

- 11 Mo. 8": First of the week. Drewed 5 days one-third rations.
- 11 Mo. 9": Very pleasant Indian Summer weather.
- 11 Mo. 10": Cool and blustry.
- 11 Mo. 11": Wrote an application to be examined before Captain Merrill and others for the purpose of entering the signal corps. Cut logs for Fitch and Foreaker.
- 11 Mo. 12": Worked at Lieuts House. cloudy and smokey. Heard of Halleck's removal, also of Meades success near Fredericksburg, Va. Grant to supercede Halleck.
- 11 Mo. 13": Cannonading from Lookout Mountain over at the regiment saw Thomas Mercer late from Chesterfield.
- 11 Mo. 14": Cloudy and cool all day.
- 11 Mo. 15": First of the week. Cool and cloudy. Wrote two letters. Cannonading down the river.
- 11 Mo. 16": Cool and windy. Lieut. Fitch and I had some signaling to do. The other boys away at town. The rebels shelled the 125 Illinois regiment across the river and killed their chaplain' today.
- Mo. 17": Cool, but clear. Went over to town saw cousin Matthew. I gned the payrolls, etc.
- 11 Mo. 18": Cannonading. N. Hart came over to see us. Went back this morning to the regiment in town.
- 11 Mo. 19": H. Hart went over to the regiment. Sherman's pontoon wagon train has been going by up the river (on this side north). Sherman is laying his pontoon and is expecting to cross about 7 miles above Chattanooga. Exciting times as well as danger is looked for. Since being in signal corps, I have learned much more of the movements and details of the army than as private in the ranks.
- 11 Mo. 20": Preparations are being actively made to take the offensive and severe fighting is looked for at any moment.
- 11 Mo. 21": Rained in the morning. Moved station on to the N. banks of Tennessee River 3 miles above Chattanooga. Three more divisions of Sherman's troops arrived.
- 11 Mo. 22": First of the week. [Here Joshua DeWees cannot read his little journal he carried with him. Hereafter he wrote "dim" if he was unable to decipher his book.]
- 11 Mo. 23": Left signal corps for the regiment as every man available is ordered to the front for action. This was not our choice, but soldiers have to obey orders! Went on picket at night. Found our regiment on the ont about 1/4 mile from the rebel pickets. Saw the battle flag of the 28 ss. planted at their picket reserve. A few rods in our front, either picket vidette can talk across the few rods that intervene to the enemy. Here our boys and the Rebels would make mutual agreement not to fire on each other as long as he would not try to advance and would select a

position midway a log, stone or stump where each might go and no further where they would meet and trade tobacco for coffee, etc. We know there must shortly be a heavy struggle for the final possession of this place and in the order of events many who are now about to eat dinner must bite the dust ere the sun fades in the west again.

11 Mo. 24": Cool and cloudy, spit rain a little. Shelling at intervals on our left. We were relieved from picket about 11 o'clock. Heavy musketry and cannonading on Lookout Mountain. Hooker is there. From 11 a.m. till long into the night fighting raged from fierce to fiercer and we could see in the night by the guns the position of the contending parties as the flashes above the clouds would testify. Lookout is 2400 feet above the Tennessee River. Now as the morning of another day draws near we wrap our blankets about us to catch a few moments rest, and Hooker has the mountain.

11 Mo. 25": At sunrise this morning nearly still along the line. Some shots on our left just now. There is activity everywhere and the soldier intuitively knows that he will soon be called upon for bloody work either to give or repel charges. The result of which is only held and ordered by the Almighty Hand which holds our lives in His hand so we wait. And I have noticed that many if not most at such times draw out a testament or small Bible and I hope not a few petition the Throne of Grace for mercy and that as few lives be sacrificed as consistent with His pleasure. At one and one half o'clock (1 1/2) moved onto the Rebels under heavy shower of cannon balls shells grape and cannister with musketry. It was a preconceived thing that the firing simultaneously of all the cannon on Orchard Knob was to be the signal for a general advance along the whole line on, and still up the mountainside we went nearly in front—just to the left of Bragg's headquarters who said a few hours ago in answer to some questions, "The Yankees can never come up there." Layed on this advance position till about 4 o'clock when we climbed the ridge. At 4 1/2 p.m. the ridge is ours. Many prisoners and 30 pieces of artillery for our division. Eli Bingham fell at my side, instantly killed by a ball through the temple. He was a noble youth. My right hand is wounded by grape shot. P.H. Sheridan, our division commander comes riding up and says, "form you lines boys and charge them. The enemy must be pressed." and as he says it, they throw a shell at the group of horsemen which bursts and throws mud over horse and rider and at sundown we follow on 1/2 mile where we come onto the rear guard who again fought sullenly for the wagons and guns to retreat and poured their small shot into us at close range killing and wounding many by grape and cannister or musket as they had chosen their ground and waited in ambush our coming, who after emerging from a thick brush had but little or no cover. About 10 p.m the firing had ceased. The moon shines peacefully down overlooking the poor dead and wounded on the field of Carnage. We know not how many poor boys have laid down to rise no more. How ghastly these faces look in the moonlight for with the setting sun their lives went out. The charge proper lasted 1 hour and 40 minutes and the crest of the ridge was ours.. Our orders were to occupy the first line of works at foot of ridge, but we could not long survive there and on up the ridge without orders. Reported that General Grant asked Thomas by whose orders are those troops advancing up the ridge. Answer, "I don't know." Sheridan, when appealed to, said, "If the rebels can't stop my men, I can't." Our little company has 4 killed and 6 or 8 wounded who one hour ago were strong and in health the same as any one of us. A brigade in the rebel works gave way and thus saved many lives as their line broke.

11 Mo. 26": Moved back to camp. Busy removing the dead, dying, and wounded, mortally wounded Hart, L. Timberlake and Wm H. H. Hammond, and

vsself struck with a ball on first joint forefinger of right hand. (Not so
ingerously J. Clark, John Davis, Joe Wetherel, Wm Liezy.)

11 Mo. 27": Layed in camp at Chattanooga. Wrote letters: was detailed to
help bury the dead. Our division buries together out east of town 1/2
mile. Our regiment lost on the 25th: 156 killed-wounded.

11 Mo. 28": Rained in forenoon in the afternoon fell in to march. Our
corps went out 3 miles and camped. Waded through water got feet and
clothes wet etc.

11 Mo. 29": First of week crossed Chickamauga. Marched 10 miles towards
Knoxville. Camped near Harrison. Very cool. Our company went on picket.
An order from the General Comdg. was read to the effect that Burnsidess was
surrounded in Knoxville whither we were going.

11 Mo. 30": Reveille at 3. Marched at 4 a.m. Went 20 miles passed
through Georgetown. Crossed the Hiawassa River after night. Quite cool.

12 Mo. 1": At 7 a.m. on the south side of Hiawassa River. Come over to
work on boat. We are 7 miles above the mouth. Marched 13 miles to near
Decatur.

12 Mo. 2": Passed through a very beautiful country. Marched 20 miles.
Our company advance guard. Camped an hour before sundown. Got potatoes.
Camped on a fine farm.

Mo. 3": Marched through a nice fertile country. Went through
Philadelphia. Camped 5 miles from town. (13000 loyal dead lie buried at
Chattanooga.)

12 Mo. 4": Our regiment went out foraging. Marched over the country about
12 miles. Met Wood's Division coming up. We are now in East Tennessee.

12 Mo. 5": Marched at daylight towards Knoxville. Crossed the Little
Tennessee River at Morgantown. Passed through a rich country. Marched 15
miles and camped 27 miles from Knoxville.

12 Mo. 6": Marched at daylight. Passed through a little town called
Maryville. Many grist mills here away. Marched 15 miles.

12 Mo. 7": Marched at 7 a.m. I was detailed to go foraging. Our division
marched 10 miles and camped 2 miles south of the noted town of Knoxville.
Burnsidess is releaved. Longstreet's men retreating into Virginia. I
camped 3 miles from Rockford tonight, 9 miles from Knoxville.

12 Mo. 8": I did not get to camp. Got to camp middle of this afternoon.

12 Mo. 9": Layed still. James Boilou 9th Ohio cav came over to see us
today.

12 Mo. 10": Layed still. This morning first saw Knoxville and the Holstem
River. Here is the home of Wm S. Brownlow. Saw the fort (Sanders) where
ystreet was so disastrously defeated.

12 Mo. 11": I am 21 years old today. Was in town at the camp of 9th Ohio
Cavalry. James Boilou went with me over to Fort Sanders, so dreaded by
rebeldom. Saw General A. E. Burnsidess, Commandant of Knoxville.

- 12 Mo. 12": Cloudy in the morning. At 11 A.M. got orders to march in one
 our; marched through Knoxville.
- 12 Mo. 13": Rained in the morning. James Boilou was here today. We are
 camped 3/4 of a mile west of Knoxville in a wood. First of the week, a
 gloomy day.
- 12 Mo. 14": Rained in the night and early morning. Moved up near town at
 10 a.m. into a house used as a College. Our company was put into a room in
 the E. Tennessee University.
- 12 Mo. 15": Very cool. Got marching orders at 12 m. to be ready to march
 at any time with 3 days rations; Got on the cars at Sundown, got to
 Strawberry Plains about 8 o'clock p.m.
- 12 Mo. 16": This morning found us on Strawberry Plains. Here General
 Sanders burnt a R.R. bridge in August last. Bal. dim.
- 12 Mo. 17"-19": In carrying my memorandum books made with pencil, it
 became obliterated by long marches etc. And after the lapse of more than
 20 years, it is with difficulty I can decipher it, and these blanks
 represent where I failed entirely. As every day was noted whether in the
 field, on the march, or in camp.
- 12 Mo. 19": Layed still. Dim.
- 12 Mo. 20": Called up in line, changed front skirmish with Longstreet's
 force. Dim [rest undecipherable]
- 12 Mo. 21": Retreat from Dandridge. Came near being captured. [same
 notation as 12/16, 12/17-19, 12/20]
- 12 Mo. 22": Our regiment marched at 8 o'clock A.M. three companies crossed
 a part of the river onto a large island to gather corn. Bal. stayed on
 banks.
- 12 Mo. 23": Our company and 2 others went over onto the island. Husked
 corn all day. In the evening got our mail from Chattanooga. Heard that L.
 Timberlake and Wm. Hammond died on 3rd of wounds received on the 25th at M.
 Ridge both wounded in left side.
- 12 Mo. 24": The morning is pleasant. Today the rest of our brigade moved
 down.
- 12 Mo. 25": Christmas. Cool and cloudy. Took a vote to decide how many
 wished to reenlist. One dissenter-only in company.
- 12 Mo. 26": Rained some in the evening. No news of import.
- 12 Mo. 27": First of the week. Went to mill etc.
- 12 Mo. 28"-30": [the pencil was again too dim for Joshua Dewees to read
 when copying his war diary in 1882.]
- Mo. 31": Last day of the year, 1863. Heard the report of our
 artillery, probably cavalry fighting.
- 1 Mo. 1" 1864: New Year's Day. A memorable cold day and night following.

We were laying on the Holston River and could not leave our fires, but turned from side to side to keep from freezing. I was on guard at Headquarters. Two years ago I was teaching school.

1 Mo. 2": Cloudy and cold. One year ago today the bloody battle of Stone River was in progress. It lasted seven days.

1 Mo. 3": Warmer today. On guard, got mail by our chaplain. 2 of our men (wounded) while coming up to the regiment were captured near the Hiawassa River.

1 Mo. 4": Cold all day. I was at the 26 OVI Aaron Phipps went to mill for us.

1 Mo. 5": Warmer today. Sworn into V Veteran Service which dates from 1st mo. 1st" 1864. Got another mail (three letters.)

1 Mo. 6": The 26 OVI started home this morning 23 men, the one that did not reenlist came to our regiment.

1 Mo. 7": Cool all day. No move.

1 Mo. 8": Snowed last night 3 inches. I went to mill to get meal from corn.

1 Mo. 9": Very cool all day. Laid still.

Mo. 10": First of the week. Myself and seven others walked to Strawberry Plains to view the country. I got my knapsack all right. [One of the dim passages noted above for some of the entries between December 17 and December 30 possibly mentioned the loss of his Knapsack, in all likelihood during the retreat and near capture December 21, 1863, near Dandridge, Tennessee.]

1 Mo. 11": (Too dim)

1 Mo. 12": Wrote a letter.

1 Mo. 13": Newton Laws went foraging, Got nothing. Carnahan came up. I was on guard.

1 Mo. 14": Captain Davis and the convalescents left at Chattanooga came up this morning; ordered at noon to move camp immediately. We crossed the river on old flats to the south side. Camped 1/2 mile from the river.

1 Mo. 15": 6" day. Cloudy and cool. About noon took up the march. Roads very muddy. Captain Davis is commanding the regiment. J.Q. Lane the Brig. and Col. Baines absent.

1 Mo. 16": Got up at 4 A.M. Marched at 7 A.M. Our Brig. in the rear. Roads very slippery. Moved to the right of New Market. Passed through the ville called Dandridge. Camped 1 mile beyond. Connonading about 3 miles to our front. Report is that Longstreet is driving our forces. Marched 15 miles. No bread to eat since noon yesterday.

1 Mo. 17": First of week, morning pleasant, a memorable day to us. About 4 o'clock p.m. fighting commenced in our immediate front by the rebels making another attack on our cavalry and infantry. The 125th Ohio was

engaged. Lost their adjutant and 4 killed. At dark our whole army began to fall back. General Sheridan was said to be the ranking general on the field. Our division in the advance on the retreat, had no supper and soon fatigued. The roads very slippery and we marched very fast. We did not know it was a general retreat till some miles on our road. Marched all night.

1 Mo. 18": Went into camp about 10 a.m. on the R.R. 14 miles from Knoxville and 3 miles below the Plains. The morning quite rainy. I laid down and slept 2 hours on the road, being completely outdone by hard marching, muddy roads, hunger, and fatigue. Got into camp awhile after the regiment went in. This memorable retreat was executed on the night of the 17th and day of the 18th, 1st day night and 2nd day. We do not know what it was for; but all agree in the judgement, there has been bad generalship somewhere. This is the verdict of the line. Marched 22 miles from dark till 10 next morning.

1 Mo. 19": Day pleasant. Many stragglers came up to camp this evening. Drew a dust of flour got mail, etc.

1 Mo. 20": 4th day. Wakened at 5 a.m. with orders to put traps on and get breakfast immediately. Did not march till 4 p.m. and no enemy appeared. At 4 o'clock marched toward Knoxville 3 miles and camped for the day.

1 Mo. 21": Got up at 4 a.m. Marched at 6. Got breakfast again with traps on to prevent a surprise. Went through Knoxville, crossed the river on pontoon bridge. Camped 1 1/2 miles from the river near our old camp. Marched today 15 miles, camped at 3 o'clock.

1 Mo. 22": Layed still all day. Waked up at 4 o'clock a.m. Orders to march at 6. Strike tents was sounded and we got ready when the order was countermanded.

1 Mo. 23" 1864. Reveille at 5 o'clock. Marched at 8. Crossed the river into Knoxville moved down the river 10 miles and camped on the north side of R.R. Marched 11 1/2 miles today.

1 Mo. 24": First of the week. Reveille at 4 o'cl. Marched at daylight towards Loudon. Marched through Campbells Station and a very nice country, and productive, amply repaying the one who plants. Blessed by Providence. Camped near the R.R. about 1 o'clock. Marched 12 miles.

1 Mo. 25": Layed in camp all day. Got up at 4 o'clock. Traps on till daylight. Weather warm.

1 Mo. 26": Got up at half past 4 o'cl. Same orders as yesterday, viz, to keep traps on till after daylight and on the alert. Weather warm and springlike. Wrote 2 letters, etc.

1 Mo. 27": Same orders as yesterday. Our Major, W.W. Moore came from home. He went home on account of a wound recd. on Mission Ridge. Several convalescents also came up.

Mo. 28": Same orders in the morning as heretofore. Very pleasant. Moved camp at 1/2 past 1 o'clock. Went 1/2 mile north into a nice wood near the River, where it is said we will erect winter quarters.

1 Mo. 29": Put up logs for winter quarters. They are in nice rows running

back from the color line by companies.

1 Mo. 30": The 40th Ind started home as veterans also the 15, 57th, 51st started the day before. Leaves us and the 100 Ills alone in the Brigade. Rained some. Word is that we will move tomorrow.

1 Mo. 31": Rainy and cold.

2 Mo. 1": Moved across the river at Loudon. Camped 1 mile south. Three regiments here alone.

2 Mo. 2": Called up at 4 o'cl A.M. Ordered to be ready to march at 8 o'cl. Order was countermanded. A communication from Foster stated that the emergency was passed and for us to prepare winter quarters. Windy in evening.

2 Mo. 3": Myself with 3 others of our company was det for picket. The day cool and windy.

2 Mo. 4": Cold all day. Washed clothes.

2 Mo. 5": Rained in the night. Cool all day.

2 Mo. 6": Cold. Lt. Col. Baines started for home. Rained a little.

2 Mo. 7": First of the week. Cold all day. Det for picket.

Mo. 8": Very cool all day. On picket.

2 Mo. 9": Came off picket. Drewed three days rations, got 2 letters.

2 Mo. 10": The convalescents and teams etc. left at Chattanooga arrived here with M. Livezey, G. Galispies, J. Hines Crawford, etc.

2 Mo. 11": Worked at building another log hut. I was det for fatigue duty in afternoon; went to Loudon for corn. The cars came through from Chattanooga 1st time.

2 Mo. 12": Pleasant. Finished our chimney etc. I was made corporal.

2 Mo. 13": Rainy. Nothing new.

2 Mo. 14": Wet and cold.

2 Mo. 15": Cool all day. Drewed rations, etc.

2 Mo. 16": Went on picket. Windy all day and extremely cold.

2 Mo. 17": Came off picket. H. Hannan came up from home. Jas. Ralston came up also.

2 Mo. 18"-20": No news. Cool.

Mo. 21": Went on picket. Snowed in the morning.

2 Mo. 22": Captain G.S. Davis started for home. A salute was fired in honor of Geo. Washington's birthday. Got 3 letters.

- 1 Mo. 23": Had inspection of arms and drill.
- 2 Mo. 24": Pleasant, no news.
- 2 Mo. 25": On picket. Warm and pleasant
- 2 Mo. 26": Warm. Got some mail. Drilled, etc.
- 2 Mo. 27": A new recruit came to our company named John R. Sands.
- 2 Mo. 28": First of the week. Rained in the night. All quiet.
- 2 Mo. 29": Rainy all day.
- 3 Mo. 1" 1864: Rained nearly all day. Got marching orders in the evening at a little after the retreat was beat, to be ready to move at 7 o'clock tomorrow morning.
- 3 Mo. 2": Marched over to the depot at Loudon. Boarded box cars started out about 11 a.m. Down to Charlestown on the south bank of the Hiawassa a distance of 40 miles landed about 4 p.m. passed through Philadelphia, Sweetwater, and Athens, a very nice little place also Riceville. Camped 1/2 mile below the R.R. bridge on south side in a wood, a comfortable location.
- Mo. 3": Our company went on picket.
- 3 Mo. 4": Came off picket at dark. Rained in the night. We are fixing up quarters again.
- 3 Mo. 5": Pleasant.
- 3 Mo. 6": Called into line at noon on account of a brigade of our cavalry over the river firing off their guns.
- 3 Mo. 7-8": Each day cool, but quiet.
- 3 Mo. 9": On guard at the R.R. bridge. Rained all night, made it very disagreeable.
- 3 Mo. 10": More pleasant, wrote 2 letters.
- 3 Mo. 11": Went on picket. Pleasant weather. An old man murdered outside our lines.
- 3 Mo. 12": Came off picket. Drawed some clothing, etc.
- 3 Mo. 13": First day. Inspection of arms at 10, Dress parade at 4 o'clock.
- 3 Mo. 14": Went on picket. Pleasant.
- Mo. 15": Came off picket. Quite cool today.
- 3 Mo. 16": Cold, snowing, etc., a letter to Bro. James.
- 3 Mo. 17": On picket. The 26 OVI came up this afternoon from home.

- 2 Mo. 18": Saw Thomas Mercer, talked with him, nothing of import except the affected speech of Col. Frank Woolford of Ky Cavalry.
- 3 Mo. 19": Pleasant. Wrote a letter, washed clothes, etc.
- 3 Mo. 20": First day. Had inspection in morning and dress parade in evening.
- 3 Mo. 21": Cool all day. Nothing new.
- 3 Mo. 22": Snowed all day. All the boys of our tent on picket but myself. Thomas Mercer here. Two members of Christian Mission here.
- 3 Mo. 23": On picket over in Calhoun, north side and just opposite Charlestown. Rain in night.
- 3 Mo. 24": Pleasant. Nearly all the snow melted off.
- 3 Mo. 25": Muddy and somewhat rainy.
- 3 Mo. 26": Had general inspection of everything. Had one shelter tent, one Haversack, one bayonet scabbard inspected and condemned.
- 3 Mo. 27": First day. Went on picket. Day pleasant. Jno. Davis came up from home.
- Mo. 28": Came off picket at 8 A.M. Nothing new.
- 3 Mo. 29": Cool. Washed clothes, wrote a letter, etc.
- 3 Mo. 30-31": Cool. The 31st Squire Coulson started home.
- 4 Mo. 1": Sixth day on picket. Rained all day and night.
- 4 Mo. 2": 10 A.M. got orders to march immediately, but presently countermanded and we were ordered to be ready to fight in a moment's notice; as the rebel cavalry was approaching, but they did not come today. It was very cold in the evening. I was detailed to report for provost duty.
- 4 Mo. 3": Pleasant. Rained some in the night.
- 4 Mo. 4": On guard at the bridge. 14 deserters came in.
- 4 Mo. 5": Muddy. But pleasant overhead.
- 4 Mo. 6": Got a letter. A pleasant day.
- 4 Mo. 7": On guard at the bridge. Volunteered in the evening to go in search of "a Bushwacker" on a scouting expedition 4 or 5 miles. Found nothing of which we were in search. Came back empty in the mud and darkness. Got into camp about 1 o'clock in the morning.
- Mo. 8": Some malicious person or persons placed a shell or torpedo under rail of R.R. track which threw the engine off the track as it went down this A.M. Subsequently, 3 suspicious characters were arrested, brought here, and are now under guard.

Mo. 9": A bright clear morning. On patrol duty.

Mo. 10": Nothing to record. Pleasant day.

4 Mo. 11": Went to Loudon with prisoners. Gov. A. J. Johnson went up with us, made a short speech at Athens. The down train ran off the track 2 miles above Athens heavily laden with soldiers, the 15th OVI. Not so many hurt as might be expected.

4 Mo. 12": Came back from Loudon. General Howard present commander of our Corps came down on his way to Cleveland. Ours and the 26th OVI together with the 10th Wisconsin Batty. gave him military honors.

4 Mo. 13": Major General Gordon Granger went down on his way to Washington City.

4 Mo. 14": Woods Division marched through on their way to Cleveland. We are no longer in his command. The day pleasant.

4 Mo. 15": Rumor that a forward move will soon be on foot. Several rebel deserters were sent to Chattanooga.

4 Mo. 16": On guard. Cool.

4 Mo. 17": First day. More pleasant. Had an interesting meeting. Wrote some.

Mo. 18": Cool. I went to Chattanooga with prisoners.

4 Mo. 19": Stayed in Chattanooga. Looked over the battle ground at Mission Ridge. How sad! Also at the cemetery--20 acres, full!

4 Mo. 20": Came back from Chattanooga. The balance of our division came through today on the way to Cleveland. General Wagner is commanding.

4 Mo. 21": On guard. Very pleasant. Had a good meeting in the evening.

4 Mo. 22": Windy but warm. We understand that we will move on the arrival of General Haveys Indiana Command, which will be probably tomorrow.

4 Mo. 23": Very warm. Two others with myself took a pleasant walk into the county [country].

4 Mo. 24": Raining in the morning. First of the week. This day ends our stay at Charlestown as we now have marching orders to the front.

4 Mo. 25": 2nd day. Strike tents sounded at 7 o'clock A.M. Marched before 8 o'clock. Drew rations before starting. Marched 14 miles camped on the Atlanta R.R. 2 miles south of Cleveland.

4 Mo. 26": Very warm all day. Began to fix up quarters again.

Mo. 27": Warm. Got some mail Phonography book, etc. Fred Mercer came to 26th OVI.

4 Mo. 28": Rained a little. Warm studied phonography.

4 Mo. 29": Our company went on picket. Rained in the morning also in the

ight. Squire Coulson came up from Pennsville, his home. He brought me
10 letters, etc.

4 Mo. 30": Warm. Muster day and inspection. Orders to send all
superfluous baggage to Chattanooga on Monday ready to march as light as
possible.

5 Mo. 1" First of the week. Pleasant and warm. Had a pleasant meeting in
the morning. Bible class afternoon and preaching by the Chaplain of 73
Illinois in the evening.

5 Mo. 2": Cool and cloudy. J. Wetherel, J. Ralston, Elias Danhauer left
the regiment for the rear not being able to march and endure the hardships
of the coming campaign. The old 40th Indiana V.V. arrived here today.
Expect to march soon. Went in co with 2 others to Cleveland to meeting.

5 Mo. 3": Orders to march which we did at 12 M. on the Dalton R.R. Our
whole corps is on this road. Camped 15 miles north from Dalton. Marched
12 miles. Camped tired and sore turned off the Dalton Road before night
leaving the R.R. to our left.

5 Mo. 4": Reveille at 1/2 past 3. Marched at 6 towards Tunnel Hill.
Stopped on Tiger Creek about noon. Layed till sundown. Then moved on to
a ridge 2 miles distant and layed down for the night, making a distance of
10 miles and forming a line of battle 3 times. We are in Catoosa Co.,
Georgia.

Mo. 5": Pleasant morning all quiet at 7 o'clock. No orders about moving
yet. Am going to cook some beans for dinner. Moved our line twice during
the day, but not more than 2 or 300 yards from where we layed last night.
I went 3/4 of a mile south to visit Catoosa Springs. The grounds, groves,
etc. are exceedingly grand. Here is names of water at the different
springs 18 were all I could get, many being erased by weather: 1st White
Sulphur, 2nd White Sulphur Excelsior, 3rd Blue Sulphur, 4th Black Sulphur,
5th Red Sulphur, 6th Healing Spring, 7th Bedford Spring, 8th Coffee Spring,
9th Epsom Spring, 10th Emetic Spring, 11th Alkali Spring, 12th Red Sweet,
13th Chalybeate, 14th Magnesia Spring, 15th Free Stone Spring, 16th
Congress Spring, 17th Buffalo, 18th Chautmoubousga, the latter taking every
alternate letter = Catoosa and Humbug. There is evidence of great wealth
at this fashionable place. Our whole army is moving up in line. Without
doubt over 100,000 men awaiting Sherman's order to attack. The 23rd Army
Corps, Scofield's, is on our left, ours the (4) in left centre, next on the
right is the 14. A.C. (Thomas). The 20 in the centre Hooker's, and all or
a part of the 15, 16, and 17 Army Corps on the right.

5 Mo. 7"; 1864 Reveille at 2 A.M. At daylight moved 2 miles formed in
line of battle. Closed column in mass and deployed. Then marched along
the road 1 mile farther towards Dalton our [Brigade?] reformed in line of
battle our regiment in the advance, sent skirmishers, but did not find the
enemy, though we could see them once in awhile. At 10 A.M. the 23 Army
Corps closed up on our left and we moved towards Tunel Hill. General
Stanley, 1st Div. of our corps already had possession of the ridge, which
obtained without much opposition. Halted 3/4 of a mile from T. H. Got
ner and remained during the night.

5 Mo. 8": First of the week. Very warm. Woods Div. and 3 Brig. of our
div. went out this morning on a reconaissance the intent being to feel the
enemy, but not to bring on a general engagement. We had some skirmishing.

morrow I expect a battle if the rebels stand their ground.

5 Mo. 9": Reveille at 3. Marched at 4. Marched 4 miles. Very hot and oppressive. We got onto a very rough hill or Mountain called Rocky Faced Ledge or Mountain. The rebels are strongly posted on the south side of us. We could see Schofield's (23) A.C. advancing cautiously in the valley east of us and to our left. At 4 o'clock P.M. our brigade was moved by the left flank and came around on the side of the mountain on Harker's left. He had been skirmishing all day. As we came up the hill by the right flank the 64 OVI and 3rd Ky made a charge on the rebel rifle pits, which was a stone wall, the ground which had to be passed over broke our lines and made the effort futile. Our loss was slight. Three regiments of Harker's Brigade were pretty badly cut up, a useless sacrifice of human life. Layed on our arms all night. Jas. Strahl deserted us.

5 Mo. 10": Went on the front at daylight. Skirmished all day, releaved at dark. No sallie on either side. Rained some, made it more agreeable than yesterday. There was some heavy cannonading away to our right towards Snake Creek Gap. It is reported that Gen. McPherson is threatening the rear of Dalton.

Through the day we could occasionally see Graybacks peering over the breastworks and a bullet would whistle uncomfortably close to the ear. Rained in torrents a great part of the night. Dazzling flashes of lightning and peals of thunder echoing through the mountain.

5 Mo. 11": At 8 A.M. yet in the same place. The enemy remind us of their presence by sending their compliments (a bullet) which are as often returned as received. At 10 A.M. our brig. moved back on the ridge 1 mile and layed down to rest as we had been on the front long enough to be worn and weary.

5 Mo. 12": Reveille at 2 A.M. Marched at 3 round 2 miles to our left. We now form the extreme left wing of our infantry. Built rail breastworks. About 2 in the afternoon the enemy made a strong demonstration on our cavalry with cavalry supported by infantry. No doubt to blind us while their main army is retreating. Our left fell back and made another line of breastworks. Woods Div. came on to our left layed in line of battle till night, but the rebels did not come. At night our company went on picket, weather warm in midday, cool at night.

5 Mo. 13": It was soon discovered that the enemy had left our front during the night. Marched at 7 A.M. The enemy have left stronger works here than I have seen before. Marched through the town of Dalton, Ga. between 11 and 12 o'clock. It is situated 8 miles S.E. of Rocky Face Mountain. Marched in the afternoon 4 miles feeling our way as we went. Our regt. flankers marched through a very thick wood in line of battle after dark. We took our position in the first line of battle and layed down at 9 P.M. Cavalry fighting in our front an hour after dark. This day saw several generals together holding a council of war.

5 Mo. 14": Marched at daylight 2 or 3 miles. Filed left through fields and woods in battleline. Built rail breastworks at 11 A.M., then advanced mass to where the enemy were strongly entrenched. Between 11 and 12 o'clock we took their first line of works, but found the 2" line too strong. Our brig. was supporting one of Woods, [Brigades], Willichs. Consequently, our brigade was not generally engaged. Col. Leonard 57th Indiana was mortally wounded by a shell 100 yards from us. He died this evening. At dark our brigade took the front, dug rifle pits the greater

part of the night. We are in the left center. Hooker and one div. of our corps on our left. Today cousin Matthew Dewees 17 OVI was killed. They were fighting on our right.

5 Mo. 15": First of the week. Moved to the left 1/2 mile at 11 A.M. Kept up sharp skirmishing all day while to our left Hooker's men were engaged in a severe battle. About 11 o'clock at night just as we began to hope for a few short hours of sleep, the rebels poured a volley of musket balls into us along the line which was responded to. The flashes of cannon and the roar of musketry finally ceased about 12 midnight and they retreated from Resaca the same night. This is another name that will go down through all the ages of history as worthy to stand side by side with Lexington and Bunker's Hill.

5 Mo. 16": We soon discovered that the enemy had evacuated his strong works during the night. No doubt the firing on us was a parting salute and also intended to deceive us as to his movements. Got breakfast and followed immediately 9 A.M. We are in the town of Resaca, the river called Cooso [Coosa] is 1/8 of a mile south of town. Marched over the stream on a trestle work bridge the enemy left us. Went into a nice wood 1 mile south. Got dinner. Started again, marched about 3 miles on the Atlanta R.R. Camped for the night near a town called Calhoun. Our division is in the forefront. Today I saw 6 Major Generals and a host of Brigadiers viz. Major Generals 1. Wm. T. Sherman, Commander-in-Chief, 2. Geo. H. Thomas, Commander, Dept. Cumberland, 3. General Joe Hooker, Comdg, 20th Corps, 4. General Dan Sickles, Corps Commander, 5. J. B. McPherson, Dept. Tennessee, O.O. Howard, Corps. Commander, together with many brigadiers. There seemed to be a council of war held in Resaca today. I saw a battle flag of the 38th Alabama regiment captured yesterday (15th) by a regiment of Hooker's corps. The atrocities of the rebels to our dead is worse than I had anticipated. The 3' Brig. of our div. charged the rebel works on the 14th and were compelled to abandon them. Some of our boys got nearly to their rifle pits, which was their 2' line. Saw the scalp of one of our boys hanging on a bush.

5 Mo. 17": Raining a little at daylight. First heard of cousin Matthew being killed on the 14th. Got up this A.M. at 4. Ordered to move in one hour. Marched at 5 A.M. 2" division in the advance went through Calhoun. Our Brig. was in the rear of the 1st. Formed in line near Calhoun, then marched by the flank again. Skirmishing briskly about noon, formed again and then by the flank. We were pressing them too closely. Their train is in danger and they made a stand and showed fight about 1 1/2 P.M. They picked an advantageous position and retarded our advance. At 6 1/2 o'clock P.M. our regt. went into the front to relieve the 1st brig. Musketry was heavy. Co. D. had 4 men wounded and 2 bruised by a shell. Layed on the front all night. Our regt. [97th OVI] lost 30 men in 15 minutes.

5 Mo. 18": At 9 A.M. we are halted at a town called Adairsville. As we expected the rebels left last night. The 1st and 3rd divisions of our corps are in front. A nice country around Adairsville. Camped at night 3 miles south, 75 miles from Chattanooga and 63 miles north of Atlanta. Took traps off and rested till morning--first time for 10 days.

5 Mo. 19": Marched at 7 A.M. Got to a little town called Kingston at 12M. Went into the woods. Stacked arms and rested an hour, marched again at 1 o'clock. Brisk skirmishing ahead, advanced slowly. Marched in line of battle through a field. Beautiful country. Hooker is fighting on our left pretty heavy. Camped at 8 P.M. a good ways from water. Drawed 4 days

sations. Heard that General Joe Hooker had captured several wagons this evening.

5 Mo. 20" 6th Day: Reveille at 3. Orders to be ready to march at daylight. Did not move till 9 A.M. then moved west 1/2 mile near a creek. Stacked arms and went to swim and wash etc. No fighting today except distant cannonading.

5 Mo. 21": Layed in same position we were in yesterday. Warm and pleasant.

5 Mo. 22": Orders to march in the morning with 20 days supplies, carrying 4 days with us in our haversacks and 60 rounds of ammunition in our Cart Boxes.

5 Mo. 23": Marched at 11 A.M. Crossed the Etowah River after night. Camped about 8 o'clock P.M. Marched 7 miles today through a fine country.

5 Mo. 24": Marched at 6 A.M. in a southerly course towards night bearing a good deal east. Camped about dark in a wood. Raining when we stopped. Marched 10 miles passed through pine forrests, hilly and rough towards night.

5 Mo. 25": Marched at 9 A.M. in a southerly course. Crossed stream of water about 4 o'clock near Dallas or New Hope Church. The 20th A.C. is fighting. We came into a wood and formed at 5 P.M. Marched 1/2 mile by the right flank to the road, took position on the left of road at 7 o'clock P.M. Being dark and rainy, layed on our arms till morning light. Couldn't sleep much.

5 Mo. 26": Built 3 lines of breastworks to accommodate ourselves as we moved or changed position. Nothing on our part of line, but heavy skirmishing all day. Very little artillery firing here. Layed at night within 5 rods of where we were last night. The enemy appear very strong in our front. This is near Dallas or New Hope Church. Picket lines are close to each other within 5 to 8 rods.

5 Mo. 27": Moved to the right at 6 A.M. the length of regt. We occupy ground held by General Kimball yesterday. Skirmishing briskly all forenoon. We got some batteries in position last night which opened this morning. Our regt. took the front line. Co. D and E were detailed to go on picket, but the 57 Indiana which had not been on the front went, and we were held for any emergency. We layed on the reserve till midnight and then went on outpost.

5 Mo. 28": This morning Chas. W. Worthing was shot by a sharp-shooter through the thigh severing the femoral artery. Mortally wounded. Died after 3 days. We were releaved from picket at 2 P.M. by the 40 Indiana. Weather very warm. Yesterday it is reported that General Wood captured an orderly bearing a dispatch from some rebel general asking Joe Johnston for reinforcements or he could not hold his position, this being designed to fall into our hands. Wood immediately charged the rebel works and was repulsed losing near 1500 men on [the] 27th.

5 Mo. 29": First day of the week. Much firing through the night last night. We layed on the front line all day. Skirmishing as yesterday. Got a letter from cousin R. Dewees. About 10 at night the rebels made a sortie on our lines on the left which soon rolled up to us extending to our right.

he flashes of fire from the cannon planted against cannon was a grand sight. Our pickets were not dislodged. It grew into a severe battle away on our right, where McPherson will meet them. The fighting did not cease till 3 A.M. next day.

5 Mo. 30": Skirmishing in our front as usual. Up to this time 4 1/2 P.M. it is reported that McPherson's command punished the enemy severely last night. We occupy the first line of works today clear and warm. The 28th Ky Infantry has been assigned to our brig. They are armed with Spencer Rifles--7 shooters. More fighting tonight than through the day.

5 Mo. 31": Skirmishing all day as usual with another night demonstration. Very warm and sultry.

6 Mo. 1": Skirmishing all day. Warm, yes hot.

6 Mo. 2": Rained very hard in afternoon. There is a battle raging on our left from 3 P.M. till dark.

6 Mo. 3": Cloudy in the morning. Still skirmishing. Orders for 1/2 the men to be on their feet all the time. Cannonading in the afternoon to our left.

6 Mo. 4": Up at 2 A.M. Moved a short distance to the left where Harker's brigade has been laying. Rained most all day and night. We are on the 1st line. 2 men of our regt. wounded.

Mo. 5": First of the week. The enemy evacuated his works last night. Their line of defense was very strong. Some poor boys fell between the picket lines and layed uncovered on the top of the ground for 2 weeks. Their bodies are decomposed and have been the food of worms and the vulture has torn the flesh from the bones as the birds of prey always flock over the armies a sure tell-tale of each others presence. Why should mortal man walk with such high pride when this is his end? Oh, why should the spirit of mortal be proud? We have our traps off, first time for twelve days. Built breastworks in the afternoon at an angle with our former ones. Suppose the enemy is trying to flank us or send cavalry to cut our train.

6 Mo. 6": Marched at 6 o'clock A.M. to our left and toward the R.R. We are in Cobb Co., Ga. Marched about 8 miles. We were trainguard. Camped 3 or 4 miles west of Ackworth on the Atlanta R.R. Got a good night's rest.

6 Mo. 7": Pretty quiet. Moved 1 mile to the left. Isaac Yocum came over on a visit.

6 Mo. 8": 4th day. Orders to move at daylight, but was countermanded. Very warm. the 17th A. C. came up to Ackworth. Fixed up Quarters; I walked over to 52nd OVI it was a long distance [The 52nd was from Eastern Ohio, also, and probably Corporal DeWees knew several of them. One was Corporal Peter Giffen of Co. F, Flushing, Ohio, who was my Aunt Anna DeWees' father.]

6 Mo. 9": Went over to the 78th OVI. found the boys well. Came back by 63rd.

6 Mo. 10": Reveille at 3 1/2 o'clock. Marched at 7 1/2 A.M. Moved slowly. The 1st Division, Stanley's, in advance. Had several rain showers through the day and very sharp heavy thunder about noon. Camped in the

ods on the left of the road at 5 o'clock. Marched 4 miles. The cannon speaking in front of us a short distance.

6 Mo. 11": Rained in the morning. Reveille at 1/2 past 3. Marched at 9 A.M. Passed along Hooker's lines, stopped at 12 M. to make coffee. Rained as hard as ever I remember. Went into position on the left of 1st Div. about 3 P.M. Rained till nearly night. About dark were ordered to march. Moved 1 mile to our front and left. Rained all night. 1/2 the men up through the night while 1/2 sleep. 1/2 are watching and pioneers working on breastworks.

6 Mo. 12": First of the week. Rained nearly all day. Put up tents. Gen. Baird's Div 14 A joins us on the left.

6 Mo. 13": 4 companies of the 97th went on picket. Raining yet. The rebels throw an occasional bullet over our heads as a warning of their presence.

6 Mo. 14": Released from picket at 9 A.M. by the rear line of our brigade. Went back and took off traps and seemed in a good way of resting when an orderly came galloping up and the order so often heard by the weary soldier quickly followed viz. "Fall in" which means in military language every man to his post or position in line. "Forward" is the next order and away we go our aircastle of rest all gone. The sun shines out this morning the first time for 7 days. General O. O. Howard and Gen. Sherman are riding along inspecting the lines and forming for the fray, endeavoring to take vantage ground. Howard is our Corps (4th) Commander and one who it is said believes in the efficacy of Prayer even in battle as it is said of him he never went into an engagement without first invoking the Divine Blessing and asking that the Almighty be with his command through the coming conflict. Old Wm. T. S. looks very common indeed [Old Wm. T. Sherman was 42 years of age!] We moved out of our works between 10 and 11 o'clock A.M. the 40th Indiana on the skirmish line. We were in the first line of battle. Heavy skirmishing at 2 P.M., moved 1/2 mile to the left where Woods Div. previously laid. They in turn moved further to the left. This day the rebel Gen. Bishop Polk was killed (Gen. Leonidas Polk) by a shell thrown from a battery near us onto Pine Knob, where a group of rebel officers were in consultation. Such is war. We can plainly see a bold peak here and there, Lost Mountain, Pine Knob, and Kenesaw.

6 Mo. 15": About daylight discovered that the enemy had withdrawn from our immediate front during the night. We followed at 8 A.M. in line of battle 1/2 mile and halting until 2 P.M. when our entire corps was ordered forward. The regiments of our Div. was formed in mass and followed the skirmish line closely. Our Div. 2" of 4th A.C. was the assaulting column. At 3 P.M. slung knapsacks, fixed bayonets. We were ordered to charge the enemy who hold a ridge 1/2 mile away in our front. We rested here 1 hour. That hour was one long to be remembered by all who were present. Looking for the "Forward" order every moment, in that one hour many a silent petition is directed to Him who seeth us. Many give a comrade directions how to dispose of a watch or other valuable should the worst come and in that one hour seems to live a life oh how long! But hark our skirmish line possession of the ridge and the charge is deferred. We moved forward built works on said ridge, placed batteries in position. Schofield and Hooker is on our right. Palmer, Thomas, and McPherson on the left.

6 Mo. 16": The enemy are within close gunshot of us. Desultory picket firing with artillery through the day