

'n before. L. A. J. Brown killed, Wm. Simpson mortally wounded--died next day. Squire Coulson and Joseph H. Baker also mortally wounded. M. Carnahan, Benj. Bosey and myself shot in flesh part of right leg. Our regt. had 101 men killed, wounded, and missing. 13 killed outright. We only had 200 engaged. We held the ground which was thus gained till dark when we fortified with a will. We had to advance without cover and received a crossfire [Since we find no further mention of his flesh wound, it evidently was not of serious enough nature to cause a trip to field hospital; possibly to an aid station, but he evidently kept fighting].

6 Mo. 23": We were relieved at 3 A.M. by the 26th OVI. We moved back with heavy hearts and were occupied most of the day in interring our fallen comrades who were with us yesterday in as full glow of health as we are now. Thomas J. Mercer of 26 OVI was killed this morning on the skirmish line. Saw him laid in his last resting place. He was a noble young man in character and my dear friend. From 4 P.M. till dark there was hard fighting on the right. Three of my acquaintances of the 26th were killed today. Col. Bartlettson, 100 Illinois, was killed on skirmish line by a sharp-shooter.

6 Mo. 24": Excessively hot. Lieut. Arisk came up today. This morning we had orders to be ready to move at any time (moment). In the afternoon heavy cannonading to our left. No news as the R.R. is cut.

6 Mo. 25": Very hot. Took our position on the front line at 2 P.M. Relieved the 40 Ind. Felt quite unwell. Fierce cannonading in the afternoon to our left in front of Kenesaw Mountain.

6 Mo. 26": Very hot. Attended Divine worship both fore and afternoon meetings. Isaac Yocum and Lindley Street of 32 OVI were over. The latter was killed on the morrow, How sad! in that terrific charge on Kenesaw Mountain. Our regt. went on picket at dark. I was quite sick.

6 Mo. 27": At 3 A.M. we were relieved by the 1st and 3rd Divisions. It was soon evident that ours (the 2nd Div.) was to assault the rebel works. We moved 1/4 of a mile to the right, and massed for the charge in column by division. Each brigade fronted one regt. Jefferson C. Davis' Div of the 14 A.C. was the assaulting column on our right. Thus was our noble boys led to the slaughter. Exactly at 10 o'clock A.M. was the hour. In 60 minutes we were repulsed, had lost heavily, torn and bleeding we retired, but not disheartened or discouraged. It was only one failure for us while we had numerous and great victories. Gen. Harker was among the fallen. Col. Daniel McCook and many others of note and hundreds of poor soldiers of the line. Our Co. lost 2, John H. Davis leg amputated and James Wiseman killed. Our entire loss in that one hour from 2 to 3,000 men. Our regt. lost 21 men. our Div. over 700.

Gr.
Semi
Colon
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6 Mo. 28": At 9 P.M. heavy musketry to our right. It is reported that the enemy are moving a heavy force to our right.

6 Mo. 29": Very warm. Rained in the afternoon. Wrote two letters. At dead of night 2 o'clock the rebels made a sortie on our lines, on the right front of us. We could see the flashes of the cannon on both sides!

6 Mo. 30": Very warm. Moved back 200 yards in rear of our last line. Took off our traps, washed and rested. We were not mustered today. Attended a meeting at night.

- Mo. 1": 6 day. Mustered this A.M. Very hot weather.
- 7 Mo. 2": At 8 P.M. moved 1 mile to the left.
- 7 Mo 3": The enemy have retreated. We followed at daylight, taking prisoners and deserters. The 1st Div. in advance. We went out on the Marietta Road. We halted near the town about 11 A.M. This has been a desirable situation in times of peace. Very hot. We marched slowly until 4 P.M. Camped for the night as the enemy are disputing our advance with some spirit. It is probably thought best not to risk a general engagement tonight. Marched 8 miles.
- 7 Mo. 4": Stanley is skirmishing quite heavily in our front. About 1 o'clock P.M. moved to the left 1 mile in good view of the rebels. We put up breastworks. Our corps is the extreme left of our army. Fierce artillery duels are going on now, at 7 P.M.
- 7 Mo. 5": The enemy have again left our front. We again followed immediately. Woods' Div. on the right of the road and rested one hour then marched to within one mile of the Chattahoochie River and 12 miles from Atlanta. Went into camp near Vinings Station on the left of the road. Signal Hill on the right of the R.R. gives a fine view of Atlanta, the winding of the Chattahoochie River and the smoke ascending from both armies' campfires of over 200,000 men arrayed against each other in order of battle. While the eye is taking a hurried synopsis of all these things, the ear may distinguish the rattle of musketry in the valley below with the roar of artillery. To the left of Atlanta is Stone Mountain. Today I first saw Atlanta, the historic capital.
- 7 Mo. 6": Very warm. Layed still and rested.
- 7 Mo. 7": Moved 1 1/2 miles to the left.
- 7 Mo. 8": Fixed up quarters.
- 7 Mo. 9": 4 A.M. orders to march at 6 A.M. when our Div. was put in motion. Course up the river. I never saw the weather hotter. Halted at 4 in the afternoon to eat a bit of bread and drink some coffee, then on again to the once beautiful manufacturing town of Roswell. There has been factories here in the employ of the rebel government. They are now in ashes. Our Div. waded the river here at dark. The bed of the stream is very rocky. Water waist deep. We releaved Gerrard's Cavalry Div. Marched 13 miles. Several men were sunstruck during our march today. Several have died from the effects. We are camped on the southbank of the Chattahoochie river for night.
- 7 Mo. 10": Got up and went to work on breastworks. Gen. Sweeney's Div 2", 16 A.C. releaved us. We moved back to the rear line where we remained all night. Rained a little. Clark Bundy 63 OVI was to see me. Gen. Veatch comds. the 4th Div., 16 A.C.
- 7 Mo. 11": About 12 M. got orders to cross the river. We marched over to suburbs of Roswell. Remained there till next morning. Very hot. Got 1. Col. Blake commands the Brigade as Wagner is absent on sick leave.
- 7 Mo. 12": Reveille at 4. Marched at 6 A.M. in the direction of our old camp near Signal Hill. Exceedingly hot. The boys fell out into the shade until our co. was quite small. Got to our old camp about 3 P.M. Rained a

refreshing shower and we tried to rest.

7 Mo. 13": Broke camp at 8 A.M. Crossed the river 1 mile above on a pontoon bridge, on which the 1st and 3rd divisions of our corps crossed 2 days previous. We moved out on the Atlanta Road 1 1/2 mile. Took position on the right of Schofield's 23rd A.C. where we began to throw up works. This army is a working mess.

7 Mo. 14": Very hot through the day. Stormed violently about dark with thunder and lightning.

7 Mo. 15": Pleasant. Layed in same position.

7 Mo. 16": No news except the rebel raid in Indiana, [Morgan's raiders swept through southern and southeastern Indiana in 1863; therefore it is not certain to what raid Joshua refers, unless the news of Morgan's raid took a year to reach the Armies driving on Atlanta].

7 Mo. 17": First of the week. At 8 A.M. our regt. went on picket. Very hot. The 23rd A.C. drove the enemy two miles this afternoon on our left without serious opposition.

7 Mo. 18": We are on picket this morning. Reveille was sounded in camp at an early hour. Our Corps was in motion on the road by 5 A.M. We had rations to draw after we came off picket. We moved on the Atlanta Road about 5 miles, skirmishing all the way. The enemy attempted to destroy a bridge over Deep Creek, but were driven off before accomplishing it. Camped about 3 P.M. at a cross road called Bulkhead, 7 miles from Atlanta. Very hot. We are building log breastworks.

7 Mo. 19": Woods Division moved out to reconnoitre and feel for the enemy. At 5 P.M. we struck tents and advanced after Wood's Division, as support to Wood, who were fighting and driving the enemy before them. Wood drove them across Peach Tree Creek and his whole division took position on the south bank. We moved to the left of road and layed in line till morning.

7 Mo. 20": Fourth day. Moved at 5 A.M. Crossed Peach Tree Creek. Our division releaving Wood's and taking the front. Our regt. was selected to support Wood and Stanley on our left at 8 A.M. (Peach Tree Creek Battle) General Kimball's skirmishers, Hooker is massing on our right. Our Division is under orders from him. (ie, General Kimball). Today we are temporarily assigned to him. The rest of our corps is on the left. Just about 12 M. noon, we moved out on the double quick raising a yell, following a skirmish line, and driving the "Johnny's" before us. After advancing 1/2 mile we halted till 2 P.M. Sun shone very hot. At 2 P.M. we moved forward as Hooker's column had come up in line and that was what we were waiting for. That our lines should form and be ready to advance. Then moved forward on to an elevation our Div. going into the woods on the left of the Atlanta Dirt Road. The 20th Corps (Hooker's) joining on our right, Kimball's brig. the 1st, ours 2" next and the 3rd in rear as reserve for us. Just as we had got our lines formed, through the timber, some cutting trees for breastworks, the rebels made a furious charge on us without skirmishers. They planted their flag within 50 yards of us. We returned a deadly volley although coming on to us without works and somewhat unexpected, there was no flinching. They no doubt lost heavily as their dead in our front testified. Reb. Gen Stevens was killed in front of our brigade. Our loss was slight as the logs and trees were a great protection from the death messengers. The fighting was severe in front of

Hooker's Corps where a portion of the field was cleared land.

7 Mo. 21": Our Company went on picket. A detail was made to collect and bury the rebel dead. Over 200 were buried by our division. Layed still.

7 Mo. 22": (Atlanta Battle) It was soon ascertained that the enemy had fallen back during the night. "Fell in" and marched 1 mile towards Atlanta. We stopped on the right of the road and built breastworks. Just at noon we were ordered on to the left of the road. Went up onto a wooded ridge 1/2 mile distant and began to put up works within 3 rods of our skirmish line. The rebels shelling us vigorously, ~~we are momentarily expecting a charge of southern steel.~~ Just as we began to feel some security behind our newly constructed works, we were releaved and sent farther to the right where there was no works. All this time a terrific battle is raging on our extreme left, which is held by the Gallant McPherson. We can plainly distinguish the roll of musketry between the hoarse cannon speaking forth in defiance to each other. Several of our boys were killed by the rebel shells. That was their policy, to keep us from sending reinforcements to other points of our lines. 4 P.M. Word from the left tells of McPherson's death. The noble leader and commander of the army of the Tennessee has fallen. The enemy gained no permanent advantage and were hurled back with an immense loss of life. Our losses 3,000. (re)

7 Mo. 23": At daylight our regt. moved 200 yards to the front, put up good works where we may likely remain some time. Picket firing, shelling, and such warlike noises kept up all day.

Mo. 24": First of the week. More particulars of the Battle on the left or Atlanta: Cousin Wm. Smith was severely wounded. The enemy threw a great number of shells during the day doing but little damage to us.

7 Mo. 25": Our regiment built a line of works on our right. Heavy cannonading all day with picket firing. Strengthened our works etc. by driving in pickets (sharp stakes) in front of us, to hinder the enemies advance should he come on to us.

7 Mo. 26": Firing about the same as yesterday. We learn with sorrow that Major General O.O. Howard leaves the 4th Corps to take command of the army of Tennessee as Gen. J. B. McPherson's successor.

7 Mo. 27": Heard fighting on our extreme right. The army of the Tennessee is changing position from left to right: They are now passing in rear of us. John Davis was wounded by a stray ball.

7 Mo. 28": Heavy cannonading all afternoon to our right. A severe battle is raging there now. We made several demonstrations in our front to draw their attention 1st by us and then by rebels. Turn about being fair play. They are massing in our front, but they did not come. Lost several men captured.

7 Mo. 29": Our regiment went on picket, it was made into 3 reliefs, 8 hours each. Artillery firing all day and night, in the evening we advanced our skirmish line, without loss. We had an order read from Gen. O.O. Howard on his leaving this corps. Also from Major General Stanley on his accession to Howard, and later an official order from Gen. Howard giving account and the results of the battle yesterday (28th) which was the occasion of the firing we heard. The official order from Gen. H. was nearly as follows: "about 11 A.M. yesterday (28th) the enemy assaulted our

works and made repeated charges, but utterly failed to carry our works at single point. Our loss will not exceed 2,000 men while that of the enemy cannot fall short of 10,000. The fighting lasted from 11 A.M. till 3 P.M. and was heaviest in front of the 15 A.C." Signed O.O. Howard, General Comdg.

7 Mo. 30": Came off picket at 9 A.M. General Wagner came up this evening. He was greeted by many a hearty cheer from the 2" brigade. Note Gen. Wagner died from taking aconite through mistake in Indiana in 1873 or 4 [This entry of course was added when Joshua rewrote his diary in 1882].

7 Mo. 31": First of the week. Very hot in the forenoon. Rained in the afternoon. A detail is at work on the defences. A retrospective view that my mind took caused a deep feeling of sadness to come over me.

8 Mo. 1" 1864: Warm and cloudy in the morning. Rained in the afternoon. Heavy artillery firing on the right. Our corps (the 4th) is the extreme left wing of our army.

8 Mo. 2": Our pioneers are making works nearly at right angles to these we occupy. They are for use, only in case the enemy should attempt to turn our flanks.

8 Mo. 3": At 3 P.M. orders to prepare for action immediately. It was believed the enemy were massing with the intention of charging on us. Heavy firing on the right. Nothing occurred further. Warm and clear.

Mo. 4": Considerable picket firing during the forenoon, at 2 P.M. orders came for the men to stay close to the works as Sherman was making a grand movement on right and it was probable the enemy might attempt to divert attention to this part of the line. This is the day set apart by President Abraham Lincoln for Prayer and humiliation. We had some exercises in our regt.

8 Mo. 5": Adjutant C.H. Moore by request of Gen Wagners has gone on the General's staff. Jno. S. Adair acting regimental adjutant. This afternoon at 2 o'clock we made a demonstration in our front. Lieutenant Shoemaker, 100 Illinois, was torn in pieces by the explosion of a rebel shell. They shelled us vigorously.

8 Mo. 6": All quiet on our part of the line until 3 P.M. when a bullet startled Co. D somewhat, passing through my Haversack, tent, etc. and then passing through both of N. Hart's legs. Died of wounds received at Franklin, Tenn, Nov. 30, 1864. [This entry added when diary rewritten in 1882]

8 Mo. 7": First Day. Preaching at 2 P.M. Skirmishing as usual through the day. Devoted some of my time to reading the Psalms of David.

8 Mo. 8": Heavy cannonading from both sides. Got into our ditches in the afternoon. Soon became quiet as usual.

Mo. 9": Rained this afternoon. Nothing new in our front. Billy Brooks came up to Co. First we have seen him since the Battle of Missionary Ridge.

8 Mo. 10": Rained nearly all day. No news. Quiet along our lines, except some shelling in afternoon.

8 Mo. 11": Rained some again today. Good News from Farragut off Mobile. Wrote a letter to cousin Rebecca Tomlinson, Trenton, Ohio.

8 Mo. 12": Rained in the forenoon. A demonstration by our boys in our front etc. Gen. Joseph Hooker has left the 20 A.C. General Williams is in command temporarily.

8 Mo. 13": Warm and cloudy in the morning, beautiful moonlit evening. Our batteries opened up about 5 P.M. kept a constant bombardment of the city of Atlanta at intervals of five minutes during the entire night.

8 Mo. 14": Warm and pleasant all day. Some musketry fire in the evening on our right.

8 Mo. 15": A demonstration made by us in the afternoon. No news. Two years ago we left Malta [Ohio] with 100 men 23 is all we can number today. The rest lie in southern graves or are languishing in hospitals from home.

8 Mo. 16": Very warm. We made another demonstration when the rebels threw several shells at us. At 10 P.M. we were ordered up in line as the enemy were supposed to be preparing to charge us.

8 Mo. 17": Warm and clear. Heavy cannonading in the afternoon. No news of import.

8 Mo. 18": Wakened up at 4 A.M. Ordered to get breakfast immediately and quietly as possible. The rebels began shelling us about daylight. The cannonading was quite spirited for an hour. We made a demonstration at 8 A.M., 11 A.M., and 2 P.M. to keep the enemy from sending forces away. The pickets took everything with them this morning, looks like a move soon. The pioneers are building fires to our left and in our rear in a large wood. It is being done for effect.

8 Mo. 19": No move yet. The rebels began shelling us about 4 A.M. Our batteries responded promptly. There was quite a spirited artillery duel. Pap Palmer is relieved of the command of 14 A.C.

8 Mo. 20": Orders came round for the men to remain close to the works as important movements are going on and it was likely every man would soon be needed. Nothing further however occurred. Got some mail.

8 Mo. 21": Rained some through the day. Attended public worship from 9 A.M. to 10 A.M. I got a package from Brother James.

8 Mo. 22": One month ago today we took our position on this line. That was the day of the severe battle on the left, when McPherson was killed. Every day the past month we have seen and heard the messengers of death among and around us.

8 Mo. 23": Eli A. Newman arrived from Nashville also Jno. S. Adair who has been back after the Co. books. We have news in camp that Kilpatrick has made a detour and the circuit of the city of Atlanta cutting all R. Roads etc.

8 Mo. 24": Very warm all day! Drewed 3 day's rations to last 5. Things look like a general movement would take place soon. All battery horses are being shod, men drawing 20 rounds extra of ammunition making (60), orderlies riding from one headquarters to another etc. etc. These things

are significant of a move soon. Time alone and the Almighty's will will make known our fate.

8 Mo. 25": Warm and cloudy. Everything denotes a move. There are many conjectures as to what it is. Some anticipate a grand raid. The grapevine report is that a Negro came into our lines with information that the rebels were withdrawing burrying siege guns they were not able to haul away, etc. We will only have to wait a short time till movements are developed. Evacuated our works between 11 and 12 at night. Moved slowly to the right and rear across the Chattanooga R.R. Rested until after daylight We have fought many battles and marched many days and now change to strategy.

8 Mo. 26": Sixth day of the week. Our Co. on skirmish line. Our troops resumed the march at 8 o'clock going to the right in rear of Tennessee Army. We had to light out being rear guard. The rebels anticipated our movements and pressed closely on us. The day was very hot! We marched very rapidly. Camped on the extreme right joining the 23rd A.C. Marched 14 or 15 miles. It is said the 20 A.C. has gone to the R.R. bridge on the Chattahoochie to protect our rear while we draw them out. Flank them out of Atlanta's strong hold.

8 Mo. 27": Orders at daylight to be ready to move at 8 A.M. though we remained till 3 P.M. We are in the rear, the other Corps having passed us. At 3 P.M. we marched 4 miles. The 23rd holds the extreme left. Then the 14th, then ours (the 4th) and lastly the army of the Tennessee. Camped in a thick wood about 8 P.M. Camped by torchlight.

Mo. 28": First of the week. Moved at 2 P.M. going a southerly course. Marched about 4 miles. Camped about dark near a cornfield. We hold the Lagrange R.R. Our division is 1 mile west of R.R. and 12 southwest of Atlanta.

8 Mo. 29": Layed quiet. Built one line of light works this morning. Warm and cloudy.

8 Mo. 31": Moved about 11 A.M. General Wood's Division in front, considerable skirmishing. We advanced in a southeasterly direction. Moved slowly only going about 2 miles. We crossed a stream called Muddy Creek, head waters of Flint River. We formed on the east bank and built works. There is a report that the enemy charged on Howard's army of Tennessee at Jonesboro three times and were repulsed each time. We could hear heavy cannonading in that direction.

9 Mo. 1" 1864: Moved at 7 A.M. going east to the R.R. which we tore up and burned the ties heating the rails and bending and twisting them around trees etc. That will prevent them being of service. We marched 7 miles, when we came onto the enemy and a battle ensued! This was at 4 P.M. First division formed on the left, Wood's division in reserve, and ours in front, the 40 Indiana in front line, 97th second line. They gave way in our front and we were taking them on their right flank. We captured a hospital. Our loss slight.

Mo. 2": The rebels had skedaddled. We found it out about daylight. We advanced immediately. Our division in front of the Corps, Wood next, then Kimball. We moved to the right to the R.R. rested for 3 hours. I walked around the rebel lines where the second division of the 14 A.C. charged. Many dead were laying in their works. I think I never saw works bloodier than these. I also saw two pieces of artillery captured from them and it

as said several more were taken together with prisoners. We marched on through Jonesboro. Found the enemy about 4 miles below. Heavy musketry 5 1/2 P.M. on our left. We advanced simultaneously engaging the skirmishers briskly. We formed in line the 15th A.C. joining us on the right of the R.R. Ours on the left. Everything looks like we must make a charge, but did not.

9 Mo. 3": At 10 A.M. we are in musket shot of the enemy building breastworks. Rained very hard about daylight. We were almost crowded out yesterday. Wood's division, Gen. Tommy Wood was wounded last evening while fighting on our left. David Woolman of 26th Ohio died last night from a wound received that evening (the 2nd inst). Also at daylight and before heard the stores and magazines of Atlanta exploded on 2nd. etc. Rained afternoon. We had a special order from Gen. Sherman read to us "announcing the occupation of Atlanta yesterday, September 2" by Gen. Slocum. The enemy previous to the evacuation destroyed vast army stores with 80 carloads of ammunition which accounts for the noise heard by us on the night of the 1st inst. the work thus far has been well done. All destruction on the R.R. will cease immediately, by order of Major Gen. Sherman Hd Qtrs. Military Division, near Lovejoy's Station, Georgia." This order was directed to be read to all the troops in this department. Another "flank movement" has wrested from rebel grasp one of the most important cities in the south, which contained vast arsenals and manufactories for the production of war material. About 2 o'clock on the night of the first inst. our camp was startled by a noise dissimilar to anything I ever heard before. Plainly, it was naval stores being destroyed at Atlanta 21 miles north of us. Prisoners captured on the first state that Hardee is in command of the army in our front composed of veterans while Hood is at Atlanta with the Georgia militia and one division of veterans. They have made a junction before this no doubt in our front. They appear to hold a strong position where they are now. How long they will remain here is owing to Gen. Sherman's movements.

9 Mo. 4": First day. Last night we moved 200 yards to the front and occupied works made by the pioneers through the day. This morning we moved back into the edge of the woods where we layed yesterday, our works are very much exposed to fire from S.S. [sharpshooters] One man in Co. A was wounded while there. At 12 M. Co.'s A, F and D moved out and are now in the works, keeping pretty low (i.e.) laying down to save ourselves from bullets. There is much speculation as to Sherman's movements in the future. Some maintain that this campaign is ended now. Atlanta is ours which was the objective point from the first. It is certain that our line of communications is getting longer and we have a long line of Rail Road to keep open behind us. But time will disclose what is now hid in the future and what Gen. Sherman's plans are. There is skirmishing along the lines today with an occasional salute fired from one of our batteries. This afternoon is clear and warm. Our army in buoyant spirits. General Wagner will take command of the 3rd Division, General Wood having been wounded. Col. Lane will take command of our brigade. Oh! When will this cruel war come to an end? Hasten the time!

[9 Mo. 5-6 not entered]

9 Mo. 7": Two years ago today we left Zanesville. Marched at 7 A.M. Cloudy and cool. We left the R.R. to our left. Marched 10 miles towards Atlanta. Camped near "Rough and Ready" Station.

9 Mo. 8": Marched for Atlanta at 9 A.M. Passed through the city of

Atlanta between 12 and 1 o'clock. It is a beautiful town with many elegant private residences. Good depot, etc. The city is built on an elevation or ridge separating the water of the Chattahoochee, running into the Gulf and that running into the Atlantic Ocean through the Flint and other rivers. Camped about 3 P.M. 2 miles N.E. of the city, on the Decatur R.R. near the battleground of 22nd of 7th month. Passed over the ground where the 15 A.C. fought and where General James B. McPherson fell. Marched 10 miles.

9 Mo. 9": Layed still all day. Had an order of congratulation read from the War Department.

9 Mo. 10": I was on detail to go into the city suburbs for lumber. Very warm. It is very sorrowful to see so much intemperance in our camp as there is today. Meeting in the evening.

9 Mo. 11": Drewed clothing. 1 pair of shoes, 1 haversack. At meeting in forenoon. In the afternoon I was detailed again to go for lumber.

9 Mo. 12": Moved 1 mile to the north put up tents and fixed for staying in a cedar grove. We can make a nice camp of it. This is a beautiful country.

9 Mo. 13": Continued to fix up. Had no tools to work with so we got along to a great disadvantage. Israel Hoopes, came up this evening. Got a letter, etc.

Mo. 14": Nothing new today. Cleaned up quarters.

9 Mo. 15": Capt. Davis came up this evening. Glad to see him.

9 Mo. 16": Drewed 1 pr. of drawers. Cleaned my gun, etc.

9 Mo. 17": 7th day. Warm. Over at the 26th OVI in the evening. Rained in the night.

9 Mo. 18": First day of the week. Rainy all day. Got a letter from Mother and wrote one to James. My thoughts carried me back a long way in my life, bought Elihu Palmer's watch for 24\$.

9 Mo. 19": Cleared away this morning. In the afternoon, went onto Peach Tree Creek for elderberries. This morning Capton was ordered under arrest by Col. Lane. Sherman has issued an order giving ten days for the families of rebel sympathizers to go farther south and all loyals loyal to go farther north. Rained this evening.

9 Mo. 20": Third day. Wrote cousin Rebecca a letter. Afternoon had review and inspection by Generals Stanley and Newton only our division. Misted rain.

9 Mo. 21": Quite cool and rainy in the forenoon. At 2 P.M. went foraging with 2 day's rations. Marched on fast time. Camped near Nancely Creek [perhaps Nancy Cr.]. Capt. Davis commanding regiment. Atlanta burned.

Mo. 22": Marched at daylight. Our co. in advance. Went out about 10 miles and loaded our train with corn. Came back to Cross Keys and camped for the night. Wet and tired. A brigade of cavalry is camped near here. Our Company went on picket. We are in possession for our reserve post of log hut. I never saw it rain harder.

Mo. 23": 6th day of the week. Started for camp which was 12 miles
stant. Where we arrived at 12 M. Then we heard of a great victory by
Sheridan in the Shenandoah Valley, Virginia, on the 19th ultimo just one
year from the 1st days battle of Chickamauga which I never can forget.
Rained this afternoon.

9 Mo. 24": Rainy again. This morning a telegram was read from Sheridan
dated yesterday (23rd) stating that he had again beaten "Early" near
Strasburg, Virginia. 2,000 prisoners had arrived at Winchester etc. etc.

9 Mo. 25": First day. The morning clear and cool. Fine weather.
Inspection at 9 A.M. at 11 o'clock orders came very unexpectedly for us to
"pack up" and be ready to move immediately. Great speculation as to our
destination. How uncertain are all human plans and contrivances. More
especially so are the contingencies of war. Very warm. Marched to the
depot. Got on the cars at 2 P.M. At 1/2 past 3 the train pushed out.
Passed Mariette near sunset and just as twilight was deepening into
darkness, passed the now historic "Kenesaw Mountain" where many of our boys
fell 3 months ago and are filling unknown and unimpaled [illegible]
graves. It is indeed with feelings of sadness and deep regret, that we
look on the death scenes of so many men. Near "Big Shanty" Station was the
burning and smoldering remains of a train of cars wrecked last night by
some rebel guerillas. All our division left Atlanta on the 25th of 9 mo.
never to return again as it afterwards proved. [This observation evidently
made during rewriting diary in 1882]

Mo. 26": Finds us near Dalton lumbering on our Northward course.
Arrived in Chattanooga about 10 A.M., Camped on the "Common" and made
coffee. At 11 o'clock at night we started for the summit of Lookout
Mountain.

9 Mo. 27": 3rd of the week. Finds us on the top of the mountain. Went
into camp where the 13th Michigan was camped, whom we relieved. If it
should be so that we get to remain here and rest awhile, we won't complain.
The grandest scenery, pure water, pleasant weather, and healthy climate.

9 Mo. 28": I was detailed for picket together with six men. I was
detailed as noncommissioned officer "corporal". Cool and cloudy. Rained
in the evening.

9 Mo. 29": Pleasant in the forenoon, rained in the evening.

9 Mo. 30": 6th day of the week. Warm and nearly clear, in the afternoon
came down off the mountain. We were relieved by the "regular brigade" 14
A.C. Stopped on the east side of Chattanooga 1/2 mile from Ft. Wood.
Rained in the night.

10 Mo. 1" 1864: Went over to Jos. Patterson's sutler shop and bought 2\$
worth of articles. Showery through the day.

10 Mo. 2": First day. Officers are measuring and staking off quarters.
I am tired of changing so much. One week ago we were in Atlanta, Georgia.

Mo. 3": Rained most of the day. Nothing new to note.

10 Mo. 4": Went on picket. The cars came through again from Nashville,
1st time since the R.R. was cut. Seven trains loaded this evening.

CHATTANOOGA 1864

10 Mo. 5": Moved camp over to near Ft. Negley. Encouraging news from the East. Fighting today near Big Shanty between a rebel force whose aim was to capture the garrison and provisions. They were beaten back.

10 Mo. 6": Remained in camp.

10 Mo. 7": Got on the cars at 9 A.M. with 5 day's rations. Run to Reseca, Georgia via. Cleveland. Landed just at dark. There was 7 or 8 regiments along. The train behind us ran off the track killing one or 2 and wounding several. The bridge is out at this place over the Oustenaula River.

10 Mo. 8": Took the train and ran back to Chattanooga. Our mission being accomplished. We got to camp about 10 P.M. Weather cool and windy.

10 Mo. 9": First day. Clear and cool. Nothing new.

10 Mo. 10": Went on picket in Ft. Phelps, cool.

10 Mo. 11": Pleasant day. Orders came about 12 M. midnight to move immediately. Got on the cars. Polled my first vote today for Gov. John Brough.

10 Mo. 12": We started for Ring Gold where we arrived in the middle of forenoon. Came back to Chattanooga in the night. Our purpose was to be ready to meet any attack which seemed to threaten.

10 Mo. 13": Pleasant. A rumor in camp that the rebel army are advancing on this place. Dalton surrendered.

10 Mo. 14": 60 recruits (reinforcements) to the 97th; Co. D got her portion. Worked on Fort Phelps. Word is that the rebels are coming.

10 Mo. 15": 7th day. Struck tents at 12 M. Went out on the R.R. for Ring Gold found all quiet. Remained there for 12 hours. Took supper in Ga. breakfast in tenn, Dinner in Ala. and vice versa.

10 Mo. 16": Layed at Ring Gold all day. At dark got marching orders and arrived in Chattanooga at midnight. Took cold riding on top of car. Layed in town till daylight. The rebels are threatening to cut our communications.

10 Mo. 17": Second Day. Started for Bridge Port, Alabama, where we arrived about noon, distance 28 miles. Roughest country I ever seen.

10 Mo. 18": Orders to move at 5 A.M., but did not get off till near 10 when we took train for Chattanooga. Arrived there 1 1/2 o'clock P.M. Orders to be in readiness to move immediately. Drawed 1 day's rations and marched at 4 o'clock via Rossville, Georgia, over the old Chickamauga Battleground. Camped 1 mile from Gordon's Mill 10 1/2 o'clock at night. Captain Davis in command of the regiment where we are going we know not (Marched 15 miles) but everything looks like joining our Corps which is said to be at Lafayette and the rebel army are in Snake Creek Gap. We are taking a lot of beef cattle through with us.

10 Mo. 19": Fourth day of the week. The morning clear and pleasant. We are lying on a portion of the ground fought over on that memorable day 13

months ago. How sad that night. So many stark cold forms lay around this
dry spot, were destined to bleach neath a southern sun never even allowed
a soldier's burial. How cruel. Now at 8 o'clock orders to march in 2
hours. Marched at 10 A.M. via Cray Fish Springs. Marched very hard
through a narrow gap and camped at Lafayette, 30 miles from Chattanooga, a
productive country through here. Marched 17 miles. Camped about dark.

10 Mo. 20": Reveille at 4. Marched at 6 A.M. on the Broomtown Road. A
fine country. Camped at 3 in afternoon. Got some fine potatoes. Drewed
2 day's rations making 3 on hands to last five.

10 Mo. 21": Sixth day. Reveille at 4 marched at six through a little place
called "Alpine" Halted about 2 miles from said town and took dinner. Then
filed right going towards Lookout Mountain and camped for the night early!
Marched 15 miles. Gen. Gross commands our brigade, Wagner the division,
and Gen. Schofield ours and Morgan's Division of 14th A.C. The weather
very cool, especially at night. This is called Shinbone Valley. We are in
"Alabama."

10 Mo. 22": 7" Day. Reveille at 4. Marched at 6 o'clock. Went up on to
Lookout Range. Marched northwest. Went down into a valley on the west
side and went into camp at 1 o'clock. Marched 12 miles. Very raw and
cool. Our brigade is alone here.

10 Mo. 23": First day. Layed still all day. Clear and cool.

Mo. 24": 2" day of the week. Marched at 12 M. Camped at 8 P.M.
Camped in Shinbone valley where were camped a few nights since. I was on
detail for picket.

10 Mo 25": 3" Day. Were not releaved from picket. Got some potatoes and
mutton etc.etc.

10 Mo. 26": 4th Day. Releaved at 10 A.M. Moved at noon toward Alpine and
camped. Rained in the night.

10 Mo. 27": 5th day. Rained some in forenoon. We dug open a place where
something had been buried. Found it to contain 2 human bodies, our
soldiers, who had been killed by the guerrilla Gatewood, who prowls around
this country. Orders this evening to move in the morning. Drewed rations,
etc.

10 Mo. 28": 6' Day. Reveille at 5. Marched 1/2 past 6 o'clock. Went
across Lookout Mountain and camped in Wills Valley just where we laid last
first day. Distance 13 miles. There is a stream over which we passed that
presents a picturesque view viz a Cataract of 80 or perhaps not so many
feet called the Blackwater Falls.

10 Mo. 29": 7th Day. Reveille at 5 and marched at 7 A.M. Crossed the
Alabama and Georgia state line. Marched 20 miles. Camped at dark in a
straw stack. The boys found articles hid away.

10 Mo. 30": 1st Day. Reveille at 5 Marched at 7 A.M. Left Trenton to
right, crossed a mountain range towards Bridgeport. Our Co. was
ailed to pull a caisson up the hill. Marched 10 miles. Camped 4 P.M.

10 Mo. 31": 2 day. Reveille at 5. Marched at seven. Rained some. Got
to Bridgeport, Ala. 11 A.M. We crossed the Tennessee River R.R. Bridge.

id till sundown. Drewed rations etc. got mail. At sunset marched 5
les towards Stevenson and camped about 9 P.M.

11 Mo. 1" 1864: Reveille at 4 and marched at 6 A.M. Went to Stephenson
and laid till 3 P.M. Then took train west, our regt. guard for Wagner's
train. Passed through Huntsville about 9 P.M. Said to be abut 60 miles
from Stevenson. The country along the R.R. very marshy and low, water
standing even in this dry season. About night began to blow and raining,
sleeting, etc. Altogether very uncomfortable. I was on top of the cars
with the rain in my face, had a rough night. Morning found us at Athens,
Ala.

11 Mo. 1": 4th Day Layed at Athens till afternoon, then marched 3 miles
and camped for the night. Rainy. The rebels have torn up 30 miles of R.R.
track. Orders to march at daylight.

11 Mo. 3": 5th Day. The order was countermanded. Quite rainy. There is
much speculation as to our destination. We marched at 12 M. Rained all
afternoon. Camped afternight; our co. went on picket. We only passed two
plantations seven miles of woods in between. Marched 10 miles.

11 Mo. 4": 6' day. Reveille at 4. Marched at 6 A.M. Came to Elk River
6 miles from our camp last night by 10 A.M. The river was to wade a bitter
cold pill. I plunged in clothes all on. Got over kindled fires & dried,
etc. We crossed at Elkton on the North bank where we struck a pike. It is
15 miles from Pulaski to Elkton. Staid for dinner, marched 13 miles this
ternoon, making 19 today through a fine country. General Geo. H. Wagner
th staff were building fires for us, his "people" as he called us.
Pulaski is on Duck River.

11 Mo. 5": 7th Day. Reveille at 5 and marched at 7 A.M. Went through
Pulaski once a very nice county seat. Camped 3 miles north of town near
the pike. It is said we will lay here some days and get paid off etc.

11 Mo. 6": 1st Day. The right wing of our regt. also a large detail from
the brigade went to town 3 miles to work on fortifications. Rainy. About
2 P.M. we were ordered back to camp to get our baggage and our regt. and
the 40th Indiana moved to town.

Monday, Nov. 7, 1864. In transcribing have exchanged dates in memoranda
for the plain dates. [Thus he realizes he has slipped from his normal
usage, and, in a way, apologizes to himself, then resumes.]

11 Mo. 7": Raining quite hard. We are ordered to go to work on
fortifications immediately. Worked all afternoon, wires are all cut.

11 Mo. 8": Presidential Election. I cast my first vote for president for
Abraham Lincoln. 11 McClellan votes in the regt. Signed payrolls, very
rainy all day.

11 Mo. 9": 4th Day. Rainy all day. No mail Yet.

Mo. 10": 5th Day. Rainy Cleared off in the evening.

11 Mo. 11": 6th day. Moved camp 1 mile east of town that is Pulaski. Had
an official order read that A. Lincoln had carried all the Northern states
except Kentucky, Maryland, and New York. Commenced a new line of works
etc.

- Mo. 12": 7th Day. And now this is copied 18 years after on 1st day. Other William's Birthday. In Tennessee in 1864 was cool all day. Worked on breastworks.
- 11 Mo. 13": Inspection at 9. Dress parade at 5 P.M. A part of the regt. got 8 month's pay. I converted it into two coupon bonds.
- 11 Mo. 14": Quite cool all day. Worked on detail in afternoon.
- 11 Mo. 15": Wrote a letter to Uncle Aaron and sent some money. Rained quite hard most of the day.
- 11 Mo. 16": Raining again today. No news of importance. Very muddy about camp.
- 11 Mo. 17": 5th day. Worked on defenses in forenoon. Wrote a letter to Brother Aaron in afternoon. Rained all night.
- 11 Mo. 18": Rained nearly all day. Worked at fireplace and chimney.
- 11 Mo. 19": Rainy again today. Orders to be ready to march out foraging in the morning. Wrote a letter to Brother James.
- 11 Mo. 20": 1st Day [Joshua goes back to using "plain dates"; i.e., 1st Day = Sunday] Our regt. went foraging north about 12 miles. We had to lay out over night on account of a creek being too high to cross. We had no blankets and it was very cold, suffered intensely.
- 11 Mo. 21": 2' Day. Started for camp. Very cool, snowing and blowing all day. Got to camp about 11 A.M. I took in a few potatoes and a pumpkin. Drew rations.
- 11 Mo. 22": Very cold. Marching orders: our division moved at 9 A.M. toward Columbia 15 miles to Linnville, where we camped for the night.
- 11 Mo. 23": Layed still all day. Quite cool, Col. Lane commanding our brigade. One division of the 23rd Corps marched this evening which had been camped here for 1 day.
- 11 Mo. 24": Reveille at 2 A.M. and marched at 3 without breakfast. Our brigade was in advance. Got to Columbia about 11 A.M. a distance of 17 miles from Linnville. There has been artillery firing and skirmishing this morning. Cox's Div, 23rd A.C. is here. Fortified in afternoon.
- 11 Mo. 25": One year ago today since the bloody battle of Mission Ridge was fought and the war still going on. Finished works in this town. Columbia is quite a considerable town near Duck River. The enemy are advancing from the south and we are trying to keep him back and to stay between him and Nashville. Weather cold. At 8 P.M. moved 2 miles to our right and layed down at 12 (midnight) after we got our lines formed. Our regt. was taken back as reserve pickets.
- 11 Mo. 26": 7th Day. Rained nearly all day. At 4 P.M. five companies of which D Company was one went on picket. All quiet tonight.
- 11 Mo. 27": 1st Day. Skirmishing on our left this A.M. At 8 P.M. we began to fall back towards Nashville and it was daylight before we all got over on the N. side of Duck River. We burned the bridges, pontoons, etc.

to retard the enemies progress as he seems anxious to bring on an engagement as he outnumbers us greatly, we of course want to postpone it until nearer Nashville where our forts and reinforcements await us. This is my theory.

11 Mo. 28": 2nd Day. Moved on to the Nashville Pike and went back toward Columbia. Halted on the North Bank of Duck River and began fortifying. The enemy are on the opposite bank, skirmishing constantly. Benj. Posey came up this evening.

11 Mo. 29": 3' Day. Reveille at 5 A.M. Marched at 10 only our brigade, the remainder of our division followed, moved very briskly on Nashville Pike. Got to Spring Hill about noon. The enemy's cavalry were just on the outskirts of town when we arrived. They were dismounted. After giving them a few shells they lit out. We began building rail breastworks on the East of town. Our division in line. Our brigade in center. 1st Brigade on the left, 3' to our right. Our division alone here. The enemy massed on the 3rd Brigade and about 4 o'clock began an attack and finally forced our men back. Our brigade was double quicked around to the right, but did not become generally engaged as night soon set in, closing the scene for the day. Gen. Bradley of 3' Brigade was wounded and Wilson Shannon Rusk mortally of Malta, Ohio. None of us knew at the time our danger this night as the rebel army marched in hearing distance to us on a parallel road to the Franklin Pike on which we were moving. Layed on our arms.

11 Mo. 30": 4th Day. Battle of Franklin. At 3 A.M. we left Spring Hill. Moved in double column, one on the pike and one on either side, our division covering the retreat. The rebels are in the vicinity and had captured a portion of our wagon train last night. Mules were shot down and left with the harness on, trunks torn open and papers strewed for miles along the road, together with camp kettles and all the paraphernalia [sic] of war. Came within 2 miles of Franklin about 11 A.M. when we halted and got breakfast. Moved on at one o'clock. Soon an orderlie brings some orders from Franklin and we are about faced and commenced building works, as we had long since learned, that it was better to fight behind defenses than openly. By this time we could see the enemy with guns bristling in the sun, advancing in beautiful order and could hear the clear ringing command of the line officers as they filed into line and massed their columns for the charge. But the remaining moments of lull that presages the tempest and storm were occupied in our own affairs and reforming our own lines and no time to further note the enemies movements untill a few minutes later they came charging on us with three lines of battle, our skirmishers falling back faster and faster. In the mean time our brigade made a right wheel and marched 1/2 mile toward town. Took up another position behind a stone fence or wall. Our artillery now began to play on them incessantly. We were again withdrawn from the stone wall and fell back 1/4 mile to the rear and began to fortify, the rebels following and now occupying our late position. There are 2 lines yet in reserve behind us. We had been here 20 minutes or 1/2 hour when we could see them coming. Our artillery was playing as fast as men could handle the guns and musketry began to roll from the left along the line. I had been so taken up with watching the rebel movements that I had not perceived what was going on nearer home. To my consternation, looking around, every man had left the works and the rebels were already pouring over the works to my left. Then we done some tall running to put it mildly. We lost several boys before we got to our second line. Many were killed, wounded, or taken prisoners here. Alexander Hess prisoner afterwards lost with the steamer Sultana. [News concerning Hess added as footnote to diary in 1882] Thomas J. Drake