

# Alexander Newburger papers, 1864

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Personal name

- [Newburger, Alexander, 1842?-](#)

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- Alexander Newburger papers, 1864.

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## More Information

LCCN Permalink

- <https://lccn.loc.gov/mm77094094>

Description

- 1 volume (110 pages).
- 1 microfilm reel.

Access advisory

- Open to research.

Local shelving no.

- MMC-1938
- Microfilm 16,992-1N-1P

Biography/History note

- Army officer serving with the 4th New York Cavalry during the Civil War.

#### Summary

- Diary (1864 Apr. 27-July 23) describing routine military matters, camp life, drinking and music in the camps, the Spotsylvania, Petersburg, and Wilderness campaigns, and the impressment of African Americans into Union work details.

#### LC Subjects

- [United States. Army. New York Cavalry Regiment, 4th \(1861-1865\)](#)
- [United States. Army--African American troops.](#)
- [United States. Army--Military life.](#)
- [Spotsylvania Court House, Battle of, Va., 1864.](#)
- [Petersburg Crater, Battle of, Va., 1864.](#)
- [Wilderness, Battle of the, Va., 1864.](#)
- [Soldiers--Alcohol use--United States.](#)
- [United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Campaigns.](#)
- [Virginia--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Campaigns.](#)
- [United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Participation, African American.](#)
- [United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Personal narratives.](#)
- [United States--History--Civil War, 1861-1865--Songs and music.](#)
- Army officers.

#### Notes

- Collection material in English.

#### Acquisition source

- Purchase, 1910.

#### Additional formats

- Microfilm edition available, no. 16,992.
- Microfilm produced from originals in the Manuscript Division. Washington, D.C. : Library of Congress Photoduplication Service, 1977.

#### LCCN

- mm 77094094

#### Other standard no.

- MSS94094

#### Repository

- Library of Congress Manuscript Division Washington, D.C. 20540 USA  
dcu <http://hdl.loc.gov/loc.mss/mss.home>

#### Type of material

- Archival Manuscript/Mixed Formats (Collection)

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## Item Availability

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Daily Journal  
of  
Lieut A. Newburger  
R. G. M. 4<sup>th</sup> Cav.  
2<sup>nd</sup> Brig 1<sup>st</sup> Div  
Cavalry Corps  
Army of the Potomac

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Our regiment was  
dismounted on the 27<sup>th</sup>  
day of April 1864 while  
being at Culpeper Co. Va.  
The reason for so doing  
was urged by the Division  
Commander Brig Genl A.  
Torbert stated that the  
supply of horses were  
inadequate that the 4<sup>th</sup>  
N. Cavalry being the only  
Regiment in the Brigade  
not exhibiting as a body  
was properly the one to  
give up what horses they  
had and mount as far  
as possible the other Reg-  
iments namely 17<sup>th</sup> Penn  
9<sup>th</sup> W. & 6<sup>th</sup> N. Y. Cavalry  
Therefore we gave up

without much dissent  
 what constituted the  
 demand of military position  
 horses that makes a  
 barely new seem in his  
 own estimation for above  
 any other arm of service  
 Lt. Col. Parnell organized  
 the regiment dismounted  
 & prepared for the coming  
 campaign like a true  
 soldier. The officers tho.  
 opposed to the arrangement  
 cheerfully complied with  
 the orders they retaining  
 their own and sharp  
 government animals they  
 had in their possession.  
 Every thing looked like  
 a move by the first of May.

In short all were authorized  
 the order to go forward and  
 make necessary preparations  
 by sending off their personal  
 baggage etc. to the rear  
 On the evening of the 30<sup>th</sup>  
 of May (Tuesday) the order  
 was received to march at  
 day light the next morning  
 the larger portion of the  
 night was consumed by  
 loading the wagons and  
 moved in accordance with  
 the orders. The Infantry of the  
 1<sup>st</sup> army Corps took the lead  
 leading around Pony mountain  
 towards Strasburg the train  
 taking the route concealed  
 one leading towards Brand  
 Station but eventually

undertaking the rear guard at  
Richardsville near Elys ford  
which was reached late in  
the night.

On the 5<sup>th</sup> we crossed at  
Elys ford and proceeded  
towards the millerness &  
Chancellorsville. The trains  
of the whole army seemingly  
marching within as narrow  
space as so many wagons  
could conveniently move  
& its evident that the troops  
for few days were to be  
supplied by its trains expecting  
subsistence for men nothing  
definite could be ascertained  
as to the marching <sup>movement</sup> of the  
army cannonading could  
be distinctly heard on the

5<sup>th</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> towards the evening  
of the 6<sup>th</sup> the fighting was  
undoubtedly heard as  
musketry was plainly heard  
& the next day the news was  
received of the death of Big  
Genl Meigs a very good  
friend of mine I had  
spoken to him the day before  
in that night the enemy  
was the attacking party  
assaulting party our line  
on the Brooks road three  
times being repulsed each  
time with heavy loss  
On the 6<sup>th</sup> our trains  
reached Chancellorsville  
and parked to feed the  
animals. Lieut Richards  
White and myself rode

out to the front reaching  
 the Head Quarters of Major  
 Genl Hancock amidst  
 2<sup>nd</sup> army corps. where the  
 fight was being renewed  
 saw the battle ground of  
 the previous night also the  
 heap of dead of both sides  
 being removed as fast as  
 circumstances would permit  
 staid for over two hours  
 my companions becoming  
 apparently uneasy as to  
 their position returned into  
 out me. The shot fell thick  
 and fast and caused me  
 to wonder why Genl Birney  
 & Hancock put themselves  
 in such a doomed position  
 I returned to camp &

issued forage to the animals  
 under Col. Parnells command  
 remained quiet untill 4 P.M.  
 when a messenger came &  
 brought us news that our  
 left flank <sup>was</sup> becoming weak  
 by the continued assaults  
 of the enemy and the Cavalry  
 having engaged them under  
 Genl Sturges also on the left  
 The order was received for  
 our train and that of the  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps to return to Elys  
 ford we reached the ford  
 by 9 P.M. and passed for  
 the night  
 at daylight on the 7<sup>th</sup> we  
 started back to Chancellorville  
 by order from army Head Quarters  
 reached the same by 1 P.M.

several friends. Lieut. White &  
 myself rode out to the fork  
 where the fight was raging  
 but over the fields & all  
 along the brook and road  
 which were fortified &  
 held by our troops up as  
 far as the head quarters of  
 Genl. Grant & Mead. Saw  
 both just starting out with  
 full staffs at about an hour  
 at Genl. Warren's Head Quarters  
 where the whole night & left  
 Centos of our line could  
 be seen awaiting an anti-  
 cipating attack this at  
 about 3 P.M. nothing was  
 however attempted up to 4 P.M.  
 when we rode back to Chan-  
 cellorville & on towards Fredricks-

burg where our trains had  
 proceeded & parked for the night  
 in a field near the town had  
 supper and then retired for  
 the night.

On the morning of the 8<sup>th</sup>  
 started up the plank road to-  
 wards Spottsylvania Co. Va. By  
 taking a small cut path  
 abruptly to the right two and a  
 half miles from Chancellorville  
 we were suddenly stopped  
 at Crossed farm where the  
 advance of Genl. Warren's  
 Corps had relieved our Camp  
 on an attack of the enemy's  
 position apparently willing  
 to protect the rear of the  
 train as rumors had it  
 that our forces suffered

Spottsylvania Co. Va. at Daybrook  
 as the enemy's forces left it  
 the wounded were coming  
 towards the head of our train  
 in squads. I took care of  
 them in the best manner I  
 could afford under the  
 circumstances an order  
 was received from us to get  
 back at once which was  
 immediately complied with  
 we reached the crossings of  
 the plank road where we  
 camped and found Genl  
 Capps H<sup>d</sup> Qrs. with nearly all  
 the Cavalry regiments awaiting  
 us to draw supplies. The  
 whole night was consumed  
 in supplying the troops  
 with food & blankets

On the morning of the 9<sup>th</sup>  
 the entire Cavalry force under  
 Genl Sheridan started on  
 a raid a la Stoneman  
 The number <sup>of troops</sup> accompanying  
 the raid were 22,000 all  
 Cavalry. We moved on  
 tent in the woods where  
 we sought the rest which  
 for the past week had been  
 denied us in the afternoon  
 Genl Burnside's Corps was  
 passing our train and  
 the General himself came  
 to our quarters where he  
 staid for near two hours  
 refreshing himself with some  
 of my Brandy &c. and  
 amusing ourselves in con-  
 versation about the tide.

of Battle when the news of  
the death of Maj Genl Sedgwick  
reached us having been shot  
dead by the enemy sharpshooters  
while recriminating the position  
and I should have stated  
in my record of the 7<sup>th</sup> and  
that Genl. Wadsworth was  
also killed also Genl. Burns  
& Genl. Getty badly wounded  
and several other casualties  
among the high rank officers  
on our side. The weather  
during the time we left  
Camp was had been of  
the finest character for  
the movement of the army  
but the dust had been  
all most suffocating rolling  
along in perfect clouds.

The 10<sup>th</sup> was also very hot  
and dusty. Cannonading  
commenced at 2 P.M. in the  
direction of Spottsylvania C.R.  
and continued with spirit  
all day especially towards  
night fall. Lieut. White my  
bed fellow, myself, Lieut. Col.  
Sarnell and several others  
all went out to the front  
we came up to the center of  
our line where the fight was  
raging fearfully. Generals  
Grant & Meade were occupy-  
ing a position on a hill con-  
tinually under fire. Lieut. P.  
Lieut. W. & myself rode  
out to near the 2<sup>nd</sup> A.C.  
joined the 5<sup>th</sup> A.C. & near the  
fight seemed to be the hottest

along the slope of the hill  
 covered with woods in which  
 were our own and that of  
 the rebel entrenchments.  
 The 3<sup>rd</sup> line of Battle of the  
 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps gave way by  
 some panic & shelled  
 across the plain under care  
 of our batteries, having the  
 appearance of a rout but  
 subsequently it was ascertained  
 that no material loss was  
 sustained by this action on  
 part of the 2<sup>nd</sup> A. C. Genl.  
 Humphrey chief of Genl. Meade's  
 Staff killed. The troops and  
 order was soon restored again.  
 The shot and shell thrown  
 by our batteries was terrible  
 faintly shocking the ground.

Musketry firing ceased towards  
 dark. but the batteries kept  
 it up for some time. We  
 rode back at 8 P.M. hard  
 and nearly suffocated with  
 dust. had supper & then  
 retired.

The 11<sup>th</sup> appeared dusty and  
 hot as in the preceding day,  
 no sound could be heard  
 indicating a renewal of  
 the fighting several cas-  
 ualties were rumored but  
 no credit could be given  
 them. a thunder shower  
 came on at noon and  
 the rain came down in  
 refreshing streams all the  
 rest of the day and night  
 nothing could be learned of

anything important at the front and the general impression was that they were quiet perhaps maneuvering for a position. Rain continued all night.

On the 12<sup>th</sup> early in the morning the rain was still falling orders were received for the movement of the trains to tubercles Church near Fredericksburg also by daylight cannonading was heard and apparently the fighting was some what in the direction of Spotsylvania after the train was ready we started in our journey while thus moving 2,000 Seven thousand captured

Rebels had overtaken us not took they were captured by Genl. Barlow of Hancock's Corps they were all taken by surprise without the loss of a man on either side including the 2,000 Rebels we took 1 regt Genl 2 Brig Genls & 50 pieces of artillery I rode along the line of the 2<sup>nd</sup> a. b. on the left the contest raging fearfully. The capture of the above prisoners and with they were truly the most brilliant of the war I conversed with a Rebel officer who remarked that by daylight our troops forced there was so sudden

into these works as to forbid  
any resistance being made  
and they were obliged to give up  
over train parked in a  
beautiful field near the  
plank road within five  
miles of Frederickburg. The  
rain continuing & at  
times falling in torrents  
at night Genl Ed Dannel  
Command was ordered to  
guard the rebels & witness  
nothing further to note of  
importance Rumors dis-  
tracted us of reverses  
Some that Richmond had  
been taken by Butler and  
the forces under Genl Smith  
that Petersburg was nearly  
ours others said Lee

had <sup>us</sup> been flanked on the right  
left and every other point  
most of which carry much  
weight at this time every  
thing seemed entirely  
favorable.

The 13<sup>th</sup> (Friday) was again  
wet & heavy showers came  
down at intervals during  
the day no very severe can-  
nonading could be heard  
only untill after noon &  
then but momentarily reports  
came in that Lee was falling  
back. Had an opportunity  
of seeing a Washington  
Chronicle of the 12<sup>th</sup> inst.  
giving a list of wounded  
and the Editorials of which  
speaking extremely hopefull

of the fighting & that it  
 was estimated more severe  
 than ever before known  
 in modern times thus  
 far our loss was estim-  
 ated between 20 and  
 30,000, now came down  
 towards night but only  
 temporarily.

The 14<sup>th</sup> (Saturday) was  
 also not raining severely  
 sometimes during the day  
 reports were complicating  
 but the most reliable  
 revealed the fact of a  
 new line being formed  
 with Burnside's occupying  
 Red Bank with the 2<sup>nd</sup> A.C.  
 on his right the 5<sup>th</sup> A.C. on  
 the left and the 6<sup>th</sup> A.C. &

the near center no fighting  
 was reported of consequence  
 the skirmishing was lively  
 & some cannonading I  
 wrote a letter home & to my  
 friends but could not  
 mail them

The 15<sup>th</sup> at daylight we  
 received orders to move the  
 train to the rear of Annapolis  
 where we moved & parked  
 in a beautiful field over-  
 looking the city it rained  
 in torrents & every thing was  
 not accordingly, no means  
 of any importance from  
 the front. by obtaining a  
 Washington Chronicle of the 13<sup>th</sup>  
 we were informed of the cut-  
 ting of communication between

Petersburg & Richmond also  
 rumors of the success of our  
 Cavalry in cutting the rail  
 road at Gauley Junction &  
 cutting burning three rebels  
 supply trains. Rode down  
 to Fredericksburg at noon  
 the city seemed one vast  
 Hospital Private residences  
 stores factories out Buildings  
 were all used as turned  
 in to refuge for the sick  
 & wounded our camp at  
 present is one of the most  
 delightfull of any we ever  
 had not withstanding the  
 heavy rains we played a few  
 games of whist with some  
 friends then retired at 10 1/2 o'clock  
 for the night

The 16<sup>th</sup> very foggy but soon  
 cleared off I went down  
 to Fredericksburg to see Dr. Strother  
 who is our Surgeon and has  
 at present charge of Cavalry Corps  
 Hospital he showed me all  
 around the hospital and it  
 was about the cleanest place  
 in the town I also met a  
 great many of my acquaintances  
 that were wounded while I  
 was there looking at the wounds  
 of Generals old King just passed  
 by which came from Washington  
 they were splendid looking troops  
 & marched well

The 17<sup>th</sup> looked very dull  
 as if we were again to receive  
 rain but it however cleared  
 off Lt Col Parnell and

Command just arrived from Belle Plain and he ordered me to report to General Torbert into his Corps for orders I went as ordered to the Genl and reported he wrote me an order detailing me to proceed to Belle Plain and procure 12,000 Carabys Horses for the Corps I got myself ready & had my wagon packed with the necessary articles & took an escort of 75 men with me left Fredericksburg at about 6 o'clock P.M. crossed the river on the Pontoon Bridge and marched untill dark took the Command in an open field & encamped for the night

The 18<sup>th</sup> very fine & pleasant had Breakfast & started again on my journey to Belle Plain Reached Belle Plain at 10 a.m. started to go to the landing on my way met Col St. Bernard had quite a talk with him & then attended to my business & returned to the Col & invited him over to dine with me he had his horse saddled & went over to my quarters with me were he partook of as good a dinner as the circumstances would permit together with a few Bottles of Rhine Wine The Col staid with me untill dark & about 8 P.M. Lt. Col Parnell & Capt. Mann of my

Regt arrived from the front  
I had my horse saddled &  
rode down with them to the  
bols. quarter we staid there  
talking to near 11. P.M. &  
then they went home with me  
had supper & retired

The 19<sup>th</sup> very pleasant & fine  
was very busy receiving  
horses got 800 did not get  
to bed untill 3. a. m. w. p. m.

The 20<sup>th</sup> very fine but dust-  
still receiving horses at Belle  
Plain got 400 & issued 900

The 21<sup>st</sup> very dusty I moved  
my quarters on the top of a hill  
when Col. McConnel had his  
the Col. insisted on having me  
detailed on his staff as chief  
Quarter master of his command

which made my duties quite  
heavy as I was actg as Quarter  
master for the Cavalry Corps also  
However I accepted it and  
got along first rate.

The 22<sup>nd</sup> very fine but hot  
and dusty had a little rain  
was very busy in receiving &  
issuing horses my Regt had  
just come from the front with  
some Rebel prisoners amounting  
to 7000. my Regt were all dism-  
ounted so I issued them 600 horses

The 23<sup>rd</sup> very hot & dusty also  
very windy received orders to  
be in readiness to march from  
Belle Plain, Cannonading  
could be distinctly heard in  
the direction of Fredericksburg  
awaiting orders to move no.

mainly just Red orders to  
move. Communicated the  
order to the different quar-  
termasters in my Command to  
have their trains pulled out  
in the road and we started  
for Port Royal. Marched  
about six miles & then en-  
camped at about 8 P.M.  
When a severe hail storm  
with rain took place the  
drops of hail came down  
as large as hen's eggs. Got supper  
and then retired for the night.  
The 24<sup>th</sup> we remained quiet  
and rested spent the day in  
playing cards with the blue  
& staff officers. In the evening  
had some musical entertainment  
& then retired.

The 25<sup>th</sup> very fine we started  
for our destination Port Royal  
after marching untill 6 P.M.  
we reached Port Conway where  
we came to a sudden halt  
as the river was there that we  
had to cross and the troops  
had to take three turns as  
there were only 2 ferry boats.  
I ordered all my trains to  
unhitch & park for the night.

The 26<sup>th</sup> was very dull & rainy.  
Col. de Beaumont had just Red  
orders to proceed to Fredericksburg  
with 300 men & clean out the  
guerrillas.

The 27<sup>th</sup> very fine every thing  
looks pleasant went down to  
the river & took a little sail  
with my propeller which I.

had detailed for my own use  
 Subol Parnell & myself took  
 a sail out the Barge of the  
 paytany Commission where we  
 partook of some fine Sherry  
 wine & ice & divers other  
 articles just Announced to  
 rain & we hurried back  
 taking with us the necessary  
 articles from the paytany  
 Commission that we required  
 when we got to our head quarters  
 which were in a church with  
 a splendid organ therein we  
 began to enjoy ourselves in  
 making dances & different  
 other amusements after which we had  
 musical intertainment on the  
 organ & singing which we kept up  
 till late & then retired.

The 28<sup>th</sup> very pleasant & fine  
 getting ready to move across  
 the river I just sent the  
 order around to the different  
 quarter master to have all their  
 teams hooked up to proceed  
 across the river to Fort Ansony  
 Col de Beenda just arrived  
 from Fredericksburg with his  
 Command took my baggage  
 & went to see the Col had our  
 personal Baggage & tents sent  
 across & established a head  
 quarters had our tents put  
 up & then retired for the  
 night

The 29<sup>th</sup> was very fine and  
 pleasant sent out different  
 orders to the go vns of my  
 Command enforcing discipline

Received 500 Horses from Washington & issued ~~some~~ <sup>them</sup> to the 13<sup>th</sup> Ohio Cavalry while issuing. I received orders to get ready for a march to the White House was very busy in promulgating orders for the coming march instructing the different Quartermasters to supply the Command with all necessary articles for the coming march. I loaded 20 wagons with grain & feedstuffs & then went to my quarters where I retired for the night. The 30<sup>th</sup> very fine & pleasant very busy procuring supplies. Received orders to march at daylight next morning retired at 12 P.M.

The 31<sup>st</sup> got up at 2 a.m. and had all my trains hooked up & pulled out on the road & then started for Bowling Green after marching about 12 miles we recaptured some wagons which were captured by guerrillas. I sent for a lot of led horses which were with the Command & took all the wagons along that I could the next I thought Col. W. Beards had Command of all the troops & when arriving where we found the wagons. The 4<sup>th</sup> My Cavalry found a guerrilla after giving a drum head count martial of which I was a member his hand & feet were tied together six men were ordered to fire from the night.

and the order was given to  
 make ready aim fire and  
 the poor fellows was no more.  
 we marched along untill we  
 came to Bowling green which  
 we reached at 1. a.m. had  
 a very fine dinner prepared  
 for the Col + myself at a  
 house in the village which  
 they called the first class Hotel  
 we made that our head quarters.  
 while there we got a rebel  
 captain who was wounded by  
 one of our men had quite  
 a fine time. I got an invitation  
 to see a young lady who was  
 entirely alone + asked me to pro-  
 tect her for the night which I did.  
 I received orders to move at  
 3. a.m. next day.

Save 1865

1<sup>st</sup>. Much to my  
 dissatisfaction a man came  
 to my room at 3 a.m.  
 + woke me up I was sorry  
 to part from the young man  
 as soon but it could not be  
 helped she was very sorry that  
 I could not stay longer. I  
 would have had but little  
 cooking to have her come along  
 we started from Bowling  
 green marched about 8 miles  
 + encamped for the night.  
 The 2<sup>nd</sup>. Started at 3. a.m.  
 marched about 8 miles  
 when we reached the  
 Pamunkey River where we  
 had to construct a crossing  
 for the troops especially  
 Infantry + the mounted Cavalry.

which was done very quick  
 as I sent up to the plan-  
 tation mustered all the  
 riggers in service for this  
 occasion I collected very  
 near 200 riggers with spade  
 pickaxe. &c. took them  
 down to the river and in  
 less than an hour I had  
 a very good bridge made  
 & we crossed quite rap-  
 idly with the whole Command  
 I pushed directly on with  
 my train to Leavenworth Co. Mo.  
 where I had my tents pitched &  
 got a splendid supper and  
 made myself as comfortable  
 as circumstances would per-  
 mit for the night I was just  
 about to retire when I received

an order from Maj General  
 Milam (who had his Cavalry  
 Division in the vicinity) that  
 he would assume command  
 of all the troops & he ordered  
 us to march some 10 miles  
 further. after marching  
 all night raining pitch  
 forks. we came to a halt  
 by day break at a place  
 named Lining where Col  
 S. Gesner was again put  
 in command of all the  
 troops & reported direct to  
 Maj Genl Mead. During  
 the early part of the morning  
 had considerable fighting in  
 our front & night. Captured  
 quite a number of prisoners

June 3<sup>rd</sup> Received orders to distribute the troops in our Command to their respective Regiments started from Lima at 10. a.m. marched about 3 miles when we came to a halt waited there untill near 3 o'clock P.m. & then went into Camp for the night about 4 P.m. The rumour of firing was heard in the Centre and it was kept up for nearly 3 hours when it ceased then a severe rain storm took place had supper with the Col & then retired for the night

June 4<sup>th</sup> It rained all night and the day looked as if we were going to

have very unpleasant weather. got up out of Bed to take my Breakfast & then returned to Bed again as I felt unwell

June 5<sup>th</sup> The regiment Received orders for to march & I received orders for to join my train & take it to the General train I marched about 10 miles & reached my destination no sooner arrived when I reported to the officer in Command when I received orders to take charge of all the train belonging to the Cavalry Corps I could proceed to the White house for supplies attended my

train and got about two miles when I received an order to return to camp with the whole train and await orders I did some writing to all of sudden I heard a tremendous fire of both artillery & Infantry it was very brisk for a few hours the Rebels were trying there best to break our left so as to get our supplies as the poor fellows were hungry but were allway without remedy separated by our troops the firing was kept up until 10 P.M. when I felt rather sleepy & warm so I retired to my return couch.

June 6<sup>th</sup> very fine but hot had nothing to do only in making up my papers for mail. Just received word that the Cavalry was going on a raid and had to send them some forage as they were to start at 12 P.M. I sent a messenger to the front with some tobacco & matches for the Col also the mail for the Regt commencing to rain but I think it will not last long Heavy firing is heard on Burnside's front fell very tired and will retire for the night June 7<sup>th</sup> very windy & stormy looks like rain

Just heard that the Command  
 had started Capt. Sawyer has  
 joined the train on account  
 of sickness & will remain here  
 with me untill well I  
 went over to the Division Gr.  
 master & he was just pre-  
 paring to go to the front I  
 had my horse saddle and  
 rode out to new castle ferry  
 we arrived there just as the  
 war guard going over the  
 bridge started untill began  
 to take up the pontoon bridge  
 and then we started by our  
 way back to the train met  
 several friends & had several  
 drinks we reached camp at  
 5 P.M. I went to my quarters  
 & had supper & then went

over to the Div Gr. master  
 all of a sudden there was  
 a tremendous firing took  
 place in our front and  
 continued on so untill very  
 late I felt rather fatigued  
 from the long ride during  
 the day & went to my tent  
 where I retired for the night  
 June 8<sup>th</sup> very fine but hot  
 Every thing seems to be quiet  
 except a few spare Cannon  
 shots are heard at intervals  
 there seems to be a little fighting  
 going on all day The Quar-  
 master made application to  
 move the train to the White  
 House as our Command  
 would not return for 15  
 days at 4 P.M. we received

orders that we could move  
so I issued orders to the  
Gen. Wm. under my Command  
that we would start at  
daylight next day.

June 9<sup>th</sup> very pleasant and  
Col ordered all the teams  
to hook up & start we arrived  
at the white house at 3 P.M.  
parked our trains & had our  
tents pitched, I went down  
to the Landing by the river  
and filled my belly with  
Oysters & ale and then re-  
turned to Camp & retired  
for the night.

June 10<sup>th</sup> very fine, but  
hot still at the white house  
in comfortable quarters En-  
joying the Bless from the

River and subsisting mostly  
on fish & oysters there is  
some talk of changing  
Base of supplies to Harrisons  
Landing Locomotives are con-  
stantly going to & for taking  
up the rail road Iron &  
placing it on barges 7 P.M.  
& just received orders to march  
back up & move the trains  
in rear of the fortifications  
near the white house as we  
are expecting an attack after  
moving the wagons to & for  
until near 1 P.M. we man-  
aged to get  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile from  
there we started & there we  
encamped for the night  
awaiting the attack.

June 11<sup>th</sup> Very fine but  
 busy changing quarters as  
 we had to show we encamped  
 & got into a dirty place  
 we however succeeded in  
 finding a nice spot for  
 our tents & had them pitched  
 passed the remainder of the  
 day in playing cards.

June 12<sup>th</sup> Very fine fine  
 talk of moving. Genl  
 Smith with all his troops  
 arrived here at about 8 P.M.  
 also a portion of Genl Burnside's  
 troops they were very busy at the  
 wharf preparing to embark.

June 13<sup>th</sup> Still at the white  
 house every one packing up  
 & getting ready for a move  
 nothing of importance from

The front Rumors are off  
 that Genl Butler is within  
 2 miles of Richmond also  
 that our Cavalry has made  
 a connection with Genl Arnold  
 & captured Genl Fitz Hugh Lee  
 with 5000 of his men. To  
 day is the first paper that  
 we have seen for the last 3  
 weeks but it contained  
 nothing new just received  
 word that our Cavalry would  
 be here by to morrow night.

June 14<sup>th</sup> Looks rainy,  
 nothing new still at White house  
 a lot of Rebel prisoners just  
 arrived from the front rumors  
 that the whole army is on the  
 move still busy removing  
 the sick & wounded on the

Boats to be shipped to  
Washington 10 P. M and  
our Cavalry has as yet  
not arrived.

June 15<sup>th</sup> Very fine and  
pleasant looks as if we were  
going to have a very hot  
day nothing new transpired  
during the day.

June 16<sup>th</sup> very hot Cavalry  
has not yet arrived. Rumors  
that some guerrillas are in  
our neighborhood operating.  
Some of our Cattle Guard  
went out about  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile to  
guard their cattle & were sur-  
prised by a party of guerrillas  
& captured. While one of the  
men were awaiting the orders  
of the guerrillas one of the

man guerrilla picked up his  
gun and shot the man in  
the shoulder which caused  
the bone to be shattered &  
caused an amputation.

A party of our Cavalry was  
sent in pursuit but returned  
without success. This afternoon  
had a race in which I rode  
my Black mare for \$100 in  
 $\frac{1}{2}$  mile Trot in which I

came out victorious making  
the half mile 1 minute &  
23 seconds and quite a  
jumble and made another  
match with Capt. Hale to  
trot my mare for  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile  
for \$300. \$50 percent money  
put up but after talking &c.  
I sold my mare & colt to

Capt. M. F. Seale C.S. that  
squashed the race as he  
would not run or bet  
against his own property  
that closed the sport for  
the day.

June 17<sup>th</sup> Very hot and  
close still at the white house,  
awaiting our Cavalry. 11 1/2 P.M.  
& no signs of them.

June 18<sup>th</sup> Very hot but a  
small breeze from the river  
continues to sweep along.

Heavy Cannonading is heard  
in the direction of the James  
river. The Cavalry has not  
arrived.

June 19<sup>th</sup> Very hot & close  
went out for a morning's ride  
and trailed my Bay horse

For a gold magic case  
match with the Veterinary Surgeon  
of the 13<sup>th</sup> Ohio Cavalry. Just  
received word that our

Cavalry was within 18 miles  
of us at a place called  
Bentley's Bridge received  
orders to send forage and  
rations to the Command.

June 20<sup>th</sup> I was awake  
by the unpleasant noise of  
gun shell & shot. bursting  
in the vicinity of my tent  
got out of Bed but in  
my slippers took a dash  
got on my horse & took  
my morning's ride and  
survey the fighting grounds.  
I had but a little more  
to go not more than

200 yards before I ran  
 on the skirmish line &  
 to my astonishment I  
 saw any amount of Rebel  
 on the hills opposite as  
 skirmishing was going on  
 very lively and we let them  
 have a shell once in a while  
 finely. I thought things looked  
 kind of surly as I went to  
 my quarters had Breakfast  
 & ordered all my trains to  
 hook up & be ready in case  
 of emergency just as I fairly  
 got through with Breakfast I  
 was politely notified to move  
 my habitation to another situ-  
 ation by a special messenger  
 from the Johnny Rebs in the  
 shape of a shell & much more.

We finally got all our trains  
 started to cross the river at  
 the white house which was  
 our only way to go as there  
 was a bridge across which  
 extended  $3\frac{1}{4}$  mile. There  
 was a grand rush made  
 for the bridge as then the  
 enemy shell were bursting  
 thick & fast in all directions  
 amongst our trains. Some  
 of the nigger drivers would  
 leave their teams & the animals  
 would get frightened & run all  
 over the fields. We finally got  
 them all in order. I took my  
 position at the head of the  
 train, clearing out the  
 led horses so that they  
 would not interfere with

The morning of the train  
 when I arrived at the  
 Bridge I was detailed to  
 take charge of the 1<sup>st</sup> Cavalry  
 Division train & take it over  
 the Bridge Park it which  
 I did all this time the  
 firing was constantly kept  
 up & we gave them fits  
 as our gun Boats that  
 were lying in the river by  
 the bridge did great ex-  
 ecution we had but a few  
 wounded there loss must of  
 greatly exceeded ours at  
 about 5 P.M. our Cavalry  
 arrived & reinforced us.  
 But there seemed but little  
 firing when the Rebels  
 found out the Cavalry was here

And it seemed as if the  
 enemy were sneaking  
 away as up to 11 P.M.  
 there was no firing to be  
 heard

June 21<sup>st</sup> got up at 4  
 A.M. firing was heard on  
 our right it was supposed  
 that General Gregg was after  
 them. The whole of our  
 Cavalry Division had by  
 this time arrived here  
 (at the White House) except  
 my Regt. (4<sup>th</sup> regt. only)  
 which was left at Duck Creek  
 Bridge to guard the ponton  
 train and just received  
 the unfavorable news that  
 my regiment had suffered  
 very much especially

in Officers. Lieut C.S. Woods  
killed Lieut Oliver, Capt  
Phillips was wounded and  
Capt Scull had his leg  
amputated and left in  
the hands of the enemy.  
our regiment lost in  
all (killed wounded &  
missing) Six Officers &  
73 men. An orderley  
had just arrived & told  
me that my regiment had  
arrived & encamped a  $\frac{1}{2}$   
mile from here & proceeded  
at once to their camp but  
had no sooner arrived  
when they received orders to  
move at once across the  
river & lost no time in  
sending forage with them

and ordered my forges  
& Blacksmiths to shoot all  
the horses up as well as  
possible & then crossed  
the river with Lieut White  
& we had supper & then re-  
turned to our quarters. On  
June 23<sup>rd</sup> Col De la Roche  
had sent for me at 5 a.m.  
& told me to stop with the  
command as my services  
were required as he was  
short of some officers &  
in case of a battle I  
should take command  
of some company. I  
returned to my train  
had a mule packed with  
the necessary articles &  
crossed the river to join

The Command too my  
 surprise the Command had  
 started & were some days  
 in advance but I over  
 took them after marching  
 about 4 miles. We procured  
 & crossed a small stream  
 where we had to repair the  
 bridge & then we crossed the  
 Chickahominy river & stopped  
 to rest the men & animals  
 at Sturbridge Estate. The  
 Enemy was said to be close  
 in our front & we were  
 also waiting here in support  
 of the advance guard at  
 7 P.M. we encamped  
 in a field to the night  
 & encamped for the  
 night

June 23<sup>rd</sup> I got up at  
 6 a.m. very fine it  
 seemed as if we were  
 going to have ~~some~~ a  
 very hot day. we are  
 still encamped awaiting  
 the arrival of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Cav  
 Div & the wagon train as  
 our Bug is ordered to  
 cover the rear for to day  
 our wagon train has  
 arrived and is within  
 a mile of our camp we  
 are just partaking of  
 our dinner when we  
 are disturbed by the  
 unnatural noise of heavy  
 cannonading which appears  
 to be quite near to us  
 I found it to be quite

near five before I could finish my meal I was compelled to move my habitation to another situation by the appearance of messengers in the shape of shot & shell which came rather thick & heavy. Killing a horse within ten feet of me. The regt immediately got into the woods & placed themselves in position & I was placed in charge of all the horses belonging to the Command. The shells are coming thick & fast & some of the horses are unmanageable. The Command bringing wounded I have established a hospital

close by, & they are bringing wounded men from the 4th & 6th. McCauley also some of the Colored troops. The firing is at present ceased and we are waiting for the Rebels to come up. The 2nd Cav. Div has just arrived for our support. I have succeeded in obtaining grain for the Regt also ordered the Head Quarter wagon with the forges to come up to the Regt. But the Regt is still in the woods waiting for the Rebels. 7 P. M. Just recd orders from the Col that the Regt were ordered on picket & that the horses

were all to be sent to  
 from the Command on  
 picket which was some  
 3 miles from here. I  
 arrived to the Regt. with  
 the horses about 8 P.M.  
 the Col was just placing  
 his pickets after he came in  
 we had supper & then retired  
 with nothing but heaven for  
 a cover had to keep our  
 horses saddled during the  
 night for fear of an alarm  
 as the Rebel pickets were  
 only a short distance from  
 us.

June 24<sup>th</sup> I arose at  
 5 a.m. nothing had occu-  
 red of consequence during  
 the night except that

a scouting party went out  
 on a reconnoissance & brought  
 in a Rebel prisoner. The  
 Col went out to visit his  
 line of pickets and I  
 accompanied him we  
 went about 2 miles out  
 side of our line but had  
 discovered nothing we then  
 returned to camp where  
 we Recd orders to with draw  
 our pickets & get ready  
 for to march. our Regt  
 acted as rear guard for  
 the whole army. Genl  
 Gregg's Div was fighting  
 very hard in our flank  
 and was whipped very  
 badly our Column marched  
 on untill we arrived

some 3 miles from Charles City Court house situated near the James River we got there about 11 P.M. Lieut White & myself were completely plaid out so that we fell asleep while eating our supper we had no sooner got asleep when Boots & saddles sounded consequently the regiment moved on but White and myself were so fatigued that we could not go in with them so we stopped on the spot where the Regt. had left us untill the next morning at 3. a.m.

June 25<sup>th</sup> got. up at 3. a.m. not a Solatary one around us began to get a little scared as it was dangerous to be outside of the lines and I was no doubt we were. I however woke up all the boys that I had with me and we started to find the Regt. it was pitch dark and we could not even see which way we were going I finally ran over a mile which was in the road and to my astonishment it happened to be our pack train I then felt relieved as was moment I thought we would run into the

Enemy picket. & then we  
 would be a case White &  
 myself left the pack train  
 & started out in pursuit  
 of the left which was said  
 to be some 3 miles in  
 advance on the skirmish  
 line. I rode up to the  
 Col and Enquired if any  
 thing was wanted. Other  
 returned to the wagon train  
 & sent him something to  
 eat which he was very  
 much in need of. Lieut  
 White & myself then rode  
 ordered our mule unpacked  
 and we sat down had a  
 good Breakfast. good wash  
 filled a pipe full of tobacco  
 got on our horses and

started for the Command  
 again we found the Com-  
 mand on the march to  
 James River our Regt had  
 the advance and we  
 Camped at 3 P.M. 4 miles  
 from the river was very  
 dusty. had a good wash  
 something to eat. and  
 then laid down to rest  
 for the remainder of the  
 night

June 26<sup>th</sup> Very pleasant  
 but Hot I received several  
 letters and occupied the  
 most of the day in ans-  
 wering to the same  
 still in camp by the river  
 the name is Milsons Landing  
 on the James river

June 27. Still encamped at Wilsons Landing under the impression that we are to cross in ferry boat as quick as they arise nothing of importance to day.

June 28<sup>th</sup> Still in camp enjoying a few days rest expect to cross the river to day and are awaiting our return at the landing succeeded in crossing at 7 P.M. on the Steamer Dictator we ordered a fine supper on board the boat which was one of the best we had enjoyed for some time as quick as we landed on the other side I proceeded up the road & found

my train in charge of Capt Sargent who was not well & stopped with the train also found our Sutter who had just arrived from Washington with a cargo of goods I waited for my train untill the whole Regt came along & then went with them in camp about 2 miles from the landing.

June 29<sup>th</sup> Very fine & pleasant expect to stay here for some days but have heard privately that we were going to move ~~now~~ to day am now busy getting some papers signed by the company

Commanders have Recd  
 orders to drive. Clothing  
 I obtained the clothing &  
 just as I was agreeing to  
 view it order came to  
 move at once had all  
 my wagons packed &  
 ready when Genl Devins  
 Commanding our Brig  
 came to me and said  
 I would have to go back  
 and join the main wagon  
 train and assist in bring-  
 ing it along I started off  
 for the train and was  
 very sorry that I had to  
 go back to the rear but  
 they did not desire much  
 benefit from me for as  
 quick as the train

commenced moving  
 Lind White & myself and  
 orderlies and our pack  
 horses went on untill  
 we got at the head of the  
 entire train had coffee  
 made & then laid down  
 to sleep at about 1/2 P.M.  
 several firing of both  
 Muskets & Cannon was  
 distinctly heard. we  
 however did not let this  
 interfere with our sleep  
 as we knew there were  
 plenty of troops around  
 us.

June 30th after sleeping  
 under a tree all night in  
 the open air. we got up  
 at about 4 A.M.

had breakfast made  
in the shape of Coffee and  
hard tack and are awaiting  
the arrival of our train.  
then we will proceed.  
The train arrived at 5 P.M.  
We went on untill we  
came within 3 miles of  
City Point where we en-  
camped our Cavalry started  
on another raid. Genl  
Wilson was out on a raid  
and was surrounded by  
the Enemy in which he  
lost all his artillery and  
a great many men our  
Division had gone to his  
assistance. We are still  
with the train our Sutter is with  
us. & we do not want for  
any thing.

July 1<sup>st</sup> Very hot nothing new  
no tidings from the Command  
we are still Encamped  
near City Point. I just  
received orders to take charge  
of the Cavalry Corps. train loaded  
with supplies & proceed with  
the same to the front and  
deliver it to the Cavalry.  
Started at 4 P.M. marched  
untill night when I got  
to Prince George A.H. started  
on again marching.  
July 2<sup>nd</sup> After marching  
all night I arrived to  
the Command at daylight  
I issued rations & forage  
to the troops & then the  
Cavalry & train started for the  
Camp in the direction of

Prince George C. & James.

River we arrived at  
Camp about 9 P.M.

I was so fatigued that  
I could hardly stand  
on my feet & laid  
myself right down in  
the grass and went to  
sleep.

July 3<sup>rd</sup> raphael St. White  
and my self rowed down  
to City Point to get a few  
things for our selves in  
that shape of luxuries we  
saw Genl Grant's ride  
about there without even  
an orderly. We went to  
a restaurant had dinner  
then returned to Camp.

Which was about 6 miles

on our way we stopped  
in at Capt Brewster C.S.  
where we had a few drinks  
and he made a bet of  
\$25.00 with me that Pe-  
tersburg would be taken  
by the 14<sup>th</sup> of July I took  
the bet and we put the  
money up in Capt. Thompson  
hands standb for Camp &  
got there at 4 P.M. to-  
morrow evening went down  
to the river & had a bath  
then retired for the night  
July 4<sup>th</sup> Heavy firing  
was heard in the direction  
of Petersburg the Ships in  
the river had their flags  
all flying and it looked  
very pleasant.

Sicut White & myself from  
the remainder of the day  
in drinking lemonade  
and enjoying ourselves  
in general as well as  
cigar smoke could  
permit.

July 5<sup>th</sup> no change in the  
weather breakfasted very  
late procured newspapers  
of the 3<sup>rd</sup> inst found that  
gold was quoted at 205  
+ 250. issued 2 days fringe  
to the Commandant and  
then had a few games  
of cards such as  
cribbage & whist and  
spent the remainder of  
the evening in playing  
+ a domino.

July 6<sup>th</sup> cool but pleasant  
very commanding view  
heard during the night  
in front of Petersburg  
which continued for  
some time the heat of  
the day is immense we  
laid down by the river  
+ had a cool off & then  
retired.

July 7<sup>th</sup> no change in the  
weather except very dusty  
was laying in the woods  
most of the day heard  
of the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 6<sup>th</sup> Corps  
being shipped to Harper's  
 ferry heard of the dis-  
tribution of the private  
steamer Alabama Capt  
Semmes had a little trouble

Went down to the river  
which had a bath. Came  
to camp and was dis-  
appointed at not receiv-  
ing any letter. Played a  
few games of cards &  
then retired.

July 8<sup>th</sup> The little shower  
of yesterday had tended  
to make the day even.

Later than usual. The  
sun burned down at  
a fearful rate. Played  
Crabage with white head  
sawed. Just received the  
news that Genl Banks  
had made a junction  
with Grant forming  
in the left of the  
army.

July 9<sup>th</sup> Delightful! Had  
the monthly steam to be  
favorable received some  
newspapers they detailed  
the progress of the Rebel  
raid into Maryland under  
Genl Early nothing new  
except the roaring of  
heavy cannon in front  
of Westminster.

July 10<sup>th</sup> Very hot. Busy sup-  
plying the command with  
clothing &c. also hard at work  
in making up my monthly  
papers just heard through the  
papers that the Rebels were  
retreating from Maryland  
nothing new still to Eucamp  
at our old business  
doing nothing.

July 11<sup>th</sup> Very fine and  
 pleasant. We have just  
 received orders from  
 blessed with a little  
 rain and I hope it  
 will continue for a while  
 as we are greatly in  
 want of it to keep the  
 dust down. I have just  
 received an order to ac-  
 company the Command  
 on picket to tomorrow.  
 July 12<sup>th</sup> After raining  
 all night it has cleared  
 off and we have fine  
 weather again. Had  
 breakfast & are getting  
 ready to start with the  
 regiment on picket. I  
 have ordered 3 days

Rations of both forage &  
 subsistence to be taken  
 along we started 7 1/2 to  
 9 A.M. the heat of the  
 sun was tremendous  
 we arrived to our  
 destination, Paines Forge  
 Co. Pa. at 11 P.M. we  
 found a very pleasant  
 house there which we  
 occupied as our head  
 quarters. The house was  
 surrounded with a  
 beautiful piazza and  
 also had an ice house  
 well filled of which we  
 made good use of. We  
 retired at 10 P.M. the  
 constant roar of musketry  
 continuing which was  
 very near us

June 13<sup>th</sup> I arose at 4 a.m.  
 very hot & clear not a particle of air felt a little swell. The colonel then got up and we had breakfast. He told me that I had better return to the wagon train as this was no place for me. The surgeons and I then started back for the train we got there at 8 1/2 a.m. & found every thing all right. I started to work on my monthly papers to send to Dr. M. Genl. The Assistant Surgeon does not allow me to work much so I will have to stop my task and lay off

untill the sun goes down. Since white & I then thought we would amuse ourselves the best we could so we took our instruments (Violin & guitar) and had a few tunings & then retired.  
 June 14<sup>th</sup> Very hot and close went over to Big Lead granites to see if the Amund was coming to camp to day I was informed that they would not be relieved to day so I sent them one days rations of grain & they then transacted some private business for Col. Canola which occupied some

few hours passed the remainder of the day in doing nothing except playing cribbage with Lt. White just received to change camp but I can do nothing untill the Col arrived with the Regiment.

June 15<sup>th</sup> Cool and pleasant. It seems as if we are a-going to have a hot day. The regiment is expected momentarily. It arrived at 10 a.m. and we are getting ready to change camp which is only a  $\frac{1}{2}$  mile from our last camp. The Col sent me a lot of new planks which

I took along in our new camp. which we consumed by flooring our tents. White and myself had selected very fine quarters in fact we had the best that were in camp it was 6 P.M. before we had our tents floored & every thing all right. We were very fatigued & retired early.

June 16<sup>th</sup> very Cool & pleasant. I was awoken by an orderlies from H<sup>d</sup>. Qrs who informed me to report in person to the Col immediately. I saw the Col & was informed that I would

have to remove my  
 department went back  
 to my quarters had Breakfast  
 and ordered every  
 thing packed by to them  
 was very ill humored  
 and was damning most  
 every body as I had  
 such comfortable quarters  
 & had to leave them  
 but orders must be obeyed  
 so I gave the order to  
 strike our tents and  
 just as we were taking  
 it down and ordering  
 come and informed me  
 that the Col & Staff would  
 remain in camp we  
 immediately set things  
 to right again gave

three cheers and was  
 very happy that we were  
 allowed to stay in our  
 comfortable quarters  
 set down for a game  
 of cribbage in the  
 afternoon I went  
 down to the Col's quarters  
 and read the newspaper  
 for him as he was  
 unwell went back to  
 my quarters had  
 supper played a  
 few games of Cards  
 with Lieut White and  
 then went down  
 to the Colonel's tent  
 and spent the  
 remainder of the  
 evening with him

June 14<sup>th</sup> my cool had  
 a fine Breakfast played  
 a few games of cribbage  
 with white about then  
 went down to see the  
 Col. Dr. about 8 1/2 A.M.  
 the Dr. & myself started  
 for city point he for  
 the purpose of obtaining  
 a sanitary stores and Dr.  
 for business connected  
 with my department  
 returned to Camp at 1 A.M.  
 just in time for dinner  
 with the Col. spent a  
 few hours with him  
 and then went back  
 to my quarters & done  
 some writing. I am  
 just going to take

a good wash and  
 change my clothes and  
 afterwards take a ride  
 down to the river got  
 back from the river at  
 7 P.M. played a few  
 games of cards. some  
 music & then retired  
 July 18<sup>th</sup> Carl but  
 Jellacut got up at 4 P.M.  
 had breakfast & then  
 took a ride down to  
 the river to get some  
 vegetables for the men &  
 also see Capt. Tallman  
 Chief of M. in business  
 stayed there over an  
 hour assisting to empty  
 8 Bottles of Champagne  
 on my way to Camp

Stopped in at Capt  
Thompson's U.S. of drinking  
and had a few cups of  
milk. punch he also  
gave me \$50.00. which  
was entitled to for a  
bet which I ran from  
Capt Brewster that was  
about Petersburg being  
taken by the U.S. of this  
month. They started  
for Camp had dinner  
and then went down  
to see the Col and  
passed the afternoon  
with him in arguing  
several cases about  
G.P.M. we received  
word that Major Schmat  
was at City point

and had just arrived from  
Washington I sent a  
horse to the landing  
after him he got  
to Camp at 7 P.M. We  
did not bring much  
of any news with him  
Conversed with him  
about an hour & then  
returned to my quarters  
& retired

July 19<sup>th</sup> It was raining  
all night and continued  
as at present just  
what we want to lay  
the dust but the flaps  
keep coming into our  
tent & bother us which  
is very uncomfortable  
as they bite very severely

5 P.M. and the rain  
 continues I spent the  
 first part of the afternoon  
 with Major Schmitt and  
 a friend of his also  
 a captain of our Regt  
 We had quite a time  
 It while played the  
 violin & I played the  
 guitar in Regt this  
 up untill 3 P.M. &  
 then went down to the  
 Col with my guitar &  
 spent the remainder  
 of the afternoon with  
 him. then returned to  
 my quarters had my  
 Carpenter put up a  
 Bar for the purpose  
 of gymnastic exercises

took all the men of  
 my department and  
 organized them into  
 a school. my hands &  
 fingers got full of  
 blisters from exercising  
 on the bar as it was  
 not very smooth.  
 our Regt. has as yet  
 not come in from picket  
 but is expected momen-  
 tarily. very heavy firing  
 is heard in the direction  
 of the front I have  
 just given the order  
 to have a fine supper  
 made consisting of  
 corned beef & cabbage  
 pickled Beets Cucumbers  
 fine apple Butter & some  
 few other luxuries

July 20<sup>th</sup> Very Cool &  
pleasant. Lt. Cairn &  
myself started at 8 am  
for City Point where they  
got a few things from  
the Sanitary Commission  
& purchased some fresh  
vegetables & other luxuries  
then returned to Camp  
about 4 P. M. The Regt  
had arrived in Camp  
from pickets. I ordered  
two days rations issued  
to them spent the  
remainder of the day  
in playing cards  
& making moccasins  
Lt. White &  
then returned.

July 21<sup>st</sup> Cool & pleasant  
The adjutant has started  
for Washington & gave  
him a small commission  
to transact for me  
nothing new from the  
front except the con-  
tinues of Cairn and  
musketry. an order  
was sent around to  
the officers of my  
Regt. inviting them  
to attend a presentation  
of a horse & set of  
equipments to our  
Brig Command. Brig.  
Brig. Genl. T. G. Devine  
I waited for Col. Canale  
& then we went over  
together & stopped there

untill 8 P.M. returned  
to camp and had  
supper. I was sud-  
denly taken ill  
and went to bed was  
all in a paliperation  
but soon recovered.

July 22<sup>nd</sup>. Cool & pleasant  
received orders to appear  
at Brigade inspection at  
3 P.M. on the staff of  
the Col & act as right  
Gul guide. I had  
some business to attend  
to at Light horse point  
ordered my ambulance  
hitched up with my two  
gray horses & then Mr.  
White, Lamm & myself  
started. we stopped

to see Capt Thompson  
C.S. and stayed there  
some two hours attended  
to my business & then  
returned to camp  
afterwards got ready  
for the parade after  
the parade we went  
over to a house near  
by & amused our selves  
the little white then  
returned to camp  
had our horses saddled  
& rode down to Light  
horse point purchased  
a few articles & then  
returned to camp where  
we amused ourselves  
with our music &  
then retired.

July 23<sup>d</sup> Very cool  
but pleasant the first  
in June has been  
rather quiet to day  
and the greater part of  
the night received  
orders to attend dress  
parade in the after  
noon Lt. White &  
myself had set our  
minds to have a little  
fun as we went to  
the Commissary for  
10 gallons of whiskey  
I attended dress parade  
and after wards invited  
all the officers to my  
quarters to attend  
Graded Jubilee the house  
designated for meeting

was. 6 P.M. the officers  
were all on hand except  
the Col. which  
I waited upon and  
escorted him to my  
quarters. having a  
quorum I opened  
the meeting explaining  
the object of the meeting  
namely that Lt. White &  
myself were going  
to celebrate our Birth  
days as perhaps when  
they really came we  
might perhaps be here  
at work fighting the  
Rebels so we concluded  
to celebrate the same  
this evening. The further  
object of the meeting was

to have some musical  
 Entertainment, such as  
 singing dancing & let  
 add Amusing Jests  
 in general. The Col. left  
 his quarters at 10 P.M.  
 as he was some what tired  
 as quick as he was gone.  
 Then the fun commenced.  
 He kept on drinking till  
 some of us he  
 coming slightly inebriated  
 he kept it up untill 3 in  
 the morning when we re-  
 ceived a call from Capt  
 Blewett who was as tight as  
 he and he had a few words  
 to our health. & then  
 we all retired to our  
 virtuous Anchors.