

o'clock. Marched 30 miles, camped at night near a meeting house on the
Eaglesville Pike 1 1/2 miles southeast from the town. A scouting party.

1 Mo. 14": Started back at daylight just as it began to rain. Our Company
was deployed as skirmishers awhile in the morning the boys all tired and
wet as it rained all day. This is one of the mysterious moves as the
soldier does not always know the whys and wherefores and what is the cause
of this or that but evidently we are a scouting party perhaps to head off
some rebel cav. or infantry.

1 Mo. 15": Still raining. Got to camp about dark. We took 10 rebel
cavalry prisoners at Eaglesville and stores of provisions. Thus ended our
Reconnaissance in force. None killed. How much easier for us if we had
enough cavalry to send on all such expeditions. This 60 or 70 mile trip
was hard on us.

1 Mo. 16": Last night turned cold. Today is snowing. Did not go away
from the fire more than we could avoid.

1 Mo. 17": Muddy and disagreeable as the snow melted.

1 Mo. 18": Nothing to note.

1 Mo. 19": Cool and cloudy. Rained in afternoon and night.

1 Mo. 20": Moved our camp 1 mile to the front. Went on picket in evening.

1 Mo. 21": On picket. Some rebel cavalry took 25 of our wagons this
morning while going out after forage.

1 Mo. 22": Our cavalry retook the wagons with 120 rebel cav. Our regiment
started to Nashville. I remained in camp. Being numerically inferior to
the enemy in cavalry, it makes it doubly hard on us who are infantry to run
here and there heading off cavalry first in one place then another.

1 Mo. 23": Beautiful day.

1 Mo. 24": Cleaned up quarters. Rained all afternoon. The regiment came
back at dark.

1 Mo. 25": Warm and pleasant. - Not well myself.

1 Mo. 26": Clear and cool. Our brigade went foraging as it is not safe to
send out a few men unless they are expected to become a prey to the
prowling cavalry, of Jno Morgan or Forrest some such.

1 Mo. 27": Snowed nearly all day.

1 Mo. 28": Cold and snowy. The wagon train went to Nashville for
provisions. We have to haul supplies via of wagons.

1 Mo. 29": Clear and cool, but thawed some. Got a letter.

1 Mo. 30": Went back through Murfreesboro and worked on the fortifications
all day. We are making this a strong post. When garrisoned, will be hard
to take.

1 Mo. 31": Cool and cloudy.

- 2 Mo. 1": I was detailed to go out with a foraging train as loader and guard. Went 12 miles. Rained in afternoon.
- 2 Mo. 2": Very cool. Our company on picket.
- 2 Mo. 3": Clear and cool.
- 2 Mo. 4": Pleasant. Nothing of note J.S. Adair acted as L. [Lieutenant?] 1st time.
- 2 Mo. 5": Our regiment taken out again to work on fortifications. A very unpleasant day.
- 2 Mo. 6": Heard cannonading in the distance.
- 2 Mo. 7": Cool and cloudy. I went over to the 17th regiment. All well there.
- 2 Mo. 8": Called in line of battle at 4 o'clock a.m. This was a standing order for men to stand in line 1 hour before daybreak. The enemy are reported approaching in force. Afterwards went to work on breastworks.
- 2 Mo. 9": Rained some. On Batt. drill at 2 o'clock.
- 2 Mo. 10": Battallion drill at 3 and dress parade at 5.
- Mo. 11": Went foraging out 10 miles and back, saw no enemy.
- 2 Mo. 12": Rainy. Det. for picket at 2 o'clock p.m.
- 2 Mo. 13": Had a quiet time on picket relieved at 4 o'clock.
- 2 Mo. 14": On Batt. drill rained all night. Got some corn at the commissary's and shelled it to eat.
- 2 Mo. 15": On review saw Gens. Wood and Wagner for the first time since they returned to their commands after the Stone River fight.
- 2 Mo. 16": I was one of 4 out of our company detailed to go with forage train as loader and guard. Rained in afternoon and night. One mule swamped down, got back about midnight.
- 2 Mo. 17": Had orders this evening to strike our tents and be ready to march tomorrow at 7 o'clock.
- 2 Mo. 18": Packed our knapsacks, but did not strike tents. Marched over to Stone River and worked on trees along the bank.
- 2 Mo. 19": On company drill 2 hours in forenoon and 3 hours in afternoon on Batt Drill.
- 2 Mo. 20": Hauled some in forenoon. Batt Drill afternoon.
- Mo. 21": Our brigade went forageing. I was det. loader. went out 15 miles, made camp at 9 p.m. Cold rain.
- 2 Mo. 22": Dress parade at 5 o'clock. Had orders read from the Gen. comdg. ordering one Battery in each Div. in this army to fire a salute in

Commemoration of Washington's birthday.

2 Mo. 23": Cold and clear. Cousin Matthew was over to see us today.

2 Mo. 24": Pleasant. Co. Drill 2 hours afternoon.

2 Mo. 25": I was detailed for picket. Rained all afternoon and night. Came in at nine a.m.

2 Mo. 26": Wet and muddy. Broke away about noon. Got pay, etc.

2 Mo. 27": Clear and pleasant. We got paid off yesterday.

2 Mo. 28": On General inspection today with packed knapsacks. Elected the roll of honor, etc.

3 Mo. 1": Called up this morning at 3 o'clock. Orders to cook 3 days rations and be ready to march at 6 a.m. We marched a great detour and camped on the Liberty Pike. Marched 15 miles. On picket.

3 Mo. 2": Resumed the forward movement. Pretty soon found corn enough to load several of our wagons. Then went on to Milton, 16 miles from Murfreesboro and filled the rest of our wagons. Camped.

3 Mo. 3": Moved on towards our camp early! Lost Aaron Fell by desertion.

Mo. 4": Wrote a letter to Brother Jas. Cool all day.

3 Mo. 5": Wm. M. Longstreth of our mess is very sick. Drill and dress parade. Cloudy and cool.

3 Mo. 6": Rained all day quite hard. Signed pay rolls for 2 months pay. Jas Ralston came up from Nashville.

3 Mo. 7": Rained in forenoon. Batt. Drill afternoon. Orders this evening to have 3 days rations in our Haversacks, 40 rounds of ammunition in our cartridge boxes and ready to march at a moments notice.

3 Mo. 8": Rained some today. John Lewis died today. A few months ago he left Chesterfield strong and confident. He was burried at 4 o'clock with the honors of war.

3 Mo. 9": Took our 3 days rations, struck tents, everything packed in marching order, but did not go. Put up tents again.

3 Mo. 10": Wet all day. Received 2 months pay. We are on picket.

3 Mo. 11": Clear and cool. Very raw in afternoon. Sent \$20 home.

3 Mo. 12": Clear and cold all day. Co. Drill in m. Batt. in afternoon.

3 Mo. 13": Cloudy and cool. A Phipps and myself went over to see 26th Regiment. Wm. M. Longstreth deceased as we heard.

Mo. 14": Clear and pleasant. Co. Drill fore and Batt afternoon. H. Diehl came up. Capt. Davis gone to Nashville.

3 Mo. 15": Warm and pleasant, cloudy in the morning. E. W. Locke the

celebrated army writer and singer visited us and sung some of his songs.
is a native of the state of Maine.

3 Mo. 16": Clear and pleasant. Had Co. drill fore and Batt. Drill
afternoon.

3 Mo. 17": Our Colonel came up to the regiment from home. Capt. Davis
returned from Nashville. Geo. Isends came up also.

3 Mo. 18": I was Det for HQ Guard. This army corps passed review by Gen
Rosecranz. Very warm.

3 Mo. 19": Clear and pleasant; had Batt drill.

3 Mo. 20": There was fighting at Milton today between one of our brigades
(Hall's) and a large cav force commanded by Morgan. We sent
reinforcements, but before they arrived, the rebels had flown.

3 Mo. 21": Warm and pleasant. Cleaned up quarters. Our force came back
from Milton.

3 Mo. 22": All quiet in camp.

3 Mo. 23": Moved camp back toward Murfreesboro 1 mile.

3 Mo. 24": Rainy and cold. I was det. to work on fortifications.

3 Mo. 25": Our company was detailed for picket reserve. 28 men and 6
noncommissioned officers out of 100 strong though there was some back in
hospital that will come up.

3 Mo. 26": Clear and pleasant this morning. Came in off picket.

3 Mo. 27": Rained hard. Detailed for picket tomorrow.

3 Mo. 28": Very unpleasant in the morning, but the weather became more
pleasant so we had a tolerable time.

3 Mo. 29": Very windy and cold so that we suffered with cold. Thomas
Mercer 26" OVI was over to see us.

3 Mo. 30": Very cold and windy all day. received a letter from D. Yocum.
We drew our little shelter tents today for the summer campaign 1 for 2
men to be carried on the march.

3 Mo. 31": Pleasant.

4 Mo. 1": Quite cold and windy. Helped Louis Deaver (teamster) catch a
wild mule. Dress parade in evening.

4 Mo. 2": I was detailed on fatigue duty, making defences for the picket
reserve. A large body of our troops passed our camp.

4 Mo. 3": I was detailed for picket. Very windy. While on picket a scrub
oak fell, blew down on me. With difficulty I got free but little hurt. I
record this as one of the miraculous preservations, as there was a heavy
storm. The most narrow escape thus far.

- 4 Mo. 4": Still cold and windy. Washed clothes.
- Mo. 5": Today is Easter.
- 4 Mo. 6": Quite cool. Expressed \$15 to Brother Jas.
- 4 Mo. 7": Had Co. Drill fore and Batt Drill afternoon.
- 4 Mo. 8": Nothing of note transpired.
- 4 Mo. 9": I was again detailed for picket. Cold and raw.
- 4 Mo. 10": Came in from sentry put up an old Sibley tent. Dress parade in evening.
- 4 Mo. 11": Very unpleasant.
- 4 Mo. 12": Pleasant today. First of the week.
- 4 Mo. 13": Co. Drill forenoon and Brigade Drill afternoon.
- 4 Mo. 14": Rained today. I was detailed for camp guard.
- 4 Mo. 15": Rainy in the forenoon. I was over at town today.
- 4 Mo. 16": Were called up at midnight with orders to get ready to march immediately with 3 days rations. Our Brig. marched out at 2 a.m. Went to a picket line by Johnstons (a citizen).
- 4 Mo. 17": We reinforced our picket line on account of a scout reporting that the enemies cavalry were lurking about in our front. I and one other boy got a little milk for coffee, etc.
- 4 Mo. 18": Very warm. We were without our Traps off for 72 hours.
- 4 Mo. 19": Det. on picket and were releaved by the 1st Brigade with orders to prepare for marching. Rain all day. We have been under marching orders for some time.
- 4 Mo. 20": Left camp at 9 o'clock a.m. on 2nd day.² Marched out on the Woodbury pike 12 miles. We had along 2 Brigades of Infantry and 2 of cavalry, and mounted men.
- 4 Mo. 21": Marched hard from 5 a.m. till 3 p.m. making 20 miles. Got dinner and started on toward McMinnville, 6 miles further.
- 4 Mo. 22": Our cavalry dashed into McMinnville, burnt the house used as a commissary together with their stores, etc. Took several prisoners. Went on and burnt a R.R. bridge. Marched 15 miles.
- 4 Mo. 23": Marched to Liberty, 15 miles, camped at 3 o'clock. The road rather mountainous as this is bordering the mountains. Passed Snowhill.

²2nd day being Monday in Friends' (Quaker's) dating system.

There was a fight here recently.³

4 Mo. 24": This morning our company was detailed for picket. We were relieved about noon and our regiment sent back 3 miles on the road. Ordered to hold it (the road). Here our men routed a rebel camp of 200 men.

4 Mo. 25": Ordered back to camp, marched 6 miles to a little town called Alexandria, a homely place enough.

4 Mo. 26" First of the week: Went to a meeting in a Baptist Meeting House. Our chaplain addressed the meeting, none but our Brigade here.

4 Mo. 27": In the afternoon marched back toward Liberty 3 miles, and joined Starkweather's Brigade.

4 Mo. 28": Layed still all day on a high hill in the woods.

4 Mo. 29": Started for camp accompanied by several families of citizens who have abandoned their former homes for the Free States. Marched 15 miles. Camped at Milton.

4 Mo. 30": Made camp about noon without a man hurt.

5 Mo. 1" 1863: General cleaning of quarters, washing, etc.

Mo. 2" & 3": Warm and pleasant. Batt. drill each day.

5 Mo. 4": Got a letter from home. Wrote 2. Day splendid.

5 Mo. 5": I was detailed on fatigue duty, cutting and hauling cedar trees to set out in our quarters.

5 Mo. 6": Cool and rainy all day. Nothing new.

5 Mo. 7": Again on fatigue duty. Rained most of the time.

5 Mo. 8": I was detailed for picket. Still rainy and cold.

5 Mo. 9": Cleared off beautifully.

5 Mo. 10": First day is fondly looked for by everyone because this day we are exempt from drill and every kind of labor that is not strictly necessary, opportunity for attending meeting for worship, reading, and writing.

5 Mo. 11": I was detailed for fatigue duty. Our object being to fence the portion of ground used by us for interment since being in camp here.

5 Mo. 12": Too warm to be pleasant. A long train of wagons went out for red cedar to shade and adorn the camp. I was one detailed to go along but took gun and equipment.

³According to "Authentic Civil War Battle Sites," published by Western Heritage Press, July 1978, there was an engagement April 2 and 3, 1863, 3rd and 4th Ohio Cavalry.

- 7 Mo. 13": Commenced company cooking this morning. Don't know for how long.
- 5 Mo. 14": Rained very hard last night. Had division drill.
- 5 Mo. 15": Detailed on fatigue. Div. drill Wagner and Brannin both out.
- 5 Mo. 16": I was detailed for picket. Wilder's Brigade of Mounted men are within a few hundred yards of our vidette post. They have the Spencer rifles which shoots 7 times.
- 5 Mo. 17": The Rev. Col. Granville Moody, 74th OVI preached here this afternoon from 2 to 5 p.m. His text was the language used by Hagar "Thou God Seest Me" Warm. And in afternoon he read the 91st Psalm and preached from it.
- 5 Mo. 18": Pleasant Brigade drill.
- 5 Mo. 19": Warm and Pleasant.
- 5 Mo. 20": Det. on picket a welcome rumor that we will move.
- 5 Mo. 21": Warm and Pleasant. Nothing worthy of note transpired.
- 5 Mo. 22" & 23": Warm and Pleasant, Wrote letters, etc.
- Mo. 24": Det. on picket. Encouraging news from General Grant. 
- 5 Mo. 25": Warm. Drill. News from Grant that he has captured ~~XX~~ a great number of prisoners and guns and closely investing Vicksburg.
- 5 Mo. 26": Very warm. Division drill overlooked by General Wood. Grant's success confirmed.
- 5 Mo. 27": Sultry, indications of rain this evening.
- 5 Mo. 28": Detailed for picket. Last night Wagner gave orders to prepare for a march immediately. We got up and packed our stuff, got breakfast, and after waiting some 2 hours, told we might go to sleep again.
- 5 Mo. 29": Rained last night while on picket.
- 5 Mo. 30": Rained nearly all day.
- 5 Mo. 31" First of week: Pleasant and mild. Looking for a move every day.
- 6 Mo. 1": Detailed on picket. Rained a little in afternoon.
- 6 Mo. 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, & 7": Nothing except on the 7th Crook's Brigade came in from Carthage, Tenn. I got to see some acquaintances.
- 6 Mo. 8": Mild and pleasant. Stephen Bundy of the 11th Ohio came over to see me.
- Mo. 9": On Picket. Today we had to carry 7 days rations in our knapsacks.
- 6 Mo. 10": Rained. Wilder's Brigade went out towards Liberty.

- 6 Mo. 11": Warm and pleasant. Drilled in afternoon on the Bayonet Exercise.
- 6 Mo. 12": 2 spies (rebel) who have been captured in our lines are to be executed 1 mile from here. I don't wish to see any such scenes.
- 6 Mo. 13"-23": Thus it was the next twelve days drilling on picket. Cleaning quarters, etc., but not idle. Book too dim to read [Joshua's words, 1882].
- 6 Mo. 24": Struck tents at last. Marched at 7 o'clock. Rained nearly all day. Camped in the afternoon on a rebel's farm.
- 6 Mo. 25": Still raining. Marched at 7 cannonading in our front about noon and again very heavy just before nightfall. Only moved 5 miles today. Fighting at a place called the Gap (Liberty Gap).⁴
- 6 Mo. 26": Rained a great part of the night. Layed still waiting for Palmer's train to move out. Heavy cannonading beginning at noon and lasting for three hours.
- 6 Mo. 27": I was detailed for Headquarter guard. Cleared off. Moved about one o'clock. While writing this I see the men hauling the guns over the mountain by hand. So much rain made travel slow.
- 6 Mo. 28": Moved up the mountain (first Range of Cumberland Mountains) at o'clock over a terrible road. Tents, clothing, trunks, mess chests, and 11 manner of equipage was burned. Worked hard all day and night to get up the mountain. Camped 4 miles from Manchester.
- 6 Mo. 29": Went into camp about 7 a.m., rested all day. Rained and violent thunder.
- 6 Mo. 30": Moved at 7 a. m. Went to the river at Manchester found a large force of our men already there. Rained again.
- 7 Mo. 1": Drawed two days rations to last six. Marched at 10 o'clock. Went through Manchester and laid till 5 p.m., then marched to Hillsboro. Our company on picket it has rained every day since we left Murfreesboro.
- 7 Mo. 2": While our company was on picket, word came that the rebels were looked to attack us. We immediately deployed on both sides of the road and moved on the double quick to Elk River Bridge which we saved from burning, the rebels having fired it. This is near Pelham Grundy Co. Tenn. on the Hillsboro Pike.
- 7 Mo. 3", 4", & 5th" Skirmishing near Pelham, between there and Hillsboro. Rained 14 days without missing one. We are camped 1/2 mile from Pelham. Pure water, springs are numerous. The Elk River has its source in the mountains, water clear and cold. On the 3rd left one man of Co. G wounded. Died afterwards; suffered from sunstroke.
- 7 Mo. 8"-9": All quiet. Got blackberries.

⁴Liberty Gap or Beech Grove, Tenn., June 25, 1863--20th Corps.
Maj. Gen. McCook, Army of the Cumberland, Rosecrans campaign.

- 7 Mo. 10": Good news from the East.
- 7 Mo. 11": Heard of the fall of Vicksburg.
- 7 Mo. 12": Got some apples, warm and pleasant.
- Mo. 13": Hot in forenoon, rained hard in afternoon. Received a letter from home.
- 7 Mo. 14": On Picket. Cloudy with a little rain. Men, women, and children are coming into our lines continually for something to eat as the country is totally stripped by the rebel army.
- 7 Mo. 15": Drewed one day's full rations. Orders to be prepared to march at a moments notice. Our sutler came up yesterday.
- 7 Mo. 16": Warm, but not so oppressively hot. Voted in our company to give the poor union families in the neighborhood some of our rations.
- 7 Mo. 17": Detailed on camp guard. Today received the sad intelligence of my dear brother's death at the Battle of Gettysburg on the second of this month.⁵ What a necessity there is in being prepared to meet the Bridegroom of souls at anytime.
- 7 Mo. 18": Went to the river (Elk), a pure stream rising in the Cumberland mountains to bathe, etc.
- 7 Mo. 19": On picket today, there is plenty of blackberries here and good.
- 7 Mo. 20": At 7 o'clock the bugle sounded the call for strike tents. We were still on picket. But went in and meeting our regiment at the road, marched over the river and camped at the foot of the mountain near a large spring that comes out of the hill.
- Mo. 21": Beautiful day drewed rations. We now have enough to eat and to spare.
- 7 Mo. 22": Pleasant today. Received 4 months pay 52\$. Sent 45\$ home.
- 7 Mo. 23": On picket. Got more blackberries, pleasant.
- 7 Mo. 24": Went to a cold spring run and took a bathe.
- 7 Mo. 25": Clear and pleasant. First of the week. At meeting in the shade of a large elm tree near company quarters, the Chaplain read the 14th chapter of Numbers. It put me immediately in mind of my dear Brother Caleb.
- 7 Mo. 26": Pleasant. Chaplain started home with our money.
- 7 Mo. 27": Another pleasant day, which glided swiftly away. I was on guard at camp.
- 7 Mo. 28": Warm, but pleasant. Heard of Morgan, the guerilla Chieftains capture in Ohio.

⁵Caleb DeWees, 1836-1863.

7 Mo. 29": Quite warm, but a pleasant breeze. Got a letter from cousin Matthew. They are at Winchester, Tennessee.

7 Mo. 30": On picket today. Rained very hard in the afternoon. Got a letter from cousin Jane Dewees.

Mo. 31": Warm and pleasant, had a general cleaning up. This month has been made memorable by victory for the union army in this as well as almost every other department purchased at such a fearful cost of human lives!

8 Mo. 1": Just one year ago today since enlisting.

8 Mo. 2": Rained some, had inspection of arms.

8 Mo. 3": Very pleasant day. I am on camp guard. Wrote 2 letters: one to Coz. Jane and one to Bro. Smith.

8 Mo. 4": Pleasant; rain in the evening. Worked cleaning up quarters.

8 Mo. 5": Very warm forenoon. Afternoon rain and thunder.

8 Mo. 6": On picket today, weather very warm. Today is set apart by President Lincoln for Thanksgiving and Prayer.

8 Mo. 7": Warm, but pleasant.

8 Mo. 8": General inspection today. Wm. Bain and Wm. Martin came up.

8 Mo. 9": First of the week. Weather very warm. In the evening our company went to the river swimming.

8 Mo. 10": Detailed for picket. Our company was at the reserve under a lieutenant of the 40th Indiana. One year ago left home and friends.

8 Mo. 11": Very warm.

8 Mo. 12": Warm, expecting to move.

8 Mo. 13": Am on Picket. Very hard rain in afternoon.

8 Mo. 14": Very hot in forepart of the day. Our regiment went to work on the mountain road which was blockaded by the rebels. Came back to camp after dark. Severe rain and lightning to be remembered.

8 Mo. 15": 5 Companies went back on the mountain where we were yesterday and finished opening the road, removing trees, rocks, etc. Went out at 1 o'clock a.m.

8 Mo. 16, First of the week: Warm. The notes of strike tents was sounded at 9 a.m. Marched to the top of the mountain and stacked arms about 11 o'clock. Exceedingly hot. Worked hard pulling our wagons and guns up the mountain till 1 o'clock on the morning of 17".

8 Mo. 17": Rested a few hours. Marched 10 miles to Tracy City. Camped 1/2 mile from town. This is on the mountain top (Cumberland Mountains). The remainder of our division is behind.

8 Mo. 18": Marched at 6 a.m. on the Altamont Road. Came into the

Chattanooga road about 10 a.m. Marched 10 miles. Wilder's Mounted Men passed us today going to the front on a scout. The rebel pickets are 2 miles ahead of us. Chattanooga on the south bank of Tennessee River is our objective point the most important and strongly fortified position except Richmond in the southern states now in rebel hands.

Mo. 19": Marched at 5 1/2 a.m. Went down the mountain onto the Sequatchie valley, between the Cumberland Mountains and Walden Ridge. Wilder out scouting. Took 18 prisoners and rescued 5 of our men captured on the Altamont March. Marched 15 miles. Our Co. went on picket at night.

8 Mo. 20": Marched at 7 a.m. Our brigade alone; crossed the valley and Sequatchie or Caswathie River. This valley is 6 to 4 miles wide and 30 to 40 in length and very fertile. Marched up Walden Ridge and camped on the summit ten miles from Chattanooga.

8 Mo. 21": Our company went on picket. The rest of the brigade 2 miles back.

8 Mo. 22": First saw the Tennessee River. Five miles distant (at nearest point), winding about in serpentine form towards the N.E. to S.W. The bold Lookout Mountain to the south and west the Smokey or Blue Ridge S.East. While we are on a parrallel ridge of the Cumberland Mountains, Waldron's Ridge.

From the 22" to the 28" inclusive layed on the ridge and moved to and fro in the Tennessee Valley. The rebels shelling and killing our men and horses in a group our Battry Cox's 10th Indiana replying with apparent effect. The city of Chattanooga or Village is a very formidable point and strong hold. The rebels will fight for it no doubt. From this ridge the most grand and picturesque view I ever saw with glasses we can see into Chattanooga and see Rebel officers riding to and fro and clouds of dust mark their movements etc.

Mo. 28": Perley B. Dickerson started for Stevenson Ala. to go through an examination for an office in a colored regiment. 100 of our men, myself among them, went on scout (6 miles) talked with the rebels just across the river. Our main army is crossing below and may come in the rear of Chattanooga.

8 Mo. 29" 7th Day [Saturday]: Today our company went on picket on the cliffs edge overlooking Chattanooga. The rocks are a perpendicular wall 50 feet and after that very rough and much broken on the southern slope. We are on a man's farm who himself is a General with the rebel army. We did not spare fences.

8 Mo. 30": First of the week, everything quiet. Came off picket.

8 Mo. 31": Our knapsacks came up this evening (as we have been moving in light marching order carrying nothing to impede travel we could spare). Got a large mail, but no rations.

9 Mo. 1": Nothing of importance took place today. Our brigade, Wagner's, Hazen's, and Wilder's are here on this side making as big a show as possible, when in reality only 2 brigades of Infantry and one of cavalry.

9 Mo. 2": Warm and pleasant. Our company on picket. We do not fire unnecessarily on picket.

9 Mo. 3": Released from picket in the morning, we hear there was 3 hours hard fighting today on our right.

9 Mo. 4": Washed in forenoon. There was evidently a show of a move across the river among the rebels. With the naked eye we could see miles of rising dust indicating the extent of the move and the buzzards hovering over are true telltales of the armies presence below. But with field glasses, we can see orderlies flying in every direction, showing activity if not consternation.

9 Mo. 5": Heard cannonading to our left up the river. At early dawn of day. Probably Burnside's forces are coming down from the East, or else Wilder has engaged them. At 11 o'clock at night called to arms and told that the enemy were crossing the river in force. We marched down the mountain to meet them. Everything muffled, making the least possible noise. No talking or whispering except to give orders. When we got into the valley, we learned that it was all a dream or fancy of some sentry on picket. We layed down and slept till morning thankful for our disappointment.

9 Mo. 6": First of the week. Very quiet and pleasant. One year ago left Zanesville with 960 strong. Now we can only number 450 men.

9 Mo. 7": Went down on the hill north of Chattanooga. The battery fired 100 rounds at them which were answered. Went back 1/2 mile layed down all night.

9 Mo. 8": Our regt. moved up on the hill where it was yesterday. Our co. was sent on picket at 11 a.m. Am writing this at the root of an oak tree in plain view of the rebel city fortifications & flags. No picket firing yet.

9 Mo. 9": Some picket firing in the morning at about 8 a.m. The town surrendered to General Wagner. The 97th was the first to cross the river and take possession. We planted our colors in the rebel fortifications on Cameron Hill. The first time we, that is our regiment, had set foot beyond the Tennessee River. We picked up some stragglers: but the rebel army had retreated taking everything of use, but did not burn the town. (Where on the morning of September 9, 1863, our regiment viz the 97th OVI crossed the Tennessee River into Chattanooga, driving the rebel sharpshooters out. The town surrendered to General George D. Wagner, our brigade commander, for which service he made commandant of the post and our regiment was allowed to perform provost duty in the town and not carried into the Battle of Chickamauga. The only soft snap we had in our service. And whereas certain members of the 92nd Illinois claim to have raised the first flag and to be the first troops to enter the town; therefore, resolved, that in our reunion of the survivors of the 97 OVI, we propose to claim our rights. We never took a backseat 23 years ago and in order that history may not be perverted now, the survivors enter their solemn protest against allowing any other regiment to claim what the 97 OVI did. We wish to rob no other organization of any honors. There is enough to go around. We want it distinctly understood that Wagner's brigade was the first federal troops in Chattanooga and by accident or force of circumstances, the 97th led the brigade.) [This last writing was on an extra piece of paper in the diary and seemed to be the rough draft for action by a reunion of veterans of 97th OVI in 1886].

9 Mo. 10": Our Company D and H were detailed to perform provost duty in

the town. We have heavy duty to bring the people to believe they will not be molested as everything is in a state of confusion. 200 deserters came in today and gave themselves up. Our brigade alone here.

9 Mo. 11": Deserters flock in, in great squads, fighting in this morning. Drawed 3 days rations. Saw General Rosecrans. He rode through town. Was easant and sociable as ever.

9 Mo. 12": Our company went back to the regiment this morning. In the evening Hiram Hart and myself were detailed to go to Rossville, 5 miles to the front to report to signal corps, where we arrived about 2 hours after dark. John E. Harkness of Company G also on detail, afterwards killed in battle. [This last sentence entered in pencil obviously in 1882 rewrite]

9 Mo. 13": This morning is a calm Sabath morn. We have sent 2 boys back after rations. Cannonading in afternoon to our right.

9 Mo. 14": It is our duty to act as guards and also watch at large glasses for signal lights at night and signal flags in the daytime. We can talk from 10 to 30 miles away in this manner. Receive and send messages in a few minutes over a mountainous country where it would take a courier a whole day: moved early this morning 9 miles to the front towards Lafayette, Georgia. Laid all day near the west fork of the Chickamauga River.

9 Mo. 15": Moved 1 mile south near Lee & Gordon's Mills. Said Mills on Chicamauga Creek.

9 Mo. 16": Moved 2 miles to Cray-Fish Springs. Then moved back to the identical spot we left. Still at signal station.

9 Mo. 17": Some fighting on our right. Got 2 days rations all except crackers, which we don't have. A battle is inevitable soon, likely to be bloodiest of the war! Have been watching the rebel movements. Today they are apparently concentrating and are very active, while our own movements are not so plainly visible. There is dense forests of timber south of us where the rebel army are maneuvering.

9 Mo. 18": Considerable cannonading. They threw a shell within a few (10) feet of our station. It did not explode; we moved position a few rods. There must be a battle tomorrow.

9 Mo. 19": Moved station 2 miles. Skirmishing began at an early hour first at our right then to our left. At noon the battle became terriffic, the heaviest musketry I ever heard as charge after charge is made. One continual roar with very little intermission until darkness kindly drew the vail. (Chicamauga Battle)

9 Mo. 20": First of the week. Some skirmishing along the line up to this hour, 8 a.m., our army busy as no doubt the other is also arranging for a final conflict. Troops are marching orderlies riding in hot haste with orders from superior generals to do this or that and anxiety is stamped on every face this pleasant Sabath morning! But hush! hark. The battle has been renewed; and we are ordered to move immediately. History will supply the needed informations. Suffice it to say our lines gave way in forenoon, between Wood and Brannin our men fought bravely being out-numbered and cut into our right wing and center. McCook's [20th] and Crittenden's [21st] corps were compelled to fall back towards Chattanooga. General Thomas

[14th Corps] stood and slowly drew back toward Rossville and prevented the rebels already flushed with victory from following our army to the Tennessee River and making a perfect panic. The rebels maddened by having their stronghold taken, fought desperately almost with frenzy as yell after yell indicated each renewed charge. But Thomas's guns are thundering out in sullen defiance, an answer that speaks to this whole nation. We have not seen this surpassed for stubbornness and it is doubtful whether the like of our bloodiness has been seen on this continent for the number engaged. (The 19th and 20th days of September, 1863 will ever stand out in history as important days in the life of America!) [Joshua's parenthetic observation]

9 Mo. 21": We moved back with signal station on to the north side of Tennessee River on a high ridge. Gen. Crittenden is here today.

9 Mo. 22": The wounded have been streaming back all day. Such as after their turn comes are examined and but slightly hurt or those who survive an operation the amputation of a limb etc. are sent back to hospital across the river North and those who live are sent home on furlough to get well. Many die from loss of blood or gangrene as all cannot be attended to at once although the surgeons keep the saws and scalpels going. One who has evidently only a few moments to live is laid aside; the pathway through the Dark Valley made as comfortable as possible and another man taken who perhaps only has to have a ball extracted, or a leg amputated and bound up. Such is only a part of the horrors of war. At 2 p.m. heavy firing going on, on our right. Beyond the town of Chattanooga, I can see our battle line. Cannonading till after dark. [Here Joshua sketched his version of the Rebel and Union lines in Chattanooga, covering about a 2 inch square on his journal page.]

9 Mo. 23": Went foraging after corn. Cannonading again. The ambulance train still passing to rear, conveying our poor wounded boys. Many will die before they get back to R.R. as the R.R. is torn up for many miles back. Can see the rebel lines on Mission Ridge and to the north.

9 Mo. 24": Fighting at daylight, heavy cannonading through the day. Pickets fighting till midnight.

9 Mo. 25": I went over to the regiment to see the boys, the boys at this signal station are Lieuts. Fitch and Foreaker. Enlisted men: Hascall, Campbell, and Jones, guard from the 97th H. Hart, Harkness, and myself.

[Days 26-30 are omitted]

10 Mo. 1": Rained all day. Drewed 10 days rations. Mission Ridge is in view 10 miles south in Georgia.

10 Mo. 2": Cold all day and windy. Waldron Ridge, where our brigade layed before crossing into Chattanooga is 5 miles north. Raccoon River west of us 3 miles.

10 Mo. 3": Cold and raw: Reading.

10 Mo. 4": First of the week. Started out with the wagon foraging. Myself and two others went up the valley 31 miles from Chattanooga and no corn yet. Camped in Ray (Rhea) County, 5 miles from Washington. [Dayton is the County Seat]

10 Mo. 5": Drove on two miles and found corn. Loaded and came back 23

files and camped for the night. The people are in a suffering condition. Not a morsel of bread about, many of their houses having been stripped by both armies, though the rebels did not leave us anything they could help. There are many union families here. Cannonading this afternoon.

10 Mo. 6": Drove on to camp. The cannonading yesterday was the rebels shelling Chattanooga. We did not return the fire. One pontoon completed across the river.

10 Mo. 7": Killed a beef on our own account.

10 Mo. 8": Clear and cool. Shelling between Lookout Mountain and Missionary Ridge. One year today since the battle of Perryville, Ky.

10 Mo. 9": Clear and cool. Some cannonading again. We can view the winding course of the Tennessee for more than 25 miles. How Grand!

10 Mo. 10": The morning is clear without a cloud. We got 10 days rations. The wagons started for forage into Sequatchie Valley.

10 Mo. 11": First of the week. I rode over to the 52 OVI to see cousin Isaac Yokom. He was well and on picket. There are 8 miles above Chattanooga on the north side of river.

10 Mo. 12": Cloudy and windy. Fighting early in the morning on our left, about 8 a.m. the cannonading heavy on our right. Each side indulging in his sport though not always harmless. Artillery is much better; then musketry for life and limb.

10 Mo. 13": Rained all last night and today. I was not old enough to vote by 2 months.

10 Mo. 14": Rained all day. Our officers sent for us to come to our commands. The officers here remonstrated and we stay here for this night. I went after a hog and lost myself. Finally got back.

10 Mo. 15": Rained all the day. Got 2 letters, one from Bro. S. and one from Bro. Wm. [Brother Smith and Brother William]

10 Mo. 16": Rained in the morning. Sun shone out at noon.

10 Mo. 17": Started foraging 3 of us guards drove on to the mountain 20 miles. Roads heavy. Layed in the kitchen of a good union man whose name was Reynolds.

10 Mo. 18": Drove down the mountain into the valley. Rained in morning. Crossed Sequatchie River and went up 15 miles. Got corn in Bledsoe County, Tennessee. [Pikeville is the County Seat]

10 Mo. 19": Last night we layed at a widow B's (Union). Found them very kind and clever. We hauled in 2 loads of corn for them, loaded our load for which we paid, pushed on to the foot of the mountain and camped for the night.

10 Mo. 20": Pulled over the mountain and camped at the opposite foot. It is 14 miles across from foot to foot.

10 Mo. 21": Rained nearly all day. Went on to camp. Got there 3 p.m.

Having went over 40 miles for corn, making 80 for the trip. Heard of the
action of Brough in Ohio [for the office of Governor].

10 Mo. 22": I went over to the regiment. Drewed 1 pair of shoes. Old
Rosecrans has left us. Grant takes Command. Sherman is coming up and our
army is being put on the offensive.

10 Mo. 23": Rained all day. Fighting Joe Hooker's corps is close by.

10 Mo. 24": Nothing new today. At midnight cannonading. It reverberated
through the hills a considerable time.

10 Mo. 25": I went to mill 5 miles and got some corn ground. Last night
Palmer's troops and some others went out to feel of the rebels.

10 Mo. 26": Very pleasant autumnal day. I was down at Field Hospital.
Saw them bury a deceased soldier without even a box to put the body in.

10 Mo. 27": The morning opened smoky. The first sound was of fighting on
Lookout Mountain. Cannonading heavy.

10 Mo. 28": Rained in the morning. On the night of the 28th, there was
heavy fighting between Longstreet's and Hooker's Corps.

10 Mo. 29": Rained. Cannonading all day between Lookout and the valley.

Mo. 30": Rained nearly all day. Cannonading.

10 Mo. 31": Worked at our house. We are near an old man's house by the
name of Crayne, who are friends [I believe he used "friends" meaning
"Friends", in the religious connotation; members of the Society of Friends,
or Quakers]. Cool and cloudy. Cannonading most all day. Our army is
being recruited and reinforced vastly as well as the opposing army and soon
another battle will be fought for the possession of Chattanooga, which
although in our hands, does us but little good as yet as we are almost in
a state of siege having to maintain a long line of communications reduced
to very close and scanty living and unless we can persuade them, the
rebels, to retreat, we will be compelled to soon, as 2 such armies cannot
survive so close to each other.

11 Mo. 1": First of the week. Necessity did not allow us all of this day
to rest as we built a chimney to our log house. Drewed 3 days's half
rations except sugar.

11 Mo. 2": Today I was over at town and at the regiment they were out on
picket, where they have been for more than a week. Last night the first
steamboat came up from Bridgeport with 100,000 rations.

11 Mo. 3": Pleasant. 2 boys started to town to draw rations but could not
cross as the pontoon was washed away and the boats engaged in ferrying
rations over to the troops.

11 Mo. 4": Cannonading very heavy from rebels on Lookout Mountain. I
te a letter today to Mary P.

11 Mo. 5": Cloudy and smokey, rained. Rained most of day.

11 Mo. 6-7": Nothing except cannonading from Lookout Mountain.