept 1861

Q. In what state, county and place did you reside when you enlisted? Answer New Orleans La

Q. Give the names of the officers of your company, regiment or vessel? Capt [sic] [illegible] Lieut [sic] Broughter

Answer Dents Battery Tom. Richardson

Q. Were you ever discharged from your command? Answer No

Q. If so, for what cause? Answer None

Q. Were you in active duty at the surrender? Answer Yes

Q. If not, why? Answer None

[the following questions are crossed out: Q. Have you lost one foot or hand? Answer Q. Have you lost the TOTAL use of one foot or one hand? Answer Q. Have you sustained

such other permanent wounds or injury as disabled you from earning a support?
Answer Q. What was the cause of the disabilities by which you claim preference under
Class 2 Soldiers and Sailors? Answer]

"I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that I was a Confederate Soldier or Sailor (as the case
may be); that I was honorably discharged or paroled, or did not desert from the
Confederate Service (as the case may be); that I reside in this State; that the
statements set forth in the application are true and correct as the applicant verily
believes; so help me God."

(Signature of Pensioner) George [illegible]

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4 day of September, 1922

[illegible], Chancery Clerk

By [illegible] [illegible]

AFFIDAVIT- We, the undersigned, verily believe the facts stated in the above
application to be true and the applicant to be the identical person named in the said
application.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4 day of September 192-

[blank]

(Signature of Witness)

T.J. Mackey

(Signature of Witness)

J A Brown

(Signature of Witness)

[blank]

(Signature of Witness)

[illegible] Clerk

By [illegible] [illegible initials]

(Signature of Officer)

NOTE- Must be attested to by one or more credible witnesses.

George [illegible]

(Signature of applicant)

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 4 day of September, 1922

[illegible] Clerk [illegible]

(Signature of Officer)

OFFICE OF CHANCERY CLERK AND COUNTY BOARD OF INQUIRY Warren
COUNTY

Vicksburg MISS. Sept 4, 1922

We, the undersigned members of the Board of Inquiry, hereby approve the following application of George [illegible] for pension of \$150.00 because we believe the facts stated in the application are true and the party should receive a pension.

Given under our hands and seal of office, this 4 day of Sept 1922

[blank] President of Board (Seal)

[illegible signature] (Seal)

[illegible signature] (Seal)

[illegible signature] (Seal)

[blank] (Seal)

[illegible signature] (Seal)

[illegible signature] (Seal)

Chancery Clerk.

[written in right margin: ATTEST [illegible signature] Chancery Clerk

(Attach Seal of Office)]

[illegible] – If the Board approves this application, the Chancery Clerk will so certify after recording the name in a book kept for that purpose, and forward all of the approved applications in a body (not one at a time) to the Auditor's office by the first day of October.

No application forwarded after that time will be received.

Duplicate applications should not be forwarded to this office.

Narrative written by his father Lawrence Edwin Daviss

A SHORT NARRATIVE OF THE LIFE AND ADVENTURES OF LAURENCE EDWIN
DAVISS

Addressed to his son, Augustus F. Daviss

I was born in Prince William County, Virginia, on the 10th day of March, 1811. My Father, John Franklin Daviss (or Davis) was the son of Richard Daviss, who imigrated [sic] from Maryland at what time I don't know and settled on Cedar Run, a mile from where Brentsville (County seat) now stands. His wife was a Miss Cole. The old man died when I was 15 or 19 years old. He had seven sons and three daughters, to wit, Matthew, Elias, William, John, Richard, Presley, Alexander, Catharine, Clare and Betsy. My uncles, so far as I know, were all honest men, but being men of but very ordinary acquirements, remained in obscurity. I did not approve of the conduct of some of my uncles, but their conduct has nothing to do with my narratives. My Father married Melinda Luttrell, daughter of Robert Luttrell, who had two sons, Simon and Thomas and three daughters, Melinda, Jane and Margaret, who married a man by the name of Howison, and Jane is not at this time married. My Mother's Father died when I was quite small, and I can just remember him. He was a very [illegible] man and was quite wealthy. Uncle Thomas died in Havana, Cuba, where he had gone for the benefit of his health in 1829. He was 26 years old and possessed a splendid education. My Mother's Mother is yet living and is very old. She has some property. Aunt Jane is in possession of a nice property. Uncle Simon died last year (1840) in Kentucky, Mason County. He was very wealthy and left but one child, Lucien Luttrell. Both my Mother's brothers died of Consumption. The names of my brothers are Robert L., John F., William Alexander. My sisters are Jane (older than myself), Amanda, Celina Catharine, and Lucretia. When I was quite small, I was sent to school to a man named Norman, an ignorant and tyrannical creature, and with him I learned but little. I will here say that it is surprising that such a man as Norman should have been retained as teacher as long as he was, for I was sent to him year after year, as he continued to beat and misuse me all the time. As a matter of course I learned but little, and had it not been for my good mother, who instructed me at home, I should not have learned how to read. During my youth I went to an old man part of a year named George Renoe. He was a kind man and I learned considerable. In 1828 I went about four months to a man named Lemual Stone. I commenced studying Grammar under him. This year my father promised to send me to Mr. Tackett's Boarding School, but he failed to do it. I studied hard at Stone's school, and the next year the neighbours [sic] employed me to teach. I did so, and made about \$75. The next year, 1830, I made an arrangement with Mr. Tackett to go to school to him and pay him the amount of my board and tuition when I could make it by teaching. The scholastic year consisted of 10 months, the price for board and tuition was 105 dollars. But before I tell you anything about this school, I should perhaps say something on a subject that lads of your age are very fond of. At 18 I was a well grown man, and from some cause or other, I was a favourite [sic] with the ladies. I am not able to say why I was so, but such was the fact. I never betrayed the secrets which they reposed in me, perhaps I should have said confidence instead of secrets. Never mind which, I insinuated myself in their good favour [sic]- I was as fond of the girls as the girls were of me. I was the most bashful person in the world. I could not speak to a lady in the presence of my parents or any of my relations. It was thought by some that I had a serious notion of marrying at this time, but such a thought never entered my head. I had

lain my plan and I was determined to follow it. I never told in advance what I was going to do, or what I had an idea of doing, to avoid the chagrin which I should necessarily feel, in disappointment. No bad plan. To return to the school. I studied the various English bravely of which I knew little before, and commenced the Latin, but I found I had not the means herewith to prosecute that study. Mr. Tackett obtained for me a situation as teacher at Marmion, the residence of Dangerfield Lewis who was a great nephew of General Washington in King George's County. I taught until the 25 of July, when I became insulted at the conduct of one of the family and left there and returned to my father's. I had prior to my leaving Lewis determined to go to the State of Missouri. I had not made money enough to pay Mr. Tackett but he agreed to wait with me if Father would go my security which he did, and he paid the money several years after, but grumbled at it very much, so I understood. He was opposed to my leaving Va., but his opposition availed nothing. I could do nothing in an old and poor county, so I left home on the 31st day of August, 1831 for a new county. I had but nine dollars and sixty two cents in my pocket, and my clothes in a little bundle. I traveled on foot to Wheeling in Va. There I got on board a steam boat for Louisville, Ky. My money was reduced to a small amount. Many days I ate nothing to save it. From Louisville I traveled through Indiana and Illinois. I told the people every night that I had but little money and offered to pay for what I had eaten and my lodgings; it was refused until the day before I got to St. Louis. A woman took all I had for my breakfast. I had all along eaten but one meal a day. I [illegible] through the city of Saint Louis, as poor a boy as ever was. I enquired for a school and succeeded in getting a situation the next day. You will wonder why my father did not start me in the world with more capital. I can't say. He was able. He owned ten or fifteen slaves. It would be of no use to undertake to describe what I suffered on the road. My feet were bitterly worn out. Some days I could walk no more than eight miles. I walked on several occasions 45 miles in a day. But under all my suffering and fatigue I never disponded [sic]. I looked ahead to the day when I should be better off, and this gave me pleasure. I taught school in St. Louis County, Gravois (Gravoi) settlement- 3 months. I bought me a suit of new clothes, my old ones becoming much soiled from my long journey, and went to Boone County, on the two mile prairie, and taught school at that place five months. I met with a friend in the neighbourhood [sic] from Va., Stafford County, named Starke. He and his lady were glad to see me and from that time showed by their conduct that they were my sincere friends, rare things in this world. I heard of one of my father's sisters living in the adjoining county Callaway. She had married a man before I was born named Renoe, brother to the Schoolmaster, and moved to Kentucky. It was aunt Jane. Uncle William had also moved to that county. I went to see them, and they appeared glad to see me. I am sorry to say, however, that their subsequent conduct was not such as I liked, and consequently never troubled them much. Uncle Matthew was also living in Callaway. He was a good old man and I liked him and all his family. But I am writing my own narrative. I remained in this county about five years, teaching school for a living. I then went to Jefferson City, the seat of government, and taught about 10 months. I also commenced the studay [sic] of medicine. My preceptor I did not like, and for the want of money, I was compelled to

abandon the studay [sic], intending to purse it when I made enough to justify me. I did not know what to do. I at length resolved to go to Texas- on the 11th of April, 1827 I left Jefferson on board a steam boat for New Orleans – I had a brother living (Robert) in Arkansas at that time. I stopped at the mouth of the Arkansas River, intending to visit him. I walked up the river about 20 miles, and concluded to take a school. While I was teaching, Robert stopped to see me who was on his way to Va. I forgot to say that paped [sic] through Missouri on his way South. He stayed with me a week and went on the Virginia. I was taken sick a short time after, with the billious [sic] fever. I recovered my health, and left to go to N. Orleans to embark for Texas. When I arrived at that place, the billious [sic] fever was raging to a most alarming extent. I can't describe the ravages committed by that scourge of the human family. There was no vessel ready to sail and I was advised to leave there for the country, which I lost no time in doing. I was already sick, and I felt certain that I should have the yellow fever. And sure enough, on the 5th day after I left N.O. I was taken down with the yellow fever. I had got as far as Woodville. Mississippi. I can't describe my suffering at this place. Suffice it to say, my life was dispaired [sic] of by four Doctors, and I was left, with no person to attend to me for more than a week. At this time I was blistered from my knees down, covering my feet, the whole of my abdomen, and my wrists and arms, wherever the blister touched was perfectly raw, and the wool of the blankets adhered to the sores with such tenacity that it required a week's poulticing to take it off. The scars are perceptable [sic] to this moment. I recovered slowly and went to Amite County, and took a school, and your mother was the first scholar I had in Mississippi. But at that time I had no idea of marrying for I was in too low a state of health for a long time to think of such a thing. In about 18 months I began to look around amongst the girls as I had done in Virginia and Missouri. Your mother was an orphan, and lived with a man who had married her father's sister. I felt a strong inclination to better her situation if I could and proposed the union of which you are the first fruits. All her relations opposed me except her mother, who, I am sorry to say for your sake, did not care who she married. We were married on the 15th day of October 1839. You would be glad to know the history of your mother's parents – I can't give it. Your grandfather Benjamin Huff was a member of the State Legislature, and I have been told that he was a man of talents. He died in 1831, so I never saw him. Your Grandmother on your mother's side is – I hardly know what- a selfish, ignorant woman. I can say no more for her. She cares for nothing but money decency in dress and person is no part of her thoughts – this is a plenty on this part of the subject. Soon after I married your mother, we went to Missouri on a visit to my Father, who had the year before moved there from VA. I had not seen any of the family, but Robert, for near ten years. When I left home none of my brothers and sisters were grown, except Jane. They are all grown now, but the youngest, Lucretia. My father, since I left Va. sunk into a kind of mental and, I may say, physical lethargy, which greatly operated to the detriment of himself and family. Instead of striving to acquire more prosperity, by honest management, he let what he had go to waste, and often declared he did not care, so he had enough to last during his life. Strange fanaticism! he is at this time living in tolerable circumstances. We have an interest in the property of

Grandmother and Aunt Jane provided they do not think proper to give it to others, who have no more claim to it than we. I remained in Missouri three or four months and returned to this county and commenced a school at this place, where you were born on the 30th of July, 1840. You were a puny [sic] boy from your birth. Until you were five months old you came near dying with the hives at 4 months old. You were all my hopes for happiness in this world, and so I saw much trouble on your account than on all the misfortunes that ever befell me. I and your mother went to see your uncle Hourle, who was sick, the weather very warm and you were so small, that I could hardly hold you in my arms. I was a great mind to put you in my pocket. Hourle died soon after we got to see him, and that night we gave you over for lost. It was the 5th or 6th of September 1840. You could not breathe for some time, but I put you in a tub of warm water and you began to get easy. I shall never, if I were to live a thousand years, forget how you looked. In the morning I put some boiled corn in a blanket which I laid next you in order to superinduce perspiration – I think it must have been too warm, for I come into the room and you held out your hands, yes, your little hands, and looked me steadily in the face for a second. I shall never forget that look- to me for relief [rest of line missing] before felt [rest of line missing] easy, you ever [rest of line missing] enpued [sic] mere [rest of line missing] you would have [rest of line missing] your Mother [rest of line missing] that day at Hourle's burying. I was confined to the bed a long time, and more at this time, feel the effects of that sickness. I don't even expect to be well. You are six months old and cry every time you see me to come to me. I show you the pigs and hens and dog, all of which pleases you very much You must endeavour, [sic] my dear son, to become a useful man. Be honest and truthful and people will love and respect you. You must never marry a woman of less breeding or below you in any respect. I never knew a man to be happy who married a woman whom he knew to be his inferior. You must judge men and women by their conduct and actions and not by their words. If a man deceive you once, never trust him again for he might deceive you again. I am through my narrative such as it is – I have written as fast as I could and have not stopped to make a single correction, which it needs – If you have been raised as you ought to have been you are everything which I hoped. It depends upon your own good conduct whether you do well or not – I must say that I have not enough of confidence in any person in Mississippi to place you under their care – I have in my own brothers and sisters and Mother, a lively hope, that they will take care of you and teach you as you should be taught. If you have the means you must go to school, for it was my intention to give you all the learning the best schools afforded,

son

Edwin Daviss

appe [sic]

I have written

Monthly Report of Officers' Efficiency Form for August 1863
(Confederate.)

D 7 Miss.

A.F. Davis

Capt [sic], Co. K., 7 Mississippi Regiment.

Appears on a monthly Report of efficiency and competency of officers of the 7th Miss. Regiment, for the month of Aug, 1863.

No. of days absent from his command:

With leave [blank]

Sick leave [blank]

Detached service [blank]

Remarks: Efficient and competent

Book mark:

R W Pearson

Company Muster Roll Form for November and December 1863
(Confederate.)

D 7 Miss.

A F Davis

Capt [sic], Co K, 7 Reg't [sic] Mississippi Vols.

Appears on Company Muster Roll of the organization named above, for Nov and Dec, 1863.

Enlisted:

When Oct 9, 1861.

Where New Orleans

By whom Lieut [sic] [illegible]

Period 12 [illegible]

Last paid:

By whom [blank]

To what time [blank], 186[blank].

Bounty: Paid, \$[blank]; due, \$[blank]

Present or absent absent

Remarks: Wounded at Chickamauga Sept 20 63 and sent to Hospital order of Surgeon

Book mark:

Geo. [illegible]

Company Muster Roll Form
(Confederate.)

D 7 Miss.

A F Davis [sic]

Sgt, Capt. N.L. Huff's Company (Quitman Rifles), Mississippi Volunteers. [see first footnote below]

Age 20 years.

Appears on Company Muster Roll [see second footnote below] of the organization named above, called into the service of the State of Mississippi, for dated Aug 26, 1861.

Enrolled:

When [blank], 186[blank].

Where [blank]

By whom [blank]

Mustered into service:

When Aug 26, 186[blank].

Where [illegible] Ferry

By whom John N Collier

Last paid:

By whom [blank]

To what time [blank], 186[blank].

Remarks:

[first footnote: This company subsequently became Company K, 7th Regiment Mississippi Infantry.]

[second footnote: From copy made in the M.B. Office, War Department, in March [illegible year] of an original record borrowed from the Director of Archives and History, Jackson, Miss – M. [illegible]

Book mark:

[illegible initial] Lawrence

Copyist.

Account Form

[illegible] [illegible] of America,

To A F Davis [sic] 2 [illegible] L 7th Miss Regt

[note: The following table contains information in the following order: On what account; [illegible] and Expiration: From, To.; Term of service Charged: Months, Days; Pay per month: Dolls., Cts. [sic]; Amount: Dolls., Cts.[sic]; The information will be written in a line in that order with semi-colons between the various columns.]

Pay [illegible] [illegible] Lt; Dec 21 1862; Jany [sic] 31 1863; 2; horizontal line; 80; 00; 160; 00

The next entry is illegible and has no other information in the table.

Perage [sic] for [blank] horses, rest of table is blank.

Total at bottom is \$160.00

I hereby certify that the foregoing account is accurate and fact; that I have not been absent without leave during any part of the time charged for, that I have not received pay, forage, or received money in lieu of any part thereof, for any part of the time therein charged; that the horses were actually kept in service and were mustered for the whole of the time charged; that for the whole of the time charged for my staff appointment, I actually and legally held the appointment and did duty in the department; that I have been a commissioned officer for the number of years stated in the charge for every additional [illegible] service; that I am not in arrears with the Confederate States, or any account whatsoever; and that the last payment I received was from Lt [illegible name] A A G M 7th Miss Regt and to the 30th day of [illegible], 1862

I, [illegible] the same [illegible] acknowledge that I have received of Captain R P D C A G M [this 31st day of January 1863, the sum of Hundred Sixty dollars being the amount, in full, of said account

Pay \$160.00

Forage [blank]

Amount \$160.00

(Signed duplicates.)

Special Requisitions Form

NO. 40- Voucher to Abstract K.

SPECIAL REQUISITION.

FOR Company K 7 [illegible]

2 Two Prs Socks

7 Seven Prs Shoes

5 Five Prs Pants

4 Four Prs Drawers

I certify that the above requisition is correct, and that the articles specified are absolutely requisite for the public service, rendered so by the following circumstances: the men being deficient in clothing

A.F. Davis Capt [illegible] Co

Lieut V.E. [illegible name] Quartermaster Confederate States Army, will [illegible] the articles specified is the above requisition.

[illegible], Commanding.

Recieved near Charles Ga, the 29th day of [illegible], 1864

Lieut D W [illegible] A [illegible], Quartermaster Confederate States Army the [illegible] [illegible] in full of the above requisitions.

(Signed Duplicates.) A F Davis [illegible]

NOTE.- The [rest of sentence is illegible]

Pay Account Handwritten Form

Pay Account

Confederate States To Lieut [sic] A.F. Davis [illegible]

Titles of the columns are illegible; there are 10 columns.

For myself; July 12th/62; July 31st/62; [blank]; 19; 80; 00; 50; 66 2/3; assigned duty [illegible] July 12th [missing]

I hereby certify that the forgoing account is correct and just; that I have not been absent - without- [illegible] for any part of the term charged for; that I have not [illegible] pay, [illegible] [illegible] clothing in kind, or received money in lieu of any part thereof, for any part of the time therein charges that - I am not in arrears with the Confederate States or any account whatsoever, and that [7 illegible words crossed out] I have never [illegible] as Lieutenant. I at the [illegible] [illegible], that I have received of [illegible name] 28th day of August 1862 the sum of fifty dollars and sixty-six cents being the amount [illegible] of said account

A.F. Davis

[illegible]

Letters to his wife

Saltido, [sic] Miss. July 11th, 1862

Dear Julia,

I seat myself to write you a few lines to inform you that I am still in the land of the living, but this does not [missing] me very well. as I have not been well for several days. I have light fever and something like the flux. If it keeps on it will weaken me down in a short time. The [missing] of the Camp is very good now. I left Tupelo the day after I wrote that letter I sent by Jagers. We went to Ripley, a little town about 40 miles from Tupelo. We stayed there about two or three days, and then marched back to this place. We are about 8 miles north of Tupelo. I tell you we had an awful time marching, the weather is very dry and the dust was very disagreeable and water very scarce. I am just finding our the hardships of a soldier. They came very near killing me on one days march. They ran us so close that several of the poor fellows fell dead with sun stroke, but none from our rig. I tell you these Big Officers care nothing at all for the life of a man. Men here sick in the hospital are so neglected that the flies blow them in the eyes and mouth. These are just small sketches of the horrors of this war. Every day or two there is a man shot from some offence. I have seen none shot yet, but there are plenty of them shot. There were three shot last Monday in an Ark. Rig for desersion [sic]. Hard times and worse coming, I am afraid. Some think that this war will not last long, but from what I can hear the bloodiest time is to come yet. The North will not give up, and the South will not give up, until the last one of us is gone to our [missing] homes, and those at home are starved to death, then, and not till then, I fear this wicked war will close. My hopes of seeing any more pleasure in this life is banished. They have faded as the flowers of sprig. It is a sad thought for me to reflect back to the day when we were first united. I then had the hope of living in [missing] pleasure and happiness all my days. But alas! For me

[missing] of happiness willing but misfortune, trouble and sorrow await. I have not the least idea that I will even enjoy myself as I have done in days past and gone. BUT LET ME hope for the better. If it be the will of Almighty God for me to return I may yet see some pleasure yet. But I see nothing but distraction ahead. One great thing that tends to discourage me is that from what I can hear we are making nothing at home. If this be so, that nothing is made at home, not only the soldiers will be the sufferers but those Dear Ones whom we have left at hoe will have to suffer for the want of bread, taking all things into consideration according to my notions, an awful time awaits us all. May God help us. Sometime when I think this is a narrow chance for me to [missing] see you and my Dear Boy again, It makes my heart melt within me, but if I never see you again I hope to meet you both in a better world than this. were I alone I would not mind it, but that is not so, were I to die or be killed, then I would leave no one behind, but as it is, I have those whom I do not want to leave. But if it be the will of God for me to follow thousands of my fellow soldiers to the grave, I must go. Julia, I guess you think I am a terrible fellow to write about the troubles of this war, but you must excuse me for what most impresses my mind I must write. Well I write something else. These letters are quite different from those I use to write to you before we were married, but times are very different from those days of pleasure to what they are now. I would give any thing in the world to see Lanna now, and you also; but there is no chance for me to get off home now and there is no chance for me to get off as I am [missing] till the war is closed. That is a long time off. I do not know whether the [missing] home want to see [missing]

After eating my dinner I will finish my letter, and since I quit writing I have heard bad news from home. I heard just a few minutes ago that Nathan (Martha?) Reynolds is dead. Jus Martin seems to have it very bad. I heard him say a while ago that if it were not for his children that he would never want to go home any more. I am sorry for him, but she is gone forever, gone the way that we will all have to go soon. I find that soldiers are not all that are dying - I hear of a good many deaths down there lately. Well. I must say something about our way of living. Well. sometimes we have a hard time, especially when we are on these long marches. We have two or three days rations cooked when we start, and we get [missing] and our rations give out, and perhaps the comissury [sic] stores are twenty five miles from us then, we have to starve till they can come to us. It is right hard sometimes, the boys grumble and quarrel, but it does no good. They have to grin and endure it. We have flour, fresh beef, pickle buff sugar and little pork [missing] and then very seldom though - a little rice, no coffee and molasses. I am getting very tired of this fui[missing] to buy something from the country now and then by paying a double price for everything we buy. It would please me to get out of this way of living. If I ever do get out I will never grumble about hard times again. No! Never! I remember last year you know, we thought we were seeing hard times, but if I had have known then what I do now, I would not have said a word. You folks must not grumble nor say a word about what hard times you are seeing. If you do think just for a moment how we are living, and be thankful that you are not in a worse fix than you are. Enough of this for the present, but when you go to eat, think of me.

I left Hiram at Tupelo when we left for Ripley. He was not able to take the march, and while we were gone, he went to a hospital, and I have been informed he went to Columbus, Miss. I guess you have heard from him since then.

There has been some big fighting in Va. I hear, that we whipped them, I have not heard the particulars of it yet. I think you will hear from us soon. I think we will go to hard fighting soon. If you hear of us fighting, be of good cheer, for if I fall you shall not be ashamed of the name I leave. I guess I have written all that would interest you, and I do not know whether you can read this or not, for it is done in a hurry. You must write soon giving me all the news. Kiss my Dear Little Boy for me. I must come to a close after my regards to all the family.

Direct your letter to Saltillo, Miss. via Tupelo

7th Rig Miss

Nothing more, at this time. Remember me

[image of Julia Daviss]

[image of Augustus Frederick Daviss]

Camp 7th and 9th Miss. Regiment near Shelbyville, Tenn. May 24th, 1863

My Dear Julia

It has been some time since I wrote to you or received a letter from you. You know I guess the reason why I have not had letters from you nor you from me. The Yanks have been cutting up in Mississippi considerably. I fear that our communication will be cut off, and then I must stay here in camp without even hearing from you. I have not heard from you since way in April. I could enjoy myself a great deal better if I could hear from you and my Dear Little Children occasionally. Well, if we are cut off, you must be of good cheer, for if the Almighty has the good will to let me live through this wicked war, I will come home.

There is little or no news form this army, only we do not know what day we will be called out in the field of carnage and death. Some days we hear that the enemy are advancing, but the next day we hear that it is not so, and thus it goes here with us. We have been more interested about the news from Miss. in the last few days than we have been about anything else. We have heard of the big fight down there, and what I can hear is our forces will have to fight very hard or we will be whipped, and Miss. will be lost. We all believe that if this army was down there that they could not whip us so easy as they could Pemberton's army. I will be so sorry if they do give Miss. up as lost. I would not be surprised to hear of it at any time. If the Yankees take Miss. you must do as well as you can. I will write to you as often as I can by hand, as there would be no other way to get a letter through.

I have not heard from Hiram in some time. I expect he was in the fight, if so I hope he came out safe. I am in as good health as I ever enjoyed in my life. I've got plenty of milk to drink. The boys in camp are generally well. They are in better health than I ever saw them before. I guess you have gotten my clothes before now. I do not know how you will get them to me if you have a chance to send them. Henry is well also, and also Wash Moon and H.W. I am going to send you one hundred dollars by Joe Anders, who will take this letter. He does not know how he will go from Summit. If he goes by the Moon's I will tell him to leave it at some place on the road if he goes by Liberty. I will tell him to leave it at I've Dugs as he will go by there. I hope I will hear from you soon. Give my love to all, kiss my dear little children for me. If you and I should never meet again, I hope you will not forget me - I must close- I am your's [sic] till Death-

Fred

Camp Stonewall, Tenn. June 12, 1863

My Dear Julia-

Once more I will drop you a few lines, as I expect you have come to the conclusion that I have forgotten you. But - Dear Julia- entertain no such an idea, for I would gladly write to you every week - and be assured that nothing in the world would give me more pleasure than to hear from you every week. But, as it is - I have not heard from you since away in April. I have no idea but what you have written, but I have had the misfortune not to get them - but I am watching every minute expecting to hear from you. I want you to write every week. I have not written as often as I would have done if circumstances had been otherwise. I has been represented to me that letters would not go if we were to write them, and therefore I thought it useless to write, but as the way is now open again, you may look for letters from me regularly. I wrote to you some time ago by Mr. Anders - I also sent you \$100.00 by him. I hope you have received it. I have not heard from any of you in a long time. I do not know where Hiram is - I think it probable that he was in some of those big fights down there. I would like to hear very much.

I have no news from this Army of very great importance - only we are here yet undisturbed. The health of the camp could not be any better. If you were to see our Reg. you would say you never saw a healthier set of men in your life. There is scarcely any sickness in Camp. I have never enjoyed better health in my life than I have resently [sic] - but at this time I have a very bad cold, which makes me feel very bad. The crops up here are the finest I ever saw - the old citizens say that the wheat crop is better than it has been for years. It will not be long till we get plenty of flour. There is a big meeting going on in our Brig. We have preaching every day. The preachers who are carrying on the meeting are Baptist Ministers. They are smart men and are doing a great deal of good. The doors of the church have not been opened but once, and there were three

joined. I think there will be a great many more before the meeting breaks up. I tell you it is very much needed.

Julia, I know you have my clothes all ready - if you could send them, do so when you can. Henry is well - also Wash Moore. I have not seen H.W. in a long time as we are not camped near where they are. Julia - I must come to a close. Write soon. And do not forget me - I may get home some time direct as before.

Fred

Camp Stonewall near Shelbyville, Tenn

June 16th, 186[missing]

My Dear Julia-

It has been so long since I heard from you that it seems that I cannot hear from you by mail, and I have concluded to make a mail rider of Henry. I have been thinking of sending him for some time, and as I have no way of getting my clothes, and to hear from you, I will start him tomorrow morning. I intend to let him stay until the 10th day of July when I want him to start back. [illegible] Claughton and [illegible] Tilsuns boy is going with him. They are to start with him, and they will come back together. You must be sure to start him at that time, for I will expect him at that time, and if he does not get back by that time, I will be uneasy about him. And as I want him to be started at that time, I send by him some of the clothes that I will not have any use for. Also some that [rest of paragraph is illegible]

I want you to fix them up as nice as you can. If you can get anything that will do for cuffs and collars for my jackets, get it. Oh! Julie, if I could only go with him how much better satisfied I would be, but there is no chance, and I must content myself as best I can.

There is a big meeting going on in camp. There are a good many joining. He is a Baptist minister carrying on the meeting. He is doing a great deal of good. I feel that I myself benefitted. I have set a resolution to do better, and Julia, I hope you will do the same. It is all the hope of happiness on this earth and the world to come.

I have heard bad news from [missing], but I truly hope it is not so. I heard a day or two ago that he was killed at Edwards Depot in a battle. I cannot think that it can be so. I hope so at least. I have not heard from him in some time. I have not seen a letter from you in six weeks. This is a long time. If the Yanks take Port Hudson or if you think there is any chance of his being cut off from me, I want you to start him (Henry) before the 10th day of July since I do not want him to be cut off, and he cannot get back to me. Julia, I do want to hear from you [missing] I truly hope I may hear in a few days from you and my dear little children, and you must know how I would like to see you all, but I know not when I will be favored with that privilege. I am fearful the Yanks will take

Mississippi, and then I do not know what will come of you all. You will have to do the best you can - I hope they will never find the way to where you are.

I am enjoying as good health as I ever did in my life, and the health of the army is generally good. We are working on the Breast works - our whole rigs will go out to work tomorrow. We are fixing for the Yanks. If they do come - some think we will go to Mississippi. I do not know, but if I had my preference, I would rather stay here, for we do get something to eat here to keep us from starving, and I think that is more than that army is getting there.

Julia, you must send me something to eat if Henry can possibly bring it. Send me some [missing] I have been living almost on buttermilk for some time.

I wish I could be with you for a (while) and I would show you how you drink milk [illegible paragraph] I will come home as soon as I can. When it will be, I cannot tell you [illegible] for me assured I will come as fast as the cars can take me.

Wash [illegible] is not very well. He has some kind of swelling in the legs and feet. I have not seen Hinds Whitting for some time. His Rig is in Quarantine on account of small pox. I am glad to hear that the farmers are going to make good crops if the Yanks do not come in and take it all from you. I sent you a letter a few days ago by Isaac Schick to (Summit). I hope you have got it before now. I sent you a hundred dollars by Joseph Anders (same) some time ago. I guess you have got it by this time. Well, Julia, I have written you a long letter and nothing of much interest. I hope you will be glad to hear from me. If you are like I am I know you will be, for you do not know how glad I am to read your letters. I will send you Fifty-Dollars by Henry. I have sent several letters for the boys by Henry if you will please forward them immediately. I wrote Mother to send you a [missing] - you pay first before Henry comes back.

Camp near Bridgeport, Ala.

August 1, 1863

My Dear Julia,

As I have the good luck of having another opportunity of writing you, I embrace the opportunity with pleasure. In the first place I would say that I am still permitted the enjoyment of good, of which I am very thankful.

The Reg. is not in as good health as they were at Shelbyville. Shelbyville was the best place that I have ever been since I have been in the service. This place is an awful place. The Tenn. River is on one side of us, and the mountains on the other. The Ozarks are on the other side of the river, and we are on this side. The pickets holler across at each other. The Yanks tell our men to come over and they will let them have papers - they say they will not hurt them if they would come, but the officers will not let them go. I can see a yankee [sic] any time I want to from where I am now writing. I can

see their camp wagons and plenty of men by going up on the hill about fifty yards. They come down to the river and pull off their clothes, and go into the river and holler to our boys to pull off and go in too, but our boys will not do it. They have some very large guns over on the other side pointing at us, and I do not know at what time they may begin to shell us. I expect we will have a hot time here before long.

I am glad to say that Henry reached camp safely with my things on the 9th of July. I was truly glad to see him, for I had almost given him up. He brought all my things safely to me, and I was able to get them. They fit very well, only the jacket is a little too big in the breast - but I will not grumble. I was in hopes you would send your ambratype [sic] - I want you to send it as soon as you get a chance, for I want to see you occasionally. I was glad to hear that the Yanks had fallen back to the river. I feel like I will hear from you occasionally if they will stay on the river, but if they come out to Jackson I know there is no chance to hear - if they come out there you must do the best you can. I wish I could be with you to help you eat fruit, water mellons [sic] are worth \$5.00 here. Peaches \$1.50 a dozen. I tell you we are having very hard living here now. We only get third rations, and I tell you we have to be very saving with it or we have the pleasure of doing without anything, perhaps, for several meals. I make Henry go to the butcher pen and get a tripe occasionally, which helps the course considerably. This beats all the places I ever saw - the women do not care for anything. I was down at the river a few days ago, and I saw two women pull off their clothes and go into the river. They were on the other side, and they hollered at me and told me to pull off and go in too, but I did not feel disposed, and I sat and watched them till they came out. This was before the Yanks came down to the river.

Julia, I stopped writing a few minutes ago, thinking I would finish it tomorrow, but I had scarcely quit writing when I was detailed to go on guard, and I must finish it hurriedly, as I have to go in about one hour. I thought I would write you a long letter tomorrow, but you must try and be satisfied with this. It is badly done, but you will please excuse me as it is done in a hurry. If you have a chance you will please send me some more socks, as you did not send me but two pair, and they are all the good ones I have got. I can do very well for everything else for a long time. I would like to send you some money, but I can not, as I have not drawn any in two months. I expect to draw before long and when I have a chance I will send you some. I wish I could come home to see you and the children, but I cannot tell you when that will be but it would not surprise me if I did not have to stay away until the war comes to a close - and I see no prospects of it coming to a close soon. But, Dear Julia, do not think because I do not come home is any fault on my part, no, for I would come willingly if I could. I guess I will be promoted to Captain soon if I stand the examination, and I think I will. I heard today that Thos. Cotton and his [rest is missing]

Camp Claiborne March 5th, 1864

My Dear Julia,

As I will have a chance in a few days of letting you know how I am getting along, I will drop you a few lines. This leaves me enjoying very good health and getting along very well, as well as could be expected here in Camp. Hiram is also well.

I have not heard a word from you since I left home - every one who has come from down that way, I have looked with impatience for some tidings from you, but all in vain. But I am not discouraged. I still look to the time when I will hear.

The times up here are rather dull, but I thought about a week ago that we were going to have a lively time, but I am glad to say that we were disappointed. A few days ago, the thunderings [sic] of cannon and the rattle of musketry indicated to us that we would soon have another hard battle, but it was only a feint of the enemy to find out Johnson's force. There was some considerable fighting on our left and a large force of [missing] Cavalry [sic] made their appearance on the road we are guarding. They were onto our pickets before they knew it, and they broke toward Camp in disorder. The Yankees followed them closely till they got to the Camp of our Sharpshooters. When a considerable skirmish followed. Our sharpshooters fell back slowly, the Yanks came on till they were in sight of the Brigade, and seeing that we had a line of battle formed and were ready for them thought it advisable to fall back. They had several men wounded and several horses killed. They were the first Yankee Cavalry I ever saw. We were then moved around from one place to another for four or five days, then returned to camp. The Yanks went back to Chattanooga. Hiram and I are [missing] together. The meat I brought from home is not out yet. I wish I could get another supply about the time this we have on hand is out. [missing] Tell you, what we get from the Government is but little. A man can live on it and that is all. The meat a man draws for one day can be eaten very easily at one meal. The man would not have to be very hungry at that.

Hugh Mc and Dr. Wilkinson got back a few days ago. When I heard [sic] that they had returned I thought of a letter, but they had left for Miss. I remember I told you perhaps I would get home again this spring, but there is no chance in the way I thought, for the Army will not be reorganized as I thought it would be. Congress has put all the troops in for during the war and has called all the confederate money now in circulation in They are giving Confederate Bonds for all the old Bills, and after the 1st of April all the old Bills will only be worth 66 2/3 cts [sic] on the Dollar, and after the 1st of January it is to be taxed 10 percent, and so it is not worth anything after that time. So you had better get rid of all the old money you now have. Wutheud? will get off in a few days. I guess Ann will be rejoiced to see him. Hiram says he will not write this time, and you must excuse him. Hiram is well - I heard all of ease Wilkinsons [sic] negroes except two had gone to the Yanks, also Grandmother Huff's Griff. Well, I guess they are only a little ahead of all the others in that whole country. I must come to a close. Write every chance. Give my love to all -

Yours as ever,

Fred

Camp Claiborne, Dalton, Ga. March 28, 1865

Dear Julia-

I write you a few lines as I have an opportunity of [3 illegible words]. He is trying to get John home with him. John is sick, and the Dr. thinks he can get him off home. Dr. Middleton preached to us today. It seemed natural to hear him preach.

This leaves myself and Hiram enjoying very good health. There is nothing of interest up here. All is quiet, and I truly hope it may continue so, but we all look for warm times when spring opens. We have had some of the coldest weather I ever saw for this time of the year. On the 22nd of March the snow was 4 inches deep on the ground. We had a fine time snow balling. The whole Brig was engaged in it. One Reg. against another. We had a lively time. I wrote to you a few days ago. I hope you may get the letter so you know when I will have the chance. But, if I do not get a furlough in May, I will be the first Officer in my Confederacy to get a furlough next winter. It will be some time before Hiram can get to go home for the men to be furloughed were those who have been away from home the longest, and nearly all the Company will go before him. But he will get off next winter if not before.

Tell your Aunt Betsey that I do not know anything of Hinds. Nash Charrie is in splendid health. There are not many more men to be furloughed before it will be his time. I guess Mary will be glad to see him, and I am anxious for him to get off.

My expenses will not be as much as heretofore, for Congress has passed an Act to furnish Officer Rations for themselves and allow them to buy for their Servants. I can save more money now. I have not got any money now on hand of any act. I loaned all my money out so I can get the new issue for it and have not anything in it. There will be 7 or 8 hundred dollars coming to me the 1st of May. I will send you some then. It will be the 1st of May before I can draw for the new issue.

Tell Lanna that I am going to buy him a knife the first chance I have. Do not let him forget me, and I will have to buy Janey something too. Well, I do not know what it will be. I wonder if she would know me now.

Whenever you see Grandmother Huff give her my love. Tell her I often think of her. Give all the family my best regards.

When you write again, let me know how my [missing] small cattle are getting along.

Henry is well, and does very well. I must come to a close. You must be sure and write every chance you have.

Yours til [sic] death,

Fred

Montgomery, ALA

March 8, 1865

Dear Julia,

I write you again from this place. This leaves me in good health. I have nothing new to write. When I last wrote to you I thought we would not go to S.C., but the order came yesterday for us to go, and we will take the cars tomorrow morning for the scene of action - I hate to go, but I will try to go cheerfully. If we go to where the balance of the army is, we will have to walk 200 miles. I hope the Lord will be with us.

I only have two of my old Company here now. I do not know whether any more of them are coming or not. I have not heard anything from Hiram - I have not written to him from the fact that I have no idea that he would get it for I expect he has been moved. There is a general exchange of prisoners going on now, and I expect he will be exchanged soon. They are to exchange 3000 every week until all are exchanged.

I am in a great hurry, so you must excuse my short and badly written letter. I have not heard a word from you since I left. I am very anxious to hear.

I was going to have my photograph taken today and send to you, but the day was so cloudy they could not take it - When I get to Augusta, Georgia, if there is a man there who can take them, I will have one taken and send to you and one to Mother.

I told you that I would perhaps come home in the spring some time, but I do not know whether I will get off or not, so do not look for me until you see me.

Kiss all the children for me and give all my love.

I will write again the first chance. I wish I could hear from you now. I want to see you and the children worst than I ever did.

I must close

Remember me

Your Devoted Husband,

Fred A. Davis

Julia A. Davis