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Cmdg. Co. C

FRIDAY, January 1<sup>st</sup>, \*1864

Arose early in the morning in excellent spirits-prepared to enjoy the day. After breakfast received notice that Col Barton requested the officers to call on him. Accordingly, we went and after spending a pleasant hour with him he took me to Genl Seymour's quarters. Afterwards call on Liet Farley. Col Strickland returned from Ct. Augustine this morning and accompanied the officers in their calls. Met Genl Aiken, brother of John Aiken, and their Quartermaster, Genl of Connecticut. Have spent the day merrily. Got pretty nearly intoxicated and am afraid I compromised my character somewhat by my actions when at the table in the 47<sup>th</sup> camp. The table there was bountifully spread and the dining Hall elegant. The camp itself was laid out in beautiful taste. The day has been bitter cold and would have been uncomfortable had there been time to have noticed it.

MONDAY, January 11<sup>th</sup>, \*1864

A mild day. Attend Court as usual and busy all day long with the case of a negro sergeant who has a good counsel in Liet [Presith?] of the 47<sup>th</sup> NYSV. The case is somewhat intricate and tedious although the guilt of the accused seems apparent. The *Arapo* arrived this morning bringing a very interesting letter from EBM and one or two others which require immediate attention. Dates of the 7<sup>th</sup> arrived in the mail which have such interesting matter although of a general character. Nothing is being done in any department of the army and it is probable that there [sic] [it] will be quiet until spring. Evening spent in Quarters reading and writing until a late hour.

TUESDAY, January 12<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A wet uncomfortable day. Compelled to attend court as usual. The case of the negro sergeant was continued and the witnesses have been all examined at 11 o'clock AM. We gave the accused or [*MS illegible*] the council for the accused until 3 PM to prepare the written defence [sic]. At three we reassembled and listened to the defence [sic] which was very ably prepared considering the time allowed in its preparation. Settled our noon case before we adjourned. Evening cribbage at the CO's Quarters. Afterwards, an hour in Elfwings tent over the matter of Robinson, who appears to have attempted to defraud some of his men.-Retire late.

WEDNESDAY, January 13<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A dull unpleasant day. It seems too bad that we should be compelled to walk to the court during bad weather. Do not return to camp for dinner. At noon call at Col. Barton's headquarters but do not succeed in finding him in. Met Adjutant Hale, the Purser of the *Cosmopolitan*, and several other officers who seemed disposed to be merry. Settled quite a number of short cases during the day-four in all-Have suffered quite considerably from two boils, one on my neck and another on my hand. They are very painful and threaten to confine me within doors. Evening as usual writing, reading. &C. wrote several letters for the *Arapo* which will leave on Friday. Have pretty nearly cleaned up my correspondence.

THURSDAY, January 14<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A bright cheerful morning. The cleanest and mildest of the season like the early days of summer North. My condition kept me awake last night and I do not feel well this morning. Shall not sit all day in court. Evening. I have been in my tent all the afternoon. O'Rourke came this evening and has fixed me up, so that I think after a time I will find relief. He is a careful, clever, sensible man whom I like to have about. Saw Col. Barton this forenoon but the interview was not at all satisfactory. Have learned several things today which do not please me. My chance of going home with the veterans is considerably lessened. Lockwood expects to go. Finish several letters including one for E.B.M. for the morning's mail.

FRIDAY, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Have spent a restless night and am quite unfit for any duty today. O'Rourke, my old man, is now my doctor and comes in two or three times during the day to look after my babies as he calls them. The poultice that he has used seems to do me good and I hope and expect that I may be rid of any [?] in a day or two. Otherwise than from my boils, I have suffered illness and I hope by remaining indoors for a day or two to recover my health. It becomes somewhat uncertain whether I shall be able to get home with the furloughed men but I am very hopeful as well as very anxious. Nothing new to chronicle. The news of the wreck of the *Fulton* seems to be confirmed. I hope it may not prove true.

SATURDAY, January 16<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The week has passed and now that Saturday night has come. [Tatt?] is beaten and I'm ready to retire. Have felt somewhat better today than for some days previous and I'm hoping to be fully relieved of my [fester?] tomorrow. I do not feel guilt [sic] well yet and must continue my medicines but hope that I shall suffer no more from boils. Have been in my tent all the day reading. This week Capt. Elfwing joined our mess and I have secured Andrew Griffin reenlistment. Col. Barton was in camp this morning and called the officers together to talk about reenlistments. The Major said this evening that it was probable that I should be able to get home with the men and I feel encouraged.

SUNDAY, January 17<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A clear, mild, bright beautiful morning. As usual my warm bath after which witness the inspection and drill of the cavalry companies. Very interesting as well as novel, for I have never before seen a cavalry drill. Inspection as usual and the forenoon is consumed with little accomplished. Afternoon the same. So that the day passes with scarcely any result to show for the time. Talk with Ingraham about going home and got quite excited in the matter for it seems now quite near. This evening which I intended to devote to work has been also for nothing. The last hour with Capt. Effwing who as usual is very interesting in conversation. Andenon the Swede was in the tent and helps amuse the hour. He seems a very nice young man and I hope he will get a position now.

MONDAY, January 18<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A mild pleasant day. Afternoon up in good season to be able to attend court which I am able to do today for the first time during a week! An old case before the court to be disposed of and then the case of Sweeney comes up. He objects to me and the Court gives him until next morning to procure Counsel. Go to Camp and find plenty to occupy the time during the day and evening in getting ready the Rolls for muster. I am hurrying as fast as possible to get everything ready to go North in the course of the week at the farthest. Up late. Feel considerably better since my boils dried up. My system is in better order than for some time. Retire late.

TUESDAY, January 19<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A beautiful day. Clear as possible. Got my company ready for inspection and Lindsey ready for work before I go to Court. A new Court appointed or rather the old Court reappointed by Seymour. Too late to get on the case of Sweeney and am very glad. Back at camp after transacting some business and the whole day has been spent in getting ready my rolls which are now nearly completed. The Regt was inspected today by Capt. Lockwood and my company was one of the best. Several officers were called out to drill the battalion and all were found wanting. The *Fulton* came in this evening and we may expect our letters tomorrow morning. Am getting everything ready to go North and shall turn over my property.

WEDNESDAY, January 20<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A very pleasant day, one of the mildest of the season. At Court as usual. During the morning session a case was sent up for Genl Seymour's officer, which came on in this afternoon. Received a letter from E.B.M., very interesting. The case before the Court in the afternoon was novel in its character. A sailor tried for attacking his 2<sup>nd</sup> mate. It involves new questions to me and I have spent the time in Court in reading up points of law. Quite an animated discussion in Court over the case. The President is young and the members, some of them are very ignorant of the law, so that some of their discussions are of a singular character. Evening and all my leisure time in attending to the Rolls of my company. Several new reenlistments and still going on.

THURSDAY, January 21<sup>st</sup>, 1864

The weather continues very clear and pleasant and spring seems already with us. Very busy this morning, until time for the Court to assemble, and during all the intervals between the sessions. At night receive information that the Paymaster wishes the Rolls of the companies to prepare for the payment of the Veterans [Consipi?] there is much work to be done. The Major allows until ten o'clock in the evening for fresh reenlistments and during the evening several put down their names. Sit up till very late working on the Rolls and the aggregate of the reenlistment has reached the number of twenty. [Nine?] as I retire. Cprls Chapman and Rumsey both reenlisted late this evening. Must be up early to finish the work on the Rolls. At inspection today the company was the best in the Regt and received the most unqualified praise from Genl Seymour, who said the men were, without reaching, in the most perfect order. I feel very proud of them.

FRIDAY, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1864

Another bright, beautiful day. Really warm this afternoon so that in going to Court I perspired very freely. Have been very much occupied during the day. Several corrections had to be made on the Rolls and several more names added. The aggregate at closing of the Rolls is thirty one which is considerably above the average of the companies in the Regt. The whole number now reenlisted in the Regt is about 300 who will probably go home in the coming four or five days. My chances of going with them seems very good and I shall get all my property in good condition before I start. I hear that we will be paid in a day or two. Wrote Eb.M a short hurried letter.

SATURDAY, January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1864

Warm as early June at home and during the day I often think what a contrast there will be between this weather and that we shall endure North. The change will be very severely felt by all of us who have not seen snow for more than three years. However I have such confidence in my ability to bear the change that, I do not hesitate [enough?] my chance to go home-Everything is moving on triumphantly and there is little doubt [expressed?] that we shall go during next week and there seems little doubt that I shall be one of the officers to go. Col. Barton was in the camp this evening and thinks we shall go on Tuesday. The Mustering Officer is expected tomorrow and the papers are all ready. Do not feel well tonight on account of a severe cold. Retire late.

SUNDAY, January 24<sup>th</sup>, 1864

My usual warm bath and shave and I am somewhat prepared to spend the Sabbath in a Christian manner. The Mustering Officer will be here this morning. Luke Snider came in from Seabrook and I have added his name to the list of Veterans. Noon. My company has been mustered with the remaining companies of Veterans and we have now 290 new men in the new Regt. We expect many more. The matter of which officers was definitely settled today and my name heads the list after Col. Strickland. Capt. Dunbar's attempt at a cheer was ludicrous. Evening a sing at Lt. Wyckoff's tent. Not much music but it was a relief to join in with a party of men, tolerable singers. Retire late.

MONDAY, January 25<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The weather still continues very mild and pleasant. Morning at least. Wait until late in the forenoon before proceeding to any business. Witnesses not ready. Afternoon too late to sit with Court for which I am very glad for it gives me an opportunity of attending to several matters of my own sometime neglected. Take a small party of men from the company into the swamp along the entrenchments to cut a palmetto for I wish to take home a few canes. Succeed in securing one. Evening spent in my tent playing cards with Capt. [Imerdorf ?] and in drinking whiskey which I take in liberal quantities, hoping it will break up my cold. Return quite late quite boozy. Not satisfied with the manner my time has been spent lately. Hope to do better by and by –

TUESDAY, January 26<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Very mild and pleasant as for the past week. The weather is like the [sic] June at the North. Attend Court and finish one case. The men have sent me several cases and I have attended to considerable business. The Rolls were finished by the Mustering Officer this afternoon and sent to the Paymaster so that we may expect payment within two or three days – again have to record a day badly spent. Leisure not employed as it should have been. Am not improving much [f?g] today. Suffer a little from the effects of last night's drinking. The Col. prepared the furloughs and signed the request for the leaves of absences. And I feel quite confident that we should get away this week.

WEDNESDAY, January 27<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The weather still continues mild and pleasant although foggy in the morning. Busy in Court as usual over the case of the 6<sup>th</sup> Conn. robbery who have [extend?] the Court for a long time. Anxiously expecting the *Arapo* and our leaves of absences. Busy during all my leisure moments in preparing to leave for it is reasonable to suffice that we shall get away in a few days. Pay rolls progressing rapidly. Expect to be paid on Thursday or Friday. Witness the Brigade drill with Corporal Southard and was much interested. Evening busy. Late in returning on account of having been kept up by Captain Elfwing's arousing stories. He is an exceedingly, interesting man and has had a long and varied experience throughout the world.

THURSDAY, January 28<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The weather still continues very clear and pleasant. The first subject occupying my attention, as well as that of others, is when and how we are going home and all the [a?] time is spent in making preparation for that great event. Attend Court as usual. Ascertain in the afternoon that we are going on the *Atlantic* which arrived this morning. The order was received from Headquarters in the afternoon and ten officers are allowed to go. The Colonel and Lockwood, and myself are among the number and will try and enjoy a few hours together on our arrival in New York. Even the Rolls are signed by the men and we shall be paid tomorrow probably – received four [merits?] with the company.

FRIDAY, January 29<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Busy as bee all day long. That intolerable Court and most intolerable feature, the trial of the 6<sup>th</sup> Conn. Robbery, still occupies our time and attention. Now that it is settled, that I am going home I feel rather anxious to get away. Learned this noon that the men must take their arms and equipment. Am sorry but cannot help it. The men would prefer to go without them but after all they will present a much better appearance with, than without them. Mail distributed this morning. Letter from EBM, Mother and Swartwout. Hope to see Walter at home as he is there on furlough. Have made out and signed my Return which I shall send in tomorrow. My company paid this evening. The others to be paid tomorrow. My papers are now ready so that I can go feeling relieved.

SATURDAY, January 30<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A delightful day notwithstanding the [predicament?] of Capt. Effwing's wound. Extremely busy in preparation for the start. The Court adjourned early and I have had the rest of the day to my own work. The lost Ducks [c?] transferred to this Regt today and I received fifteen very good men. Men paid off this afternoon, and the officers this evening, so that gave me sufficient to carry me through the trip. Late tonight after all preparations had been made we received orders not to take our gun and equipment. Some of Genl Seymour's small work with perhaps a little assistance from Barton. Take a warm bath and retired late. Everything is done and met some interesting men among the Lost Ducks.

SUNDAY, January 31<sup>st</sup>, 1864

Up early today for I have much to do. See that my things are nicely packed and that the company and all ready. Get the material for veterans stripes and distribute to the company. Left camp at 10 A.M. The Brigade escorted us to the steamer while Col. Howell's Brigade escorted their veterans. I cannot describe my feelings on board the steamer. Hope and doubt run counter in my mind. Keeping up a continual excitement for I fear lest the Genl who detains the steamer on account of his mail may choose to order us back. The day passes and night comes on and we all fear that we cannot get away until tomorrow. This evening however. after the sun had set. a tug came along side and pilots us out. So that at nine P.M. we have crossed the bar and are on our way for New York rejoicing.

MONDAY, February 1, 1864

The day breaks fair and warm. We had expected to experience a change in the weather but it seems to be warmer now than when we left. I hope this is owing to the effect of the Gulf Stream. After breakfast had smoke, talking and talk again. So the day passes. We have been making very good progress during the day and I think we may get into New York early on Wednesday. Spent the evening in playing cards [with] Mr. Edwards of the Coast Survey, Major Walburg and several other officers and civilians on board whom I know. So that the time passes quite pleasantly.

TUESDAY, February 2d, 1864

Roused early for I must act as Officer of the Day. Feel very thankful that my turn comes so early in the day for my time will expire this noon. Forenoon, attend to the very few and unimportant duties. Among other matters I stopped the gambling on board. The private – from the Regular and some from the 47<sup>th</sup>, knowing that our men have money and [are] anxious to relieve them. Drove them all out of our Quarters. There is so good a prospect of our getting into New York tomorrow that I have [sic] [am] afraid to forfeit to Lockwood a bottle of champagne, if we do not pass Governor Island before noon, while he forfeits to me the same if we do.

WEDNESDAY, February 3d, 1864

Up early on deck to find that we have already entered the harbor and shall probably be at the dock by daylight. Fairly landed before 8 oclck. Men of the company I took to the Hotel and got them their breakfast. We have been but fifty four hours from the bar at Hilton Head to the bar at New York. March down Broadway, cross the ferry and up Fulton St. Brooklyn, before the people knew who we were. Filled in the furloughs at Col. Strickland's office when we met a clergyman who invited the officers out to partake of an oyster dinner at his expense, which we accepted. Saw the men all paid before night. Spent the evening with Lockwood and Swartwout until late.

THURSDAY, February 4<sup>th</sup>, 1864

In the morning go down to South Brooklyn and see Wakefield's wife, whom I deliver the twenty dollars entrusted to me. See Charles in the morning, and afternoon go down to Staten Island and see E.B.M. By appointment made a Hilton Head, several of the officers Col. Strickland, Capt. Lockwood Capt. Swartwout and myself meet at Delmonico's for a nourishing supper. Adjourn at 8 oclck to the Academy of Music and hear Faust by Gounod. After which the remainder of the party start off for a good [sp?]. I have had little sleep for some nights and feel like returning to my Hotel. Retired late as usual. Have been a little irregular since my return, must change.

FRIDAY, February 5<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Attend to a few unimportant matters in the forenoon and in the afternoon. Go to Staten Island by appointment. Spend the afternoon with EBM. Ride with her about the island. Saw the first snow for three years. The country is bare, however, and looks a month later in the season. Enjoy the ride very much but the conversation which occurred just before reaching the house caused me a great deal of [uneasiness?]. Spent the evening with the family and enjoy the time very much for Mr. and Mrs. Marsh are very affable. I am somewhat surprised. Long walk to South [Ferry?] Brooklyn to the Mansin home; very sad walk too.

SATURDAY, February 6<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A sad, sorrowful day. The conversation of yesterday afternoon causes me some anxiety than I ever experienced. Cannot shake off the feeling of unhappiness. E.B.M. is in New York and I do not know exactly when she will return to Staten Island. Deliver the letter containing seventy dollars from George Reed of my company to Mr. [Cottnell?] No 1 Birmingham St., New York. Got my clothes this afternoon and spend the time evening with Frank, Fannie & Minnie at the Academy. Philharmonic Concert pretty good. Met [Prentise?], Swartwout and Dr. Humphreys with whom I spent an hour or two after the concert. Saw Strickland & his two sisters. They occupied prominent positions in one of the Boxes.

SUNDAY, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Took my usual warm bath this morning. Went to Grace Church hoping to meet my friends but they were not there. Met Hilliard and Hutchinson but the meeting did not afford me any great pleasure. At Fulton Ferry met Mr. Wyman and Capt. Eaton whom I was very glad to see. He just completed the arrangements for taking his wife on board the steamer, *Atlantic* and is very happy. Leaves tomorrow morning. Afternoon with Mr. Dwyer's family to hear Dr. Elles who was very interesting. Evening at Fannie's with Mr. Jones singing Psalm tunes.

MONDAY, February 8<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Saw Charles early in the morning and looked over my account which seems quite satisfactory. Afterwards go to Canal St. and meet the friends who are going back to Hilton Head. Tantum goes with the Privates of the necessity party and Swartwout will follow soon, for he has his orders. Cannot shake off the feelings of sadness which oppress me. Call on Anderson and spend a hour or two with him very pleasantly. Afterwards call at 300 Fifth Avenue, but EBM has returned to Staten Island. Shall certainly go there tomorrow morning for I cannot endure the uncertainty which so oppresses me now. Must know certainly what is to become of me.

TUESDAY, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Spent the morning in looking up my account with Charles. With assistance of Mr. Wood calculate the amount to my credit about \$900. Just in season to take the noon boat for Staten Island. Spent the afternoon with EBM and arrived at a perfect understanding. Return to Brooklyn in the evening perfectly happy. Spend the evening at Mr. Dwyers and enjoy a long talk with Fannie. I feel much better to speak of Sunday matter for need and receive affectionate council. I have not had such occasion for thankfulness during my life as now and I feel very happy. On my way back from Staten Island concluded neither to smoke or drink unless when necessary.

WEDNESDAY, February 10<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning rise early and take the 9 oclck boat for Staten Island, as I am going home tonight. After returning from Staten Island spend the remainder of the day until 4 oclck in preparing to leave. Steamer, *Bay State*, the one I first crossed the sound in, some ten or twelve years ago. No one on board that I ever saw before, so that I had a very quiet evening reading a little and thinking a great deal. Am very happy with my thoughts now and have a new spring of action. The hour that I spent this morning in Staten Island I think the happiest of my life. I shall return to New York in the course of a week.

THURSDAY, February 11<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Woke up this morning too late for the first train. Felt very much vexed until I learned that I could not have reached Boston in season to take the first train. A good comfortable breakfast at my leisure and a long uninteresting conversation with a stranger on the train. In Boston in season to spend an hour in Barlett [Ston?] before going to Haverhill. Am reciting conversation with stranger gentleman in which I think he learned a lesson. A very pleasant greeting by home, friends. I spent the evening at Mr. Kelley's and learned some facts from David of a startling character. I do not get much disturbed by them.

FRIDAY, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Spend the morning in, looking over my things which I find in better order than I anticipated. All my books and papers have been well taken care of. In the afternoon do some writing and have a talk with friends. Evening at Mr. [Carleton's?]. Have seen but very few of my friends since I came home. Find every one busy. All seem to be making money and are apparently, regardless of the results of the war, and indeed can do little about it, for all seem to be making money out of it. The town is full of strangers.

SATURDAY, February 13<sup>th</sup>, 1864

In the morning after the usual duties take [g?] out to the [pl?] pond to fish for mackerel. It seems quite like old times to be enjoyed in such sports. No skating for which I am very sorry. Take Mary and Dickey to Amesbury. Uncle Steven well. Ruth pretty sick. Took cider and apples at Uncle John's as I have done a hundred times before. Back in season to spend the evening at the Merrill's, who are well. Feel very quiet and do not care to see people. Am well satisfied to think of those I have left in New York.

SUNDAY, February 14<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A mild, open day like all the time that I have spent North. I had hoped to see some sun but there is no prospect. Attend Church in the morning as in olden times and shake hands with everybody who seem glad to see me. The Church seems very pleasant and the congregation is large and prospering. Mr. Suley called in after dinner and was very cordial. Church in the afternoon and tea with Mrs. Suley. Mr. & Mrs. Suley are as enjoyable as always. Evening called on Julia Adams who is as pretty as ever. On my return to the house find that Ned Adams has called on me.

MONDAY, February 15<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The weather is becoming somewhat cooler. After spending the forenoon writing up my diary ~~and in writing EBM.~~ Started after dinner for Andover to see Dr. [Brise?]. Found the family at home and enjoyed the hour and some very much indeed. Dr. B, is well, is a licensed preacher and at the same time is doing business in New York which brings him a profit of such amount as secures him a good living. He is going to Europe with Hooker and another friend this spring. Has another little child. Hooker is in Havana. Went to Lawrence. Saw Major [Coan's?] brother who is a counterpart of the Major, in most aspects, apparently. Evening calling on friends.

TUESDAY, February 16<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The weather is mild and pleasant. Although it seems from appearances that we may have a storm soon. Spend the day arranging my books and papers. Can't get into the drawer which contains my private papers. The key is lost. Wrote up some matter we had for some time and have investigated the gas stock which is now selling for \$34, but is held by the capitalists of the town for a [wise?]. So that I shall not sell at present. Wrote EBM. Have not heard from her and I am afraid she will not write as she knows I shall return to New York soon. Shall leave here on Thursday morning but must return before we leave for the South.

WEDNESDAY, February 17<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Go to Boston on the 9-1/2 train. Must hear the organ before I return. Call on Mrs. William Howe at the Prescott home. She looks thin, bleached out, but is the same as ever. Very sorry that I could not hear her sing for she has a very fine voice. Call on Mrs. Bradford who is the same easy, enjoyable lady that she always was. Ned Adams was in his office and has not changed. Attend the Organ Concert in the afternoon. The orchestra as well as the organ was almost, if not perfect. The organ, though not played as I wish to hear it, was inexplicably sweet. The contrast between its heavy and lighter tones is astonishing. The whole performance afforded me very great enjoyment more than any others of the kind since my return. Mr. & Mrs. Proctor and Mr. Cogswell, Col. of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Mass. Evening at Jim R. & Ned Adams.

THURSDAY, February 18<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Start this morning at 7-1/2 from Boston to reach Portsmouth Grove this evening. In Providence about noon and have to remain several hours before starting for the Grove. Very dull although did I have any acquaintance with Miss Smith it would have been a good opportunity to call on her. Got to Portsmouth Grove in the evening about 7-1/2 o'clock. Walter was expecting me. Made arrangements to take him out to a farm house with me for the night. He looks very well, is very anxious to get out of the service but I fear there is little hope of his being successful in his efforts. He seems in all aspects well, and I think he has improved since he joined the service. Do not like the management of the hospital but he gets along. Called on Mrs. Marsh this evening.

FRIDAY, February 19, 1864

Up early this morning. The people who keep the farm house are very affable and do everything to make their guests comfortable. A good breakfast and away for the dock early. The boat did not stop and am compelled to ride to Falls River in an open carriage. The weather is extremely cold as it has been for the past three or four days. Got nearly frozen. Back to Providence in season for supper to purchase a meerschaum pipe which with other articles I sent to Walter by the Kingsley express. Take the cars for Groton and boat for New York. Have passed an uncomfortable day for I am very susceptible to the cold weather and have acquired a cold.

SATURDAY, February 20<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Back to New York again and am very glad for it ~ tedious travelling about when there is so great an inducement to remain quiet in one place. Over to Brooklyn and leave my things at the Mansin House and take a direct course for Staten Island. Call on Mr. Wyman on my way and learn that the Regt is in Florida. By consulting the paper find that our forces have penetrated to Lake City and are moving forward. Were it not for Eliza I would try and get back directly. In Staten Island I start after dinner and enjoy the afternoon as much as I could possibly. Evening with Fannie. Shall spend tomorrow at Staten Island by invitation of Mr. Marsh.

SUNDAY, February 21<sup>st</sup>, 1864

The most delightful day I ever spent in the course of my whole life. At Staten Island in season to attend Church in the morning with Mr. Marsh's family. Enjoy the service very much indeed and all the day I was happy. Saw Mrs. Marsh in the afternoon. I cannot write the occurrence of the day, my thoughts and feelings. All is indelibly fixed in my mind and I would not commit them to paper lest they might at a future time meet the eye of some other person. It was with some surprise and mortification that I learned that no boat went to New York in the morning but I was made very easy in the matter and the pleasure of my encounter with Eliza continued through the evening.

MONDAY, February 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1864

Up quite early in the morning. Was awakened very early with an unpleasant sensation in my throat. The whole family was up early and I go to New York with Mr. Marsh in the 8 o'clock boat. He is very kind and assured me of his assistance when I wish for advancement and I am sure it would secure an appointment, but I should not ask it unless I feel myself misused in some respect. Washington's birth day. Spend an hour or two in the morning hunting after Col. Strickland without success. Brooklyn is all excitement for the Sanitary Fair is open. Grand review of militia. Invitation to go on Genl Dix's Staff for the day, but conclude not to. The shipping in the harbor is beautiful with flags and [streamers?]. Evening at Fannie's.

TUESDAY, February 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1864

Found Col. Strickland this morning. Got a letter of identity from him also copies of the orders received and proceed to 68 Beekman St. to Mr. Pratt who makes me happy with \$127.48 in my fist. Consider myself lucky. The Col had a good time at the [Met?] and I think seems to have enjoyed his leave of absence nearly as much as myself. Gave Charles \$88 eighty eight dollars which makes my account \$900 to my credit. Spend the afternoon at Staten Island. A long ride and a long and enjoyable talk. Make arrangements for the future. Evening at the [Pair?] where I was well jammed. Glad to get home. My cold which made me a little sick is now better.

WEDNESDAY, February 24<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Morning in such occupations as I could find of sufficient interest to pass the time pleasantly. A little talk with Mr. [Pert?] and a friend of his on politics. The afternoon on Staten Island. The air was mild and the sky clear for the most part and E & I wandered about the fortification on the hill along the shore in childlike freedom and enjoyment. I was surprised at the extent of the batteries and I was delighted with the ramble. For we talked as we walked and the talk was as free as the walk. The happiest afternoon accepting the Sabbath that I have spent at home. We are more natural, and consequently enjoy more as we became more familiar. It is indeed a full equivalent for all the toils and dangers of the past eighteen months to be able thus to enjoy the companionship of one so fun and true. Evening called on Miss Whitney at the Everett's. Enjoyed the call very much. The kitchen at the farm [*MS illegible in margin*]. Visited this evening is the most attractive [location?] only I do not like anything which looks like a [caricature?] of New England.

THURSDAY, February 25<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Up pretty early and am rejoiced to see that the sky is clear. Met a number of the boys whom I assist in the collection of their state bounty. An unpleasant talk with Mr. Jones on politics. I do not like him and never did. At the Ferry in season. A delightful ride around Central Park with E. The beauties of the place are not so apparent as in summer, but I can readily see how pleasant and how beautiful a place it must be when the foliage is green and the flowers in bloom. An hour and more of requisite enjoyment and communion at the Dusseldorf Gallery and a pleasant ride to her friend's at 17 5<sup>th</sup> St. Afterward the Opera of *Sonnambula*. With Kellogg and Bonjnoli and the intelligent German who sat nearest me. The whole performance most perfect and enjoyable, so that at night, back in my room I feel that I have passed an unusually happy day.

FRIDAY, February 26<sup>th</sup>, 1864

By appointment with Fannie start for Yonkers. An hour late and after proceeding to the depot on Chamber St. conclude it's too stormy to go, and return to Brooklyn. As I write now, about noon, it is snowing quite hard with a prospect of continuance of the storm. Nothing particular to occupy my attention. Consequently I spend much of the forenoon in looking over my tactics. In the afternoon go to Staten Island. The wind blew hard and it was cold and the warm fire in the open grate felt grateful. I intended to return in the late boat but the pleasure of the company that I enjoyed was too great and I could not get away. I shall remember that evening very long for I suffered somewhat from doubts that came in my mind. I shall long remember the nature of the [encounter?].

SATURDAY, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 1864

On the morning boat for New York the morning paper full of rumor of a battle in Florida. Our Regt was engaged and I am anxious about our officers and men. Went to Brooklyn to see the Col hoping to hear more particularly, the results of the battle. Afterwards on the *Fulton* when from the Purser I learned, that only one officer – Lt. Keenan was killed. Several wounded but none seriously. I feel that although very properly here, I would like

SATURDAY, February 27<sup>th</sup>, 1864

to have shared with the Regt in the contest. I have lost one very good man and in looking over the list of those killed in the Regt I feel very sad. It seems to me if I could only have been there I could have done something. At any rate I would feel much better if I had shared the danger with my men. I shall be there soon and I hope before another engagement takes place.

SUNDAY, February 28<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Up early and down to the island on the first boat. As usual the reception from Mr. Marsh is very hearty and cordial. How much I enjoy these Sabbath days with L and the family. Everything is harmonious and I enjoy the sermon, the music and indeed everything. I like Mr. Conrad although I was not altogether prepared to. Here is a very handsome man and I think possesses considerable ability although he is by no means a genius. A very pleasant walk after service in the afternoon on the hill above the house. The view was very good indeed although it was hazy and we could not see as far as usual. The island is full of beauties and from its hilltops most lovely views of the harbor and the island may be obtained. It is a lovely spot, more so to me, because there I met the one I love so much. I cannot tell in words how much I enjoyed the evening. Although there was much, very much of painful feeling.

MONDAY, February 29<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Up at the early breakfast but do not go to the city with Mr. Marsh. Very much exhausted. Lilly and I went down to the alley where I intended only to have remained for an hour but the whole forenoon slipped away and I could not go. It was a very happy talk and when I left much of the painful impression of the evening before was gone. The evening I spent with Fannie, singing, talking and playing which it was one of the most sociable evenings that I have ever spent during my stay at the North. I have had less of that quiet calm enjoyment than I ought since I came home. Mr. Dwyer's family is one of the pleasantest that I have ever visited. Saw Miss Van Alst.

TUESDAY, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 1864

Visit the island early in the morning, for the day I know will be very fully occupied Spent two hours very happily and returned to the city in season to go to Brooklyn. See Fannie and see the Paymaster in New York from whom I learn that it will be impossible to get our pay unless we make out Muster Rolls and are mustered in them. Too late down town to take the Stonington Boat so I wait for the train, taking the occasion in the mean time to call on Mr. Marsh (Samuel) at the Astor House where I found [Cadial?] Here's a gentlemen whom I would like to imitate, in manner at least. A very pleasant ride with Dr. [Brise?] and Mr. Scudder. The same that I kicked over on the foot ball ground behind WST College in Williamstown.

WEDNESDAY, March 2d, 1864

Too late in Boston for the first train to Haverhill. I'm much disappointed but use the time in calling in the [Sarpent's] and in purchasing a ring to do which I was compelled to borrow five dollars from Mr. Holliday much against my will, for I do not like him. In Haverhill at ½ past one and spend the next three hours very pleasantly indeed and very profitably, for I make business arrangements with Father and George, both of which matters were in such [degree?], occasions for my anxiety to get my leave of absence. Away again in the 8 oclk train and connect with the ½ past eight train for New York. Return early in the sleeper cars. My trip a very satisfactory one.

THURSDAY, March 3d, 1864

Early in New York having passed a very comfortable night. Breakfast at Clarke and Brown's and over to Brooklyn. Spend the day trying to obtain ambrotype and collecting the little matters necessary to complete my outfit. Down to the island in the afternoon but not to stay long. Did not enjoy the visit as much as usual. Evening at Mr. [Howe's?] and Fannie's - quite cute. Have not felt well today nor indeed have I for some time past. Perhaps I should be more truthful with myself if I said I had not been well since I arrived in New York. The change of climate and habits has been too fast and I have really not enjoyed myself as much as I expected on that account. Not well – not happy is a truism.

FRIDAY, March 4<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Busy nearly all the early part of the day in getting my ambrotype and in attending to other little matters. Called on the Colonel whom I found quite ill and promised to go to the Genl to report for him. Have got all my little matters satisfactorily arranged and am ready this afternoon to go to the island. Spent the evening in the most exquisite enjoyment. I can never forget the happiness of that occasion nor can I forget the results of the interview. How much I could express if I allowed for [*MS illegible*] to my feelings here, but I cannot.

SATURDAY, March 5<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Our leave of absence is now over and this morning I report to Col. Strickland for duty. Met Lockwood and we go together to New York. Cannot leave until tomorrow we find, and I am very happy on that account for this evening I can spend as I desire. Got through with all my business. Have my trunk and carpetbag at Dr. Strickland's office and then I am away. Evening at Mr. Brooks. Much surprised at the party. Enjoy the evening very much indeed but I do not say good bye for I feel assured that I may see my friend again. The Col. will not expect me to remain at Fort Schuyler. I hope to be in LI on Monday evening.

SUNDAY, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The time has come and this morning we are early at Montague Hall reporting to leave for Fort Schuyler. Mr. Wyman is there and so are Charles and Frank. A march to the Castle gardens. Walked with the Brooklyn 18<sup>th</sup> escort. Do not go with the Regt to Fort Schuyler and now, as I write this, am enjoying the effect of [a] good dinner and a bottle

SUNDAY, March 6<sup>th</sup>, 1864

of cider furnished by Mr. Lockwood. Only 10 of my company reported and I remain behind to look after the stragglers. This afternoon attended Dr. [Erle's?] church and afterwards took tea at Mr. Dwyer's and enjoyed an hour afterwards in singing. Then went to call on Lilly at Miss Gates. Not there, but at Mr. Brooks. Saw Mr. [Masters?] Brooks, Miss Fannie and Miss Mary Brooks and walked home with Lilly.

MONDAY, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Reported at Montague Hall and went with [Neville?] to New York. Busy all the forenoon with them and afternoon at Staten Island went early and enjoyed an hour or two without interruption. Call on Mrs. Ripley. Fannie arrived in the evening early and spent the night. I like her much and we have already become very good friends. She seems very much attached to Lilly and I know the feeling is reciprocated. Fearing this may be my last night I fill it as full of enjoyment as possible and really every day makes me more thankful for the goodness of Divine Providence in giving me such cause for happiness. I hope I may be improved by this [uninvited?] goodness and that it may make me better in all respects.

TUESDAY, March 8<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Report as usual to Col. Strickland whom I found enjoyed as usual playing billiards. Met Lt. Ingraham who has just returned from the country. Like some of the others he has suffered from illness and in other respects he has pursued a similar course. Quite busy in getting the men off on the steamer. Succeed in getting about forty away. Attend to several matters and finally get away for Staten Island in the 6 o'clock boat. Of that night there is no record and I can only say that I was very, very happy, the only thing which seemed to mar the enjoyment was the fact which would keep coming back to my mind – that in all human probability it would be my last night at home.

WEDNESDAY, March 9<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning I went to the city in the twelve o'clock boat having spent the morning in trying to tear myself away. It was very, very hard but I did not feel that it is the last time that I shall see her, for I have little doubt that I can get away from the Fort before we sail South. After saying the last good bye and saying a few words of parting to my other friends, I am away in the steamer for Fort Schuyler in the evening boat, taking with me a large squad of men. What a day I have spent. What if it should be my last with Lilly. I cannot bear the thought for a moment. The Quarters at Fort Schuyler are most miserable and dirty and I am almost sick at my stomach. I must get away from here if possible.

THURSDAY, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning I saw the Genl and again this afternoon and tried all my persuasive acts to induce him to allow me to go to the city but he is a crusty, sour, crabbed old fellow and would not listen. Got very angry and then swallowed it. Afternoon witnessed the drum parade in the Fort. Nothing very striking about it. Did not compare with ours at Ft. Pulaski. Evening the trouble among the men at supper occasioned almost a general

THURSDAY, March 10<sup>th</sup>, 1864

disturbance. The General was displeased to be a little [savage?] but cooled down to a decent quiet state when he found that he could not frighten [them]. The officers slept with the men. Evening I tried to write but the conveniences were wanting. Sent a few scribblings to Lilly this afternoon of which I am ashamed I had to write and had no materials.

FRIDAY, March 11, 1864

Have received written orders this morning to have the detachment ready to march. Have drawn seven days rations and had five days cooked. Men all ready and move about noon. The steamer which conveyed us to the city was not sent for us so that I am hoping that we may remain in the city until tomorrow. I only hope I may be able to go to Staten Island but I fear I shall not. Evening we are in board the *Arajo* out in the [stream?] waiting for the fog to clear to leave the harbor. The steamer had left the dock when we arrived and consequently I have said my last word of Adieu. I am terribly disappointed. Really I feel as if I could not easily get over it for I have not for a long time felt so badly on any subject. It seems really cruel to have left me there with no opportunity of again seeing my friends.

SATURDAY, March 12, 1864

Awakened early by the Sergeant of the Guard with the information that it is time to don the sash as Officer of the Day. The steamer was in motion and I hastened on deck that I might get a view of the house, hoping that Lilly would be in the piazza. It was seven o'clock before we arrived opposite. The morning was very clear and with the aid of a glass furnished by a gentleman, one of the passengers, I watched the house until the Fort on the hill shut it from view. It has been a most bitter – cruel disappointment not to have seen my friends again but it is my fate and I must submit. I could see no one at the house although they were all up, I know. They did not report the steamer was passing or I should have seen some one. The duties as Officer of the Day were light but I had little thought for them or anything else, but the subject of the song which I kept humming all day long. How can I leave there. The company on board is a pleasant one and all unite in making the voyage amenable.

SUNDAY, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A restless night. One thought was itself among my dreams and my first waking thought was one who will always be in mind in all my waking hours. In my morning prayer I tried to prepare myself for the Sabbath day and in that prayer was the petition for the loved ones. Have just listened to an excellent sermon from Dr. Parker of Boston. The good to all the audience is apparent. I think a good sermon on shipboard seems to produce a stronger effect than in almost any other place, and I am sure of the benefit that I have derived from the sermon this morning. As usual on such occasions I had [music?] in my charge. This afternoon Mr. Trumbull and the Catholic priest delivered short

SUNDAY, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 1864

sermons on deck for the benefit of the men. This evening I have been writing and listening to Mr. Trumbull. He is an interesting man, a brother of Charley Trumbull who I knew at Yale. His account of experiences in prison in Rebelton and his experience while travelling while a Sunday school missionary was very amusing and I went off to bed fairly [coping?] with laughter.

MONDAY, March 14<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Spent an hour this morning in writing. This is my greatest amusement and chief pleasure although I could write more satisfactorily if I were alone, free from the interruptions so annoying on shipboard. We came very slowly. Hatteras was in sight early in the morning and at the present rate we shall not probably reach the Head until morning of Wednesday. Have spent the day as usual. Eating, talking, smoking, playing cards and writing. Life on shipboard is always rather monotonous, less so on this trip than usual for the company is enjoyable and inclined to enjoy themselves rationally and quietly. This evening have been singing and shall spend an hour or so in writing Lilly.

TUESDAY, March 15<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A mild pleasant morning. Up late. Determine to read McClellan's report but now it is evening and I have not done it. Feel as if I had spent the day pretty well however although have very little to show how the day has passed. An arousing time this afternoon with Capt. Newman of the 47<sup>th</sup> who insisted on taking the Col's photograph. Passed Charleston about sunset and learned that the rebels had made an unsuccessful attempt to blow up another gunboat. The battalion's [Gregg?] and [Wagner?] seemed to be firing on Sumter and I suppose the bombardment of the city continues, but nothing particular has results. Have finished a letter of 22 papers to Lilly and another letter to Mother and now at 11 oclck am going to retire.

WEDNESDAY, March 16<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A cool sharp morning. Up early for we land at 8 oclck. Spent the day in running about visiting friends. Dined with Liet. Edwards who showed to me the model of Wagner and several fine maps of Morris Island and vicinity. He is going North to exhibit the model and maps at the New York Sanitary Fair and will see my friends [in the] north [and] a letter in his Quarters to Lilly, sheets of letter paper full, making in all 26 pages of letters to her since I left. I hope she will take as much pleasure in reading as I did in writing. Saw Sergeant Thompson and Anderson at the Hospital both cheerful, both have behaved right manfully. Left late at night on the *Dictator*, Capt. Blakeman from Jacksonville.

THURSDAY, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A delightful morning. The company of officers on board was good only I chafe under the command of the Maj. Col. Littlefield who is with us. All through the day Mr. Trumbull, who is also a passenger on the boat, was particularly entertaining and I almost regard him as a friend for there is something about him that I enjoy. He is a fine man and has remarkable anecdotes and stories which he deals out in a most enjoyable style and

THURSDAY, March 17<sup>th</sup>, 1864

manner. I became exhausted with laughter at his repeated satires of wit and humor. Stop at Permandina an hour out. Did not see Mr. Sears. Continued on to Jacksonville where we arrived about night. Disembarked and through the town which I found had mostly been destroyed by fire, has changed much. Other [MS illegible] disembarked on the *Maple Leaf* and move up the river with the men after dark with [MS illegible] out.

FRIDAY, March 18<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Was nearly frozen last night. Awoke early for we reach Palatka at daylight. Land immediately. The town looks desolate and still. Just opposite the dock where we landed are the Colonels Headquarters. In the yard in front of the house are many orange trees having on them at the same time, fruit and flowers, and the air is loaded with the fragrance from them. We proceeded directly to camp and met with a cordial party. Go into my old mess. Boring all day in doing nothing and making calls. The men are encamped in the outskirts of the town in little huts built by themselves. Col. Barton affable. Rev Mr. Taylor is also affable.

SATURDAY, March 19<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Rather cold last night-suffered not a little. Not able to get at my company business so that I have had very little to do. Have seen Rev. Mr. Taylor and secured him as our Chaplain so long as he remains in this part of the country and have the hope to secure him permanently. Rode round the defenses which extend across the neck of land upon which the town is situated. Saw the Gallows where [croppers?] hung the negroes. Have been enjoying the plan very much. The camp is beautifully located in a grove of oak and maple trees on the border of a beautiful little cove. One of the most beautiful [shades?] of water I ever saw. The woods fringe it on all sides and on the trees have their fresh green, spring foliage; the view is really charming.

SUNDAY, March 20<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A pleasant morning as I learned at an unreasonably early hour. I found myself in command of my company-they deployed as skirmishes hunting for rebels. Got into Camp again in season to take my bath in the bay and change my clothes. Steal a few oranges before breakfast. Inspection at 9 oclk to ascertain what was left of the company property. Church at 11 oclk. Mr. Taylor very interesting. A dinner fit for a [MS illegible]. Fresh fish and wild turkey and English plum pudding. Afternoon getting over the effects of the dinner. Evening at Church. Just before Church however enjoyed a little sing with Mr. Mrs. & Miss [Milford?] the latter a pretty little child of thirteen. After services by Mr. Taylor a good, long, letter to Lilly who has really been on my mind all the evening, shutting out the [whole?] of the sermon altogether.

MONDAY, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 1864

Quite anxious to get up in season to report as Field Officer of the Day. Haste quite unnecessary as it took me nearly two hours to find anyone to report to and receive my instructions. The little steamer *Hattie Brock* came in last night at recent capture. Taken at

MONDAY, March 21<sup>st</sup>, 1864

Enterprise. The young lady for whom it was named being present when it was taken took occasion to express her mind quite freely. Quite an excitement. The rebel Calvary attacked our pickets just after dinner. Our forces were drawn up behind the entrenchments and the 47<sup>th</sup> Regt and part of our men sent out skirmishing. No one hurt. The houses on the hill were burned by our Regt. Evening visited a friend and visited the Camp and returned at an early hour feeling quite ill. Has rained since noon.

TUESDAY, March 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1864

Woke up quite early. Have waked [sic] up during the night several times and the storm was so severe that I feared the tent would blow down. Got Sears up to right up the tent. Find quite a stream under the tent. And everything is wet. Rained until noon. Took my desk over to the [?] and have been quite busy with Final Statements and Minutes. Put up my tent anew this afternoon and stole sufficient boards to make a bunk and washstand. Have been busy this evening writing. Finished a letter to Lilly this morning. Evening after attending to business sat around the warm fire (it is cold tonight) and listened to stories from Paddock, Carlton and others.

WEDNESDAY, March 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1864

After breakfast was informed by Paddock that I could have one of the tents and being much rejoiced [th?] and fearing still he might retract I had the said tent conveyed away at once and immediately set to work obtaining material to floor the same in which undertaking I succeeded admirably. Had all the lumber necessary collected before noon and during the afternoon I have been overseeing the working it up and this evening my bed cut, hammered, my floor all laid. My things all around me with the exception of those in the lost box. I feel quite contented. My escape from the firing of the bluff warns me to be careful and I cannot convey my disgust at seeing certain parties engaged in it for money. Shall write L before retiring.

THURSDAY, March 24<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Officer of the Day with very little to do but attend to the cleaning of the Camp, spent my forenoon in getting any tents in order and writing on company business. Just as I was about travel to town on private business, received a note that the Col wished to see me. As I suspected a raid was intended and I was to take command. In about an hour I was at the dock and on my way at six o'clock for the steamer *Ottawa*. It was proposed to go up to the head of Dunn's Creek in the *Ottawa* but she got aground and was not able to get off until morning and the expedition was put off for a day.

FRIDAY, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Early in the morning we had breakfast on board the gunboat and soon after went on shore where I spent the forenoon in my Quarters. Vans, of Co. F, returned with me to the *Ottawa*. We leave our [anchor up?] about ½ past two P.M. and proceed up to Dunn's Creek where we take to our boats. The entrance to the creek is rather narrow but about ½ a mile from the river we entered the big Dunn's Creek, a beautiful stream of water. Some

FRIDAY, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 1864

150 yds. in width with a heavy growth of timber clear to the water's edge. And the foliage of the trees and shrubbery and [sunning?] vines dipped clear to the water. I never saw a more beautiful stream of water in my life. We moved through to the lake, a distance of 8 miles, and entered Dunn's Lake, a body of water 20 miles long and 5 miles broad. The moonlight scene on the lake is indelibly [fixed?] on my memory. We moved up the lake about 8 or 9 miles to Booths Landing and from that point proceeded up the country on our march. The first place we came to was in [Newbolts?] we stopped a few minutes. A good looking young lady. I cannot believe my eyes.

SATURDAY, March 26<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The amusing incidents of our march through that country but I will not soon forget, Mr. [Neten] and the homes. Young Stuart, the rebel soldier, and his attempt to escape, my Cavalry and my prisoners all together made a motley group and an amusing spectacle. Nor shall I forget how well the men behaved and how uncomplainingly the men marched so far and so long. The hour at Newbolt's on our return, the row back across the Lake. The fragrant roses. The orange groves. The orange fight and our safe return with our prisoners all right. The men had moved and walked 66 miles in 24 hours and their hands and feet were sore and they even tried, but in good humor and satisfied with the trip. I will not soon forget the raid.

SUNDAY, March 27<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A bright pleasant morning. Up early having enjoyed a sound refreshing sleep and feeling very well. Take my warm bath and get shaved and go through with inspection and attend Church. Have not felt so well for many a long day and I seem to [be] enjoying every moment. My cold has left me and I am able to sing again. Afternoon in my tent trying to write and read. Evening again at Church. The sermon very interesting. Subject, the Psalm concerning the Lord is my Sheppard I shall not want... Just suited to my frame of mind. Evening after service Col. S. Major Coan, Mr. Nylar and Capt. Elfwing dropped into my tent and had a quiet sociable time. Elfwing kept me up until a late hour with his amusing stories. I retired late, feeling that I have spent a happy day.

MONDAY, March 28<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Officer of the Day and pretty busy having the Camp put in order and I am in the best of humor for I have a letter from L; very good and very refreshing the first since I left New York. They will now come regularly and I shall feel more contented. Having an arbor built in front of my tent notwithstanding the summer that we are all going to North Carolina. I hope we do. Seymour is out of the Department at which all rejoice. He has very few friends. Evening up late visiting. Have sent two letters to Lilly and one to Mother. Am a little neglectful of my correspondence all [sic] but L. and must change. Up late again writing and must become more steady.

TUESDAY, March 29<sup>th</sup>, 1864

It has rained a little and I am constrained to keep within doors this morning for I have some matters to attend to. Genl Gilman and Genl Hutch are both here. Walked down town in the morning and make a few purchases. Afternoon look over my Returns, read the newspaper and just before tea get called out to go skirmishing after rebels. As usual it is a wild goose chase and I get rather tired, and quite vexed, besides getting a late supper. I will now write a few lines to L. before retiring although I want to go to bed early for I do not feel so well for sitting up late as I have for a few days past. I must have regular sleep or I suffer. Feel quite tired.

WEDNESDAY, March 30<sup>th</sup>, 1864

It was cold last night and I awoke early this morning feeling quite uncomfortable. Rise late. After breakfast a meeting of the officers was held and without debate and without a dissenting voice it was voted to extend an invitation to Mr. Taylor to become our Chaplain. Col. Strickland and myself being chosen a committee to perform the duty. Made out my papers for Returns, wrote several letters including one to Mr. Taylor and this evening have written a long letter to Frank. On the whole, have in one way and another been quite busy during the day although I have spent more time than I ought in idleness. The Regt out this afternoon in ~~an~~ ambush for Dickinson. No results.

THURSDAY, March 31<sup>st</sup>, 1864

A mild pleasant day with nothing particular to mark its progress until afternoon. Quite busy with company papers during the forenoon. In the afternoon the Regt went out ambushing but I sent the Liet. in charge of the company, not thinking it possible that anything would occur. Started to ride out to see the country and heard firing. Liet. Taylor who was with me concluded to go with me to join the Regt and we hastened forward until we found it deployed as skirmishes. Had considerable amusement during the remainder of the afternoon. Helped draw the rebel fire for which was quite smart. Returned in the evening before tea. Sent off my Quartermasters Returns for February and March.

FRIDAY, April 1<sup>st</sup>, 1864

Several attempts at the breakfast table to remind me that it is April Fools day. Officer of the Picket today. Visit the whole lines in the morning and again in the afternoon. At night instead of waiting for the relief of the Calvary to go out at one oclk I started off by myself and went out to the Post where the Sergeant is posted and find all right and placing him in a new position at the crossroads I returned without going down the line. Gave particular instructions to the Sgt who went out at 1 P.M. to patrol and inform me if anything occurred and return at about 1 oclk. Have had quite a busy day and have attended to my duty quite strictly and feel quite confident that nothing can happen out of the way.

SATURDAY, April 2d, 1864

Early this morning Capt. Richmond came to my tent and informed me that a Picket Post had been captured. I arose immediately and went to report to Col. Barton. Send word through Major - After breakfast was invited by the Col's orderly to call upon him and found him [sic] [his] receding wrath and disposed to hitch into me in [seven?] style. I soon succeeded in showing him that I had not lacked in vigilance and he calmed down and declared that I was in no way responsible. Visited the picket with the new officer and learned that in all human probability I was very near being captured. In the evening, in conversation with the Sergeant who relieved the Picket, I was convinced as he was also, that I had been [sic] passed the rebels within a few feet on my way to the Post and my horse knew they were near him, for he made a sort of scream which he kept up for some distance. They did not stop me because I rode fast. The news came this evening that the steamer *Maple Leaf* had been blown up by a torpedo within fifteen miles of Jacksonville-total wreck, 5 persons lost. My Returns were on her and I am anxious some of my mail was same.

SUNDAY, April 3d, 1864

Rose early after a good nights rest. Enjoyed my usual warm bath and was fully prepared for breakfast omitting my usual shave for I am going to let my whiskers grow. The monthly inspection was over in season to allow attendance of the officers in the right wing on division service. I enjoyed the services very much. Mr. Taylor preaches for the last time today as he proposes to return home this week. We shall miss him and his influence very much in the Brigade and I am sorry as others are that it is at all doubtful about his returning to us. The day has been the most delightful of the season and I have enjoyed it very much. A little disappointed that our mail has not arrived. Lindsey went to Jacksonville this noon to look up company and personal property. This evening I have written a long letter to L. and now that I am about to retire I feel that I have spent a very happy day. One thing only lacking to make it perfectly happy.

MONDAY, April 4<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Weather threatening. According to appointment start with Col. Strickland and Mr. Taylor to visit the gunboat and the people on the opposite shore but no boat from the gunboat appearing and the weather being unpropitious we conclude to defer our visit until tomorrow. Return to my Quarters to attend to company business and write a letter, for the mail is expected today or tomorrow. The steamer left this morning and Mr. Taylor intended to have left this morning but the boat went too early. Evening at play and at work, the result small. This afternoon and evening has been very delightful but on the whole I can't say the day has passed without crediting much good to my account. My good resolutions are dwindling away to some extent and I am becoming idle, lazy and bad - must reform.

TUESDAY, April 5<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A delightful day. After breakfast Col. Strickland, Mr. Taylor and I started on our trip to the gunboat. The boat was in waiting and we spent the most of the forenoon talking with the Liet. Gambell. The other officers were away. A dull stupid time. Back in season to play those games of billiards with Strickland. Afternoon the usual services. In the evening Lindsey returned with all the articles I sent for including my box. The feather pillows will be appreciated tonight. A letter from L., for the mail has arrived. My share of letters was very small but my only letter was sufficiently good to make up for the want of numbers. Evening write Lilly and Mr. Marsh, for he reminded me of my promise to do so. Return hopefully news by mail not important.

WEDNESDAY, April 6<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Officer of the Day. The forenoon occupied in attending to the cleaning up of camp and in attendance on the officers meeting. No lesson, for we have had none given out. Afternoon rather monotonous. Finish my letter to Mr. Marsh and got my company ready for the inspection tomorrow. Up quite late for I expect to be called up to drill the battalion. In the afternoon introduced to Mr. [Henry] who is here to look after the New York Regts. Probably, however, he is here to look after some matter of politics. Have been somewhat anxious about the drill tomorrow but after looking over my tactics carefully conclude there is little reason for anxiety and really expect to be able to go through with any movement that he will call for -

THURSDAY, April 7, 1864

Up early for the firing trials take place today. The inspection in the forenoon was quite satisfactory and my company certainly presented a good appearance as any and I am even better than the most. All through before 12 oclk. At ten we marched to the parade ground from near Mrs. [Bronson's] and spent two hours in drill. Nearly all the officers were called out to drill the battalion. I was called the first one and succeeded perfectly much to my satisfaction. Later in the day we had dress parade in the same format and Mr. [Henry] addressed the Regt. A. [Bunkam] spoke. Evening at rest. Mr. Taylor goes in the morning.

FRIDAY, April 8<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A very busy day, for we are changing our camp. The tents arrived several days ago and today were distributed and the whole time consumed in making berms for the bottom to raise them from the ground. I have spent nearly all the time in laying out the camp and attending to the wants of my company. Now, at night, I am pretty tired. Only a portion of the tents are up and I am afraid that some of them will [again?] to be changed. Mr. Taylor went this morning and I sent by him several photopapers to L. I am very sorry that it was necessary for him to leave us and hope he may return. He leaves a very good impression behind in the minds of all who knew him. Dr. [Millard] and Mr. [Gambell] took dinner with us and I gave the Dr. a [gun?].

SATURDAY, April 9<sup>th</sup>, 1864

An uncertain day but a very busy one, for the men are engaged in putting up their tents having to build berms to place them on and to steal the materials for the most part to make the berms. Succeed in the forenoon in getting a house which is very speedily torn down and the materials brought to camp so that at night the tents were nearly all finished and a good days work done. I have spent the most of the day in the company and have taken down my own tent and placed it again opposite the company [*MS illegible*]. I have a fine place for it and already am about as well settled in the new place as I was in the old. On Monday I shall embark on a more approved plan. Officer of the Day today and up until after 12 midnight at which time I made my rounds.

SUNDAY, April 10<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A most delightful day. Morning inspection as usual and afterwards sent the men at work finishing their bunks. I commenced a letter to Lilly. Spent an hour singing and after dinner two hours talking with Major Coan mostly on the subject of religion. Afternoon is as comfortable a manner as possible and this evening I took a walk with Col. Strickland down to Lockwood's and spend a pleasant hour chatting. A boat arrived and I have just had time to write a letter or rather finish one to Lilly which Sears takes to the boat tonight. Now I am about to retire for a good night's rest, for I am on duty again as Field Officer of the Day tomorrow and must be up early and late. It has been a delightful day and I feel that it has been pretty well spent although not quite as it should have been.

MONDAY, April 11<sup>th</sup>, 1864

All very busy in putting up our tents on berms and in other ways fixing up the camp. I am Field Officer of the Day but spent most of the time in camp supervising the erection of my own tent which is now in excellent order and as soon as the company is all nicely arranged in their new quarters we shall be ready to receive orders to move as has been the usual custom when we get our camp in good condition. This going the rounds at midnight is a great nuisance but it must be done. I must go and see the pickets and then will retire for I am tired and sleepy. No mail and none expected until tomorrow.

TUESDAY, April 12<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A warm pleasant day. Commenced in a row with Col. Barton. Have not felt well during the day and have been out of humor and in the evening have occasion to be ashamed of an exhibition of feeling which does me no credit although it was ~~prob~~-provoked. I must and shall endeavor to keep my tongue and temper and live as I ought. Wrote Lilly this evening and feel better. I always get in better humor when I write or think of her and she is really my good angel restraining me where I am tempted. When my health is poor as it has been today I am not in good humor and I must then make a greater effort to preserve my temper.

WEDNESDAY, April 13<sup>th</sup>, 1864

It is late morning and I have just had time to eat my breakfast and read my letters and the news comes that we leave tonight and shall join the corps under Burnside at [R? N?] evacuating this place tonight. [Dr. Arag?] aroused me by poking several letters through the tent into my face when I was lying down. Three very interesting letters from Lilly and one from Lizzie Dunn and two from Paymaster Dept. indicating my Returns from B & R [Butty] and from the 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter of [63] had been received and found correct. Early in the forenoon orders came for us to prepare to move and the general impression is that we are going North. The officers tents were struck and baggage packed and we waited for specific orders to move but at taps the men turned into their tents. All the company property and our baggage was sent to the boat during the afternoon and evening. Some fires have been set and buildings are burning through the town. We waited with little or nothing [?] and no plan to stop until the fires concluded to lie on the floor of the Quartermasters office and an amusing night we had if for there was a noise of some kind during the whole night. Got no sleep.

THURSDAY, April 14<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Up quite early in the morning having enjoyed but little sleep. Feel stupid and drowsy but a good wash and brushing and shampooing by Tom made me feel fresh again. A cup of coffee and a slice of bread furnished by my orderly made a good breakfast. Waited around during the whole forenoon expecting orders but none came. Dinner again furnished by the Orderly. Col. S and about a dozen officers collected around the remains of [Acken] tent and dined off of cold pickings in which salt horse formed the principal ingredient. The combat between the companies with bags of lard as missiles was very amusing. Afterward I enjoyed a good game of ball with Sears and a cup of coffee for supper. Then a move to the boat and good bye to Palatka. No trouble from Dickison or anyone else. We are well satisfied that we are going North. On board the *Delaware* now to be transferred to some other boat.

FRIDAY, April 15<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Arrived at Jacksonville early in the forenoon and after waiting about an hour disembarked for the purpose of going on the *B. DeFord* which will take us North. Tom's stories are current about our destination but nothing definite is known. It seems probable however that the 10<sup>th</sup> Army Corps will go North either to Ashburn or Fortress Monroe. The general impression inclines to the latter. Spent the day in town ~~the~~ running about from place to place with no object in view and about seven P.M. embarked on the *Ben DeFord*, all the baggage stowed away and all ready to start, waiting only by the tide. There is still a lack of definiteness in the orders about our movements so that we cannot form any definite idea as to where we are going. Flowers from Jacksonville.

SATURDAY, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The morning broke bright and beautiful but we were [unsettled] and uneasy when we found that we must be delayed several hours before we could start. The orders came earlier than we expected and about 9 AM we left the dock and steamed down the river.

SATURDAY, April 16<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Our pilot must have been crazy or a fool or something other than a man acquainted with his business, for we ran aground several times before we arrived at the bar and then we were too late to cross the bar for the tide was falling. Afternoon as best we could and evening quite jollily with Muggins singing, dancing and recitations. Mr. Styles and brother were on board for several hours. Their vessel arrived this afternoon. Have written a pack of a letter to Lilly which I shall finish before we arrive at the Head.

SUNDAY, April 17<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A very lively day. Commenced like my Sabbath in camp but unlike some of them ~~different~~—without much regarding to the character of the day. The Col, Major Elfwing, Miller and myself went on shore and took a walk on the beach. A few persons live on the point, most of them families of the bar pilots. The young lady showed us the garden and gave us permission to [cut] the flowers. The roses were in full bloom and we all collected nosegays. The peaches were quite fine and plums seemed large enough to ripen. Such sights would seem strange at home now where they are freezing in snow and ice— an hour Dr. Styles, [Acken?] and then dinner. Singing in afternoon and [*MS illegible*] enjoyment in writing to Lilly. Retire early. Could not cross the bar and must remain until tomorrow.

MONDAY, April 18<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Succeed in getting across the bar early this morning. The passing to Hilton Head without particular incident. Spent the forenoon and most of the afternoon playing cribbage. Read over my diary of 1862 and found it quite interesting. I kept it with more care than I have any since although I neglected it somewhat. Wrote a letter to Mother in the evening and listened to a discussion in regard to the mind of Genl Seymour, or rather demented mind. Taylor Carrie on board and will probably go North with us. It is sincerely doubtful if we go on the *Ben DeFord* as it will take several days to get ready to start and they may wish to [*MS illegible*]. All the white troops in the department are going North and very many have already gone. Others will be hurried as far as the fortress, as they can be got ready. It is said that [Milroy?] will command the division.

TUESDAY, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning, while we were in doubt and uncertainty as to what would be done with us, for we were frightened with the idea of going on board a propeller lying at the dock. Col. Fullar came on board and ordered the boat to Beaufort for coal. We arrived in the forenoon and we immediately disembarked and marched to the rear of the town where we halted and stacked ammo. Major [Dorman] arrived from the Head just before dinner and commenced paying the Regt. Our company was first paid. During the evening some of the men became intoxicated and created some trouble. Stopped on board the *B. DeFord* during the night. Have not been well today but hope when we are fairly started and somewhat of the excitement passed to be well again. We shall embark tomorrow.

WEDNESDAY, April 20<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning after breakfast had time to procure a few things before we embarked the Regt. Sent by mail my Ordinance Returns and a letter to Lilly. So as to be sure that she will hear at the earliest moment. My other letters I shall keep until we arrive at Fortress Monroe. Leave for Hilton Head in the forenoon. Had some anxiety about my men at Beaufort. We have now at ½ past 5 just started from the dock. Glad-very happy to leave this department. Sent my trunk to Frank with all but three changes of clothing. Sent \$80 to Father by express. We have many officers and several ladies on board. Mr. Taylor is rooming with me and I retain my old room. We are finally on our way and the cold air of the North as already reached us. I am afraid we shall suffer somewhat during the first month. I must now retire after reading my letters again. I always read letters from Lilly several times and they are always interesting. Every day seems to add to my affection for her. I hope I may get out of the service soon so that I may be with her. My life's hopes and joy.

THURSDAY, April 21<sup>st</sup>, 1864

Another lovely day. The sky clear the water smooth the company affable and everything desirable. We have thus far been extremely fortunate. Spend the time about carefully divided between the quarter deck, social hall and cabin. Perhaps the preponderance is for the latter for I have written considerably. I want to get my correspondence in good order before we get in the field. Evening playing cards until a late hour and return rather tired. We spend our days monotonously on board ship. And little occurs to excite any special interest.

FRIDAY, April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1864

One of the loveliest days I ever knew. The mirage on the water is very fine. The water continues smooth all day and it has been as mild as June. Monday morning will be at Fortress Monroe as when I retire we can see the light and the Captain says we shall run in during the night. Have written Father sending the note of Charles for \$750. And receipt of Adams Express Company for \$80. Also request for him to refund thirty or forty dollars in private for Mrs. C.A.I. and Fannie and Mary. Wrote George on business matter and wrote to Lilly. Retire late. Shall learn tomorrow what is to become of us.

SATURDAY, April 23<sup>d</sup>, 1864

This morning when I awoke were at anchor opposite Fortress Monroe. I learned on my arrival on deck that the mail went ashore early in the morning and I was very much disappointed. However, I soon learned that I could send my letter ashore, and they would be in season for the mail. Delayed near the Fort about two hours when we started for Yorktown where we arrived early in the afternoon. Obligated to wait some time for the Colonel to select a camp ground. Disembarked just before sunset, and marched up to the Brigade grounds and stacked our ammo for the night, for there is no time and we have none of the material for camp. Fatigue party a [sic] at work during the night unload the *B.DE.Ford*. laid down on the ground with a blanket over me and no covering but the sky.

SUNDAY, April 24<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Awoke early or rather got up early for I scarcely slept during the night. Felt miserable but a wash and brushing cleaned away a little of the bad feeling. Came near getting in bad humor for the most of the day because no officer was present with the battalion, besides myself until late, so that I was compelled to wait until someone returned. Was notable on that account to go down to the *Ben DeFord* which left the dock and steamed down the stream before I left camp. During the day we eat and smoked but it was not until noon that our camping ground was selected and we commenced putting up our tents. Made a side bed stand and feel myself quite comfortable. Have not been quite well since I left Palatka. This evening I have been singing to Lilly but could not write for I have not been well enough. Tired and will retire.

MONDAY, April 25<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Do not feel well at all and during the whole day we have been driven from one side to the other with contradicting orders. It seems as if everyone was in a hurry but many not quite sure what to do. Genl Tracey commands the corps for the present. Troops are arriving every day in great numbers and it really looks as if something was intended. Somehow or other I have not felt the confidence in this movement since I came here or rather have not felt that it formed an important part of the grand movement. Heard this morning other desertion of Powell with a man by the name of [Rufus?] Co. H. They were fired upon by the picket but made their escape. Tried to write Lilly tonight but did not feel well enough.

TUESDAY, April 26<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A pleasant morning and I have enjoyed a good rest and feel refreshed. Have been busy from morning until late evening in attending to orders and calls of various kinds. Everything seems to conflict. This evening we received an order to have our tents taken down and shelter tents put up before sundown, and it was an hour after sundown when we commenced the work but at [Tatt?] the tents were all up and really looked quite cozy. With the men in a tent they will be very comfortable. The third piece used as a back. The camp looked very beautiful for as far as the eye could reach the little white dots were visible. The who [sic][whole] division have them. Had my [pass?] signed to go to Yorktown. Listened to the most exquisite field music I ever heard. The 103 band played at the [rest?] camp and I was fairly thrilled and overcome with the music. Genl Tracey was a listener. Wrote to Lilly and was utter refreshing to sit down and talk with her. I have written to her for several days except a line last night and it seems all [*MS illegible*] to sit down and talk with her for awhile.

WEDNESDAY, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning according to my plan yesterday I started for Yorktown and succeeded in reaching the early boat. Ingraham was with me, and we succeeded in finding the Express Agent and I sent home money for several of my men. Afterwards I attended to the matter

WEDNESDAY, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 1864

of looking up Liet. Edward's valise which I succeeded in finding and sent to him. Then I went to the Telegraph officer with little hope of ~~finding~~ being able to send to Charles. There was no trouble however and I sent the following to the care of Gov. Smith, Prv. R.I. "Sorry can't be with you. Congratulations and best wishes. Brotherly love to Mrs. W. Ripley if possible." I did not expect an answer although the operator told me that he would send [it] to me if any came. Looked about town. Saw the house which was Lord Cornwall's Headquarters at the time he was summoned to Washington, who was said to have drank a bowl of punch in the same house after the close of the war. Spent some time in deciphering the inscription on the tombstones date 1600 + 1700 on the Hill. Visited Cornwall's cave where he went to take shelter from shot and shell. Put a letter in the office for Lilly. Although I learned that no mail went farther than Fortress Monroe at present I hope my letter written on shipboard reached Lilly. I am *[MS illegible]* into our shelter tents ridiculous thing it appears to be. I can't or won't stand such a mode of life a great while.

THURSDAY, April 28<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Woke several times during the night for the wind tumbled our little shanty town. This morning it was quite cold and I had to rise early to be comfortable. Early breakfast and during the day occupied in getting my things in order, and attending to the duties of the Officer of the Day. Orders prevailed this morning that we were going to march but it proved false. We finally turned over our Ordinance to Col. Strickland but even now it is doubtful if he takes it and gives us receipts. Today a small mail arrived but no letter from Lilly. I was forever disappointed. Made Dunn [an] Orderly, Sgt and Fagan a Liet and Burton a Corporal. It is very cold. Should write Lilly tonight. Col. thinks we shall have a marching drill tomorrow which makes me [rejoice?]. The troops and the officers are [orders?] to have moved to Williamsburg. Don't believe it. *[MS illegible written sideways in margin]*.

FRIDAY, April 29<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The night is cold and it is uncomfortable in the morning. Having but one blanket, I slept cold and am contracting a cold which may trouble me for some time. As usual busy today with conflicting orders and getting our Ordinance Stores out of our hands. Have not been very well during the day although I am better than for some days past. Changes now affect me unfavorably whereas when we first came into the service the contrary was a fact. No letter from Lilly tonight which was a great disappointment. All our company property has been sent to Norfolk and we have very little to look after. Busy getting the Muster and Pay Roll ready.

SATURDAY, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The weather this morning was threatening. However the wind having changed the air is milder than it has been for some days. Had Regular monthly inspection this morning and muster for payment. Afternoon a review first by Brig. Genl Ames and afterwards by Genl Butler who proved to be the same odd, rough looking [cuc?] as when he was a

SATURDAY, April 30<sup>th</sup>, 1864

blackguard lawyer in Mass[achusetts]. He is smart. The dirt this afternoon was perfectly intolerable. I know I could never have been so dirty – before in all my life. And a dirtier crowd of men it would have been quite impossible to find in the four quarters of the globe. Evening I wrote Lilly part of a letter and was much disappointed in not receiving one from her. She is sick I am afraid or her father is quite ill. I shall be anxious until I hear.

SUNDAY, May 1<sup>st</sup>, 1864

It rains this morning and looks like a settled storm. Under some apprehension lest our house should leak but it is dry and quite comfortable considering the size and material. Field Officer of the Day but do not report until noon. Visit the camp in the afternoon and evening twice for the Sentential men [are] very negligent. A beautiful evening which I enjoy more than any since our arrival here. The sunset was a reminder of pleasant times and scenes. It is May Day and I hoped to have received letters from Lilly and others but none came. Very much disappointed but got over my bad feeling in writing to Lilly. Evening with Lockwood talking over old college days and scenes. Really it has been a very pleasant day and I have enjoyed it much but should have felt it a perfect day had I received my letter this evening. Retire late after making my rounds.

MONDAY, May 2d, 1864

The weather today has been very mild and we hope that spring is really coming. Not quite so busy as for some days past. In the afternoon had Battalion skirmish drills. Pretty good. Evening it commenced raining and it was the severest storm I have known for a long time. The [sic] most of the shelter tents of the officers were capsized but mine was so firmly buried in the ground that it could not easily get away. Liet. Hunter and myself kept well to the leeward and escaped being wet and we sat and talked and sang the hours away until late in the night. He is very fond of music as well as myself and has good taste. Received a letter from Lilly which relieved me of all apprehensions. Charles married as intended on the 27<sup>th</sup>. My letters written on shipboard had been received but others had not.

TUESDAY, May 3d, 1864

This morning we were busy in matters pertaining to the Regiment and at noon received the information that we must move out on Picket. I was very glad of it for I wished to see the country. Troops are moving and we believe the 62<sup>nd</sup> Ohio in order that they may embark with their divisions. Quite a long march to the outposts. I have charge of quite a long line of pickets. This Ohio Regt we found rather loose, Co. E and A are stationed together in the edge of a thick woods and throw out their pickets down the road towards the Severn River. It took until dark to get all the posts established and the instructions delivered. After supper went the length of the line. The officers of E and A laid down together and we kept each other awake until late hours with stories and songs.

WEDNESDAY, May 4<sup>th</sup>, 1864

An excellent breakfast and an early one. Started out on a stroll around the country along the river. Took Barnett along and we visited Mr. Thurston's house. He was previously a Liet in the Rebel Service, full of southern feeling but careful and proper in his expressions. Afternoon saw the Colonel and Major who rode out along the river. It is a beautiful country and the men like the duty so well that they hope to remain some time. Call at another house, saw young ladies and was invited to dinner. Afternoon visited the ~~wife of a~~ widow of a Rebel Colonel killed at Sharpsburg. Mrs. Taylor, a very pretty, but to all appearances, a very bitter lady. Visited Mr. Burke's place. A beautiful plantation. under good state of cultivation. Plenty of milk. On my return to camp found orders to leave. We embark tonight the messenger said. [MS illegible] enough a long tedious march in and on board the *Delaware* at twelve ocl. Very tired with my pack.

THURSDAY, May 5<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Had a very refreshing sleep and awoke late. Good breakfast and now I have just been looking over the maps and have learned that our destination is City Point and that it is [probable?] We are to march thru Petersburg. During the day I wrote Lilly a letter and delivered it to the Purser who will post it. I was very tired and in the afternoon took a long nap which refreshed me very much. Evening we arrived at our destination which proved to be two miles above City Point on the Petersburg side. I learned from Col. Barton that there is a general movement of all the grand divisions of the army or rather that is the intention. The 18<sup>th</sup> Corps landed first. There was a rebel flag of [truce?] boat at City Point. In our [expedition?] we counted at one time within sight more than forty steamers besides numerous other crafts all loaded with troops. We landed at midnight and encamped in an open field. We are about 90 miles from Fortress Monroe. The view is a beautiful one and on either side highly cultivated on many plantations. On either side of the river for much of the way the land was perpendicular to the water. We captured a rebel signal party, killing one.

FRIDAY, May 6<sup>th</sup>, 1864

We laid down on the ground, the Regt being closed in, was in double columns. Had a comfortable rest for a few hours and rose early. Light breakfast for I have but little. It is now about 10 ocl. AM and we are waiting to get everything on shore and shall move forward soon. The 18<sup>th</sup> Corps is still in advance under Genl Smith. Just before noon we started on march being assured before we start that we shall not go far. We are further told that it is not the intention to take either Fort Darling or Petersburg but we are here to cooperate with Grant in case he is successful. During the day we marched only five miles but it was very dusty and warm and trying. My [bridle?] weighed heavy before night but I was not resolute to carry it. I know that my double blanket would be needed at night. We finally encamped in a ploughed field. Capt. Wyman brought wood that [he] had. Crossed the Rapidan and had been fighting two days. [Not relieved?] The Orderly Sgt furnished me with a [shoulder rub?] and I retired early. A little firing was heard but for a short time only. I feel tonight I am the dirtiest fellow who has been in these parts for some time. [Well] I can't help it and do not much. [MS illegible writing sideways in margin].

SATURDAY, May 7<sup>th</sup>, 1864

I was constrained to rise against my inclination for I heard the orderly [Lt?] say that we move in a half hour. Had a very good breakfast, the first good meal since we left the steamer. Started from Camp before sunrise and now I am writing seated on my pack on the side of the road about a half mile from camp waiting for the rebels to come down on the railroad which is only two miles distant. We're still in the rear of the column. Started again after about an hour rest and marched in a [roundabout] road a long distance out of our way. Finally we halted and left our knapsacks and packs. Afterwards halted again and left our rubber blankets and then moved forward for the fight. Filed through the woods into our position and rested a half hour during which time I collected several flowers for L. Went into the fight as skirmishes in the front line. Became detached from the Regt and went off on my own [to] look into the [turnpike?] where we did [a] good [execution?]. The 115<sup>th</sup> followed us down the hill and the rebels came down from their position and attacked us at not farther than 50 yards distance. There were two Regts and they drove us out of the woods. My orderly was shot in the shoulder and others were shot down at my side. I was grazed in the arm but not injured. Our position on the hill was such that we could see the whole rebel force and their movements were performed most accurately. The whole view was the finest I ever expect to see while in the service. It was like a beautiful [harmonium?]. They met the fire on our right promptly and succeeded in my men return firing. Was ordered to retreat and collected my men and went back, for the fire was terrible. Men were killed and wounded all around me and as I went away I heard the terrible shrieks and groans of the wounded and dying.

SUNDAY, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Returned late last night but awoke refreshed with a sound sleep. We rest today and I take the opportunity after breakfast of going down to the brook to bathe. Good breakfast and I spend the day or that part of it when not engaged with others in getting my tent and things in order. On the whole I spent the day in a decent manner. In the afternoon my valise arrived and I was able to change my clothes [for] which [I] was very grateful. A portion of the evening I spent in talking with the officers about yesterday's fight and we all agree that it was managed most miserably. Headquarters mocks us with the statement that it was a success when we only tore up a little track and cut the telegraph wire with the loss of several [hundred?]. All my men have returned except two. J.S. Smith and Stubbs. The loss of the Regt is almost 40. 115<sup>th</sup> loss more. 47<sup>th</sup>, 2 officers and quite a number of men. Sat up until quite late writing L. and Mother. Heard tonight that Lee had been whipped and himself and Longstreet wounded. We go out again tomorrow. There is to be a grand advance and we hope a success and I hope our men have a part in it.

MONDAY, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 1864

I have little to record of personal experience, which will be considered of interest hereafter. There has been a general advance but we have not participated, being in one of the two Brigades left behind. We even marched out of camp at an early hour in light marching orders. It was intimated to us the night before that we were to use the Gilman rifle i.e. spade and picks but we hoped it would not prove true and that we should move with the attacking columns. Disappointed. Worked hard on the entrenchments and at

MONDAY, May 9<sup>th</sup>, 1864

night went back to our camp and took everything away and returned to the entrenchments taking up our position to the rear. The report from the front is that the Battalion has been quite successful and will be able to enter Petersburg in the morning. The firing has been kept up around us during the day and still continues. Howell's Brigade reported driven back and we lay on our [arms] during the night. Disturbed twice and disgusted with the [Comidy?] officer, Col. P. [Laisted] who is an old booby. On the whole an uncomfortable day. Sent my letters to Lilly and Mother. [Evening] returned to the camp busy from duty. Reported that two gunboats had been blown up. Afterward contradicted news [*MS illegible written sideways in margin*] within a quarter of a mile of the James River.

TUESDAY, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 1864

[*MS illegible. Writing in margins and sideways on top of previous writing*] Difficult amid the many marches and countermarches, fights and retreats but hope to be able to keep this diary in the service. The morning we were anxious before light and took our place behind entrenchments. Firing was kept up during most of the night, we were roused up twice and I got very little sleep. This morning very tired. During the early part of the morning the firing increased and about 10 oclk were ordered to fall in and go out and assist Col. Howell who was expected to fall back before evening. The men were at [*MS illegible*] on the entrenchments. We marched and countermarched until we got pretty tired. While in the woods we were in some danger of being burned for the fires were raging with a high wind. A little after noon we arrived at the position designated for us and waited in ambush for the rebels. None appeared and we returned to camp for the night. I tried to write Lilly but was too tired to finish. While in ambush we saw a dispatch from Secretary Stanton to Genl Barton stating that the rebels in full retreat and Meade following [*MS illegible*]. Returning to camp we heard that the Rebels had asked for a flag of truce to bury their dead. [Corporal] Foster who went to meet it stated that Rebels were piled in heaps and many of them have been making the most sickening sounds he ever witnessed – They were driven by [negro] Division and met Howell's Brigade. Our [loss?] 15 in number [*MS illegible*].

WEDNESDAY, May 11<sup>th</sup>, 1864

It has been a day of rest and we have enjoyed it much. Indeed it was needed for we have marched and worked continually since our arrival. The men here had an opportunity to get something to eat. I had my tent put in as good condition as possible. I forgot to say that we moved from behind the entrenchments to our old camp ground. During the day I have rested such time as I could get to myself. At dinner I was surprised and delighted by the receipt of letters from Lilly and Mother. 2 from Lilly very good indeed. Although I sent a letter to her this morning I could not forbear writing again this evening. Should have written Mother and Mr. Taylor but was interrupted by Liet. Sears. Was taken sick today after tea but hope I will not suffer in this way for I am alone in command of the company. Finished a letter to Lilly but hope to write further tomorrow and to write Mother and Mr. Taylor also.

THURSDAY, May 12<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Aroused very early in the morning by the orderly who stated that the Regt was ordered to be in line at daylight in light marching order with two day rations. The letter which I wrote to Lilly and which I thought too dirty to send I felt obliged to leave with the Postmaster. Moved off beyond rear Bottom Church down toward the river where we were support to the skirmishes who extended nearly to the river bank. We acted as Flankers during the march. Soon after starting it commenced raining and continued during the day with slight intervals. Had nothing to protect me and, like the men, suffered much. Was wet through-soaked- Marched and countermarched but did no fighting. Some losses occurred in the Regt in the night but not heavy. The paper of the 10<sup>th</sup> NY [Tribune] gave an account of the battle of the Potomac and not so favorable as I hoped. Encamped in the edge of woods. Made fire and tried to keep ourselves dry. The hardest day since we arrived. Saw Genl Smith and Butler. Have not felt well tonight.

FRIDAY, May 13<sup>th</sup>, 1864

It was a very uncomfortable night. I tried to sleep on two flat rails near the fire but it was hard work, disturbed during the night several times. Indeed I had only snatches of sleep for I was wet and it continued to rain during the night. I had no blankets and no outside coat. Roused up pretty early in the morning. Pretty good breakfast, sent Tom back for my rubber coat and other traps. Spent the forenoon in trying to rest but got no sleep. Talked with the rebel prisoner who was brought in yesterday. Wandered about from place to place doing little or nothing. Just after noon the Regt moved forward and up to the Richmond [Turnpike?] along which we marched a mile or two and then formed in line of battle on its left. Saw Richmond for a time and also Fort Darling. Got a good view of the country. Am now sitting at the foot of a tree and the firing is going on in our front and on our left. We don't know when we shall rest tonight or when we shall get anything to eat. It has been raining. Rested at night in the woods as a [*MS illegible in bottom margin*] of battle as [*MS illegible in bottom margin*]. Same [for] this afternoon but no loss in our Regt seems shots flew around us. Received intelligence of a victory by Meade. Early's division taken prisoner 18,000 men and 30 or 40 pieces of artillery. Mr. Taylor, Chaplain, returned but brought no news for me.

SATURDAY, May 14<sup>th</sup>, 1864

It rained during the night and had no protection but my rubber coat. Still I managed to sleep pretty well and, this morning feel quite refreshed. We moved forward this morning after breakfast beyond the rifle pits abandoned by the rebels last night. Genl Gilmore turned the rebels right and obliged them to abandon their works. We have had heavy firing along the lines but not many wounded. We are still acting as reserve. Just now we heard that we were to storm the advance of the rebel works, which will be a hot job. Genl's [Tracey?] and Ames are steadily advancing on our left. In the afternoon the Regt moved forward to take the place of the 76<sup>th</sup> who have been in the advance for the last 24 hours, sometimes under heavy fire. I was selected to take charge of the skirmishes and moved with 60 men into the woods in advance of our lines. Relieved the 76<sup>th</sup> but did not move forward, as skirmishes for the 11<sup>th</sup> men covered our front. Lay in the edge of the woods. At night sent a few lines to Lilly.

SUNDAY, May 15<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Early this morning my command was deployed forwards as skirmishes into the open grounds in front of the second lines of works. Snoozed a little during the night and felt quite well considering. During the forenoon I moved about among the skirmishes, on each flank. Was considerably exposed but able and willing to discharge my duty. The sharpshooter men were very busy. They were in the trees on the edge of the entrenchments and in rifle pits in front. The men cowered behind logs and stumps and fired well, but I think with little [execution] for the rebels were [covered?]. Felt that I was being fired at quite often but through the Goodness of Providence my life was spared. Only one of my men was wounded. We returned to the Regt about noon and I enjoyed the luxury of a wash and spent the latter hours of the day quite Sabbath-like and in a happy frame of mind, as letter from Lilly contributing very much to produce the result. Had my little sing all alone with Lilly. The Major slept with me.

MONDAY, May 16<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Very early this morning the firing commenced very heavy on the right of our line and afterwards on the left. We heard the demonic yells of the rebels at intervals as if they attacked and were repulsed several times. They ~~rebels however~~ retreated the assaults until we felt they had at last been successful. They also assaulted the units on our left but we learned afterwards that they were repelled three times and did not succeed. Finally about 8 oclk they attacked our lines. The Regt on our right gave way and left our flank exposed. Then the rebels poured into us and around our barricade and we suffered terribly. My company stood until I ordered them away and at that time they fell around me thick and fast. [Keyes] killed. Cope, Smalls & Brassiel killed, 11 wounded. I cannot forget Sgt. Lawson wounded [so badly?] now Corpl Burton and poor Reed, Davey and above all, brave Vreeland. I mourn for them. We fell back by order of Col. Barton and then went back afterwards. Fell back to the entrenchments then moved across the [swamp?] and back to camp, stopping several times on the way. We were defeated by the rebels turning our right flank. I could write many papers of incidents of the day's work but they are stamped on my memory and will not be offered. I shall not lessen the work of my brave good men. They stood by me well and may always trust in them. I hope I may always have courage to lead them into battle.

TUESDAY, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Last night I wrote Lilly before I retired and then had a good sleep. This morning before breakfast I went to the woods and took a thorough wash and an excellent breakfast and spent the forenoon in visiting, talking and writing to Mother. Went to the Genl Hospital to see my men but they had all gone to the Point. I saw very many poor fellows wounded in various parts of the body and the sight was sickening. That pile of legs was too much for me. I tried to say good words but soon left. Afternoon saw Elfwing who is quite ill. The subject of conversation, the battle of yesterday. D.W.S. Dudley was even struck was our ingenious interpretation and near the truth. Listened to the 3d NY band and went to my quarters with a fullness of the enjoyment of the sweet music. Evening in quarters wrote a little and read the papers of the 16<sup>th</sup> which the Chaplain brought up. News favorable, but I wish on reading the papers of the 18<sup>th</sup> & 19<sup>th</sup> to tell us the [background?]

TUESDAY, May 17<sup>th</sup>, 1864

to the story of his [whipping] [*MS illegible*] in order to the forces opposed to us on Monday.

WEDNESDAY, May 18<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Awakened during the night by heavy firing and thinking it possible that the rebels had attacked our unit. I changed my clothes, packed up all my things to be ready for a move. After waiting some time the firing died away and I retired again. Late in the morning when I arose and I had just time to prepare for inspection, which took place at 9 A.M. The Regt was scarcely inspected before we were ordered to fall in and move to the front. We lay back of our entrenchments until 6 P.M. when our Regt was ordered to join Genl Ame's Command. Marched outside the works to act as reserve skirmishers but everything was [screwed] up and finally we were deployed on the advance line over being the only Regt out. Connected with Genl Tracey's left. Commanded Co. H & A and afterwards Co. B reported to me. Col. Strickland in his usual plan. Coan sick but working. Up all the way and only laid down for a few moments. The rebels are close to us and have done much execution on the Co's I relieved. I suppose we shall have a shock in the morning. The Rebs have a battery opposed [team?]. Nearly blinded by the explosion of a shell.

THURSDAY, May 19<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning as I write the shots, shells and bullets are whizzing over me. The rebels have opened heavily as I expected early. I was surprised at receiving the fire of several batteries. My men made rifle pits and are pretty well protected. One man badly wounded thus far. I think it probable the rebels will attack us in masses during the day. A more tedious day than common. The left was attacked by assault but the rebels were driven back with considerable slaughter. Waited and watched anxiously for the relief until, at last, just before dusk, it came. Those who came to my end of the line relieved Liet. Barnett before I knew they had come, and he went in with his company and those nearest him followed suit. Consequently I soon found myself without any command. Most in [sic] [all] alone. The line assaulted just as I was moving in. The bullets whistled lively and I made my way out of the [*MS illegible*] about as fast as I could for I felt how ridiculous it would be to get a shot in the back while retreating without any command. Arrived safe. Some trouble about the manner that the Regt came in but no fault of mine.

FRIDAY, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 1864

About midnight we were aroused and drawn up in line but afterwards dismissed. It was terribly trying to the men and, if not, necessary, cruelly outrageous. My rest being broken in upon this was not of so much benefit as it would have been and this morning I got up rather late, not much refreshed. Busied myself in getting the company in order and providing them with ammunition &c. At last sat down to write Lilly which is my chief pleasure now. Scarcely have I commenced writing before the orders came to move. I finished the letter abruptly and moved out with the company. We marched to the rear of one entrenchment and halted. And, remained, until night and then rested on our arms. I

FRIDAY, May 20<sup>th</sup>, 1864

laid down on the field. Considerable fighting on the line. The 97<sup>th</sup> Penn assaulted the skirmish line which we occupied yesterday but was repulsed with great slaughter. Genl Tracey reported successful in the night. He captured rebel Genl Walker, wounded, and some other [positions?] reported to be called upon to assault the skirmish line. Rejoiced when we learned I was up ~~much to my relief~~. Four letters from Lilly, 3 old and one new. Oh, how [welcome] they were, that [they] arrived all thru changes and trials and sufferings that bond remain unmarred and unbroken.

SATURDAY, MAY 21<sup>ST</sup>, 1864

It was cold last night and I did not rest well. During the day we lay around on the hill [and] [I] sure [was] very uncomfortable and very tired and very hungry. The regiment is getting very much exhausted and we need rest. We are being worked too hard. Went to see the entrenchment which, [is] fast being strengthened so that we may need have no fear of an attack. Went into camp in the afternoon late. Cleaned up and dressed up as well as I could. Had a good supper and then took a walk around the camp. Saw Liet. [Falcob?] and Edwards and had a pleasant talk, especially with the latter. Listened to the 3<sup>rd</sup> NY band which [dispensed?] excellent music. I have enjoyed the evening exceedingly. A letter, very good indeed, from Lilly, it seems the best I ever had. I shall certainly get out of the service as soon as I can conscientiously. Made an attempt to write Lilly but was interrupted by an order to fall in. The firing is very heavy along the lines.

SUNDAY, May 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1864

Just about midnight we were aroused and marched to the rear of the entrenchment. The firing was heavy artillery and infantry and we thought our line of entrenchment has been attacked but after waiting a half hour we were marched back to camp, the firing having ceased. We learned today that the rebels attacked our line of rifle pits but were repulsed with heavy loss. At three oclck this morning we were roused up again and between 4 & 5 we were marched to the front. We were tired and I felt quite unwell. Felt better after breakfast but in spite of my efforts I have not been able to spend the day, Sabbath-like. The letter from Lilly I received last night has contributed to put me in good nature. We spent the day lying about near the Regt, very tedious it has been and we were all tired at night. No firing during the day but warm and uncomfortable. We hoped to get in tonight but no relief came. All retired early for we have to get up very early in the morning. Sent a letter to Lilly only half written but there was no opportunity to finish it.

MONDAY, May 23d, 1864

We were roused up very early and the men obliged to stand in place rest until daylight. Passed an uncomfortable night and did not feel well this morning. Baked and stewed in the sun again all day. It is very tedious and we are really being abused, for the Regt has not been allowed a night rest for a long time. I am pretty well tired out. Read the newspapers, wrote a letter to Lilly, talked, did everything I could to pass the time, but it dragged wearily along. This morning I received no letters from other party members of the family since we left South Carolina, although I have written. Went to camp early

MONDAY, May 23d, 1864

afternoon or a rather evening. Changed my clothes and washed up and tried to feel comfortable with the hope of a good night rest but, alas, orders came that we must be ready to move, all packed at 3 A.M. next day.

TUESDAY, May 24<sup>th</sup>, 1864

As we were informed at three A.M. we were called into line, the camp all struck and packed up. It is cruel to call men so tired and I know it is unnecessary. I did not feel well at all this morning and the want of sleep is beginning to tell. Moved into the woods area in the entrenchments and put our tents up as best we could in the very limited space allowed us. Our form is close columns by division and put up tents between stacks. Everything is done with an utter disregard of the condition and wants of the men, for it would have been quite easy to have cut away some space. Officer of the Day. At 3-1/2 P.M. Regt informed they would go on picket at 4. Perfectly outrageous. Started before 4. Everything is done in the most trying way possible and if the men can be deprived of a good meal it seems [they] [will] accomplish this. Went out toward Ware Bottom Church. Relieved the 10<sup>th</sup> Conn. Was very vigilant as indeed I felt compelled to be. The men tired and [sluggish]. Hard to keep them awake.

WEDNESDAY, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Still on Picket. Thus far nothing of interest has occurred. The Rebels are very busy at work at something we can't tell what. No firing, by agreement laid, to have been made through flag of truce. The rebs took advantage of it to work and approach near enough to see our lines. During the afternoon I went down to the right of our line and left of the 76<sup>th</sup> P.V. The rebels were in sight in great numbers, most of them seemed to belong to working parties, for they had spades, picks and axes. They were behind their works, not nearer than 200 or 300 yds and their videttes were in some places within 50 yds. They came up to our line to exchange papers and wandered about generally in perfect confidence. The reason for the request to stop firing was apparent for under cover of it they worked like bees. Threw up entrenchments opposite our lines, and no doubt a position that they can completely flank our lines. The truth is we must vacate because no one has taken care to see how we were situated and we have left them to erect such works that they can [command] our lines. In camp early evening Lockwood out of the service, lucky fellow. Bid him good bye. Sent Lilly's letter for Fannie by him. He will see Frank. Letter from Lilly. They are my chief pleasures. Letter from Mr. Wyman.

THURSDAY, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 1864

All day in camp but Col. Barton is very stringent in regard to laying out the camp so that we are much disturbed and compelled to move our tents [*MS illegible*] the company [streets?] &c. In the evening orders come to be prepared to move. The orders are of such a character that we can make nothing of them, nor from any conjecture as to wherever we are to go. Before Taps we make up our mind that we shall not move tonight and I laid down thinking to get rest for I need it much. Have not been quite well for several days

THURSDAY, May 26<sup>th</sup>, 1864

and am hardly fit to march but must try to go. A letter from Lilly and one from Sergeant Dunn. He informs me of the death of Vreeland, which makes me sad, for he was a noble fellow. The letter [from] Lilly has been some time on the way, as it is dated the 12<sup>th</sup>. Her letters are very cheering and it is my chief pleasure to hear from and write to her. Sent a letter to Lilly.

FRIDAY, May 27<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning I woke up quite sick. Sore all over and certainly I shall not be able to move if the Regt is ordered away. Drank some tea for breakfast and immediately after was sick at my stomach and lost all I had eaten. Feel weak and miserable. Everything here seems to contribute to this. The water is bad and we have no real rest, being ordered up in the morning at three o'clock and kept up late at night. It is now 3:00 o'clock P.M. and fresh orders have arrived to move and the impression seems to be that we are to cross the James River to join General Ames. I started with the company for I do not wish to leave them as long as I can walk. Feel a little better than I did in the morning. We marched at about sundown and it was dark when we reach our halting place which is about two miles in rear of Genl Gilmore's Headquarters, where several Brigades are encamped. We don't know what is to become of us. Tent put up tonight. Hard for the men. News from Grant [is] good, and such intelligence as we have received from him from time to time has gone far toward keeping up the spirits of the men. Lie down with Ingraham under the trees. Mail in but not distributed.

SATURDAY, May 28<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Enjoyed a good sleep last night and although I rose early feel much better and considerably refreshed. A letter from Lilly who writes very frequently and very kindly and whose letters I prize beyond meaning. I am Acting Officer of the Day and have succeeded in getting the camp laid out in good order. There is a great deal of growling, army officers as well as men, and I try and keep in as good humor as possible and assist in regulating matters as far as my authority extends. We have just received orders to get ready for inspection and a move which will probably take place this evening. We have no idea where we are going. Shall write Lilly today and send off my Returns for April. Left camp a little before dark. A very tedious march to the Appomattox and [for sure?] had lost the road. Another tedious march and across the Appomattox on a pontoon bridge on to City Point. Arrived just before daylight. Altogether the most tedious march I have ever undertaken. Feet sore and weary.

SUNDAY, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 1864

After an hour visit at the outskirts of the town, we started again for the boat. Stowed on board a very small propeller and a canal boat. Filled to the utmost, they did not cease attempting to crowd one more until we left the wharf. Succeeded getting a wash and change of underclothes this afternoon. Trouble with Fee, in which I think I was right. Shall pursue the matter unless he makes suitable apologies, for he was very

SUNDAY, May 29<sup>th</sup>, 1864

impudent and I think very wrong. A beautiful Sabbath day and although I have not slept, I have been resting this afternoon. We are now on our way to Fortress Monroe there to await orders. Genl Martindale visiting at City Point. General impression is that we are going to the White House. Wrote to Lilly this evening and intended to write to Mother but was too sleepy. Retired early.

MONDAY, May 30<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Woke at breakfast time having enjoyed a refreshing sleep. Have spent the day reading, writing, talking, and loafing, the usual manner of spending time on shipboard. We expected to have stopped at Fortress Monroe, where I intended to go on shore and make some purchases, but we were ordered as soon as we arrived to proceed up the York River without stopping. Thus our letters must lie until we reach our destination. No papers and no news. A quiet ride up the river. A very pleasant day. The banks of the river presenting changing scenery all ~~the way~~ fields of interest and beauty. A very interesting conversation with Dr. Leeb, our surgeon, who is a very intelligent man with a good knowledge of human nature, as well as of his profession. A quiet, comfortable day and an admirable opportunity in all to get rested. We all needed it.

TUESDAY, May 31<sup>st</sup>, 1864

We landed at the While House Point about the middle of the forenoon. The Chaplain was at the landing and told us that Grant's Army was within 8 miles of Richmond and of us but I [sic] afterwards heard that Grant was 20 miles away, which is probably nearer the trust. Busy as a bee looking after rations for myself and men. About 7 PM we started on the march to join Grant. It was a terrible march and having a bad pair of boots I suffered much for my ankles were worn raw. After marching until near morning we arrived at our destination only to find that we were to go on picket. It was cruel more particularly because we knew it was not our turn. The country that we passed through was most interesting and the soil apparently good. Deep glens, clear heavy woods, fields in full state of cultivation followed each other. And although exhausted, I enjoyed the scenery and [*MS illegible*] sweet [smell?] on the flowers and shrubs on the roadside which loaded the air with fragrance. The 8<sup>th</sup> Army corps is arriving [*MS illegible*] 12,000 or 15,000 men. Fortunately we were reserve on picket.

WEDNESDAY, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1864

Called up at a very early hour and commenced our movement forward to Grant's Army. A very hot day and the dust was terrible. We had but few stops and I was nearly exhausted. Letter from Father, acknowledging the receipt of the note and money. We arrived at the point when we expected to rest when we found we were expected to engage in battle. I could not believe it until I found myself marching to the point in line of battle. Orders were received direct from Genl Smith but the Lt. Col. was slow and late as usual and I was compelled in the absence of any superior officer to give the word of command. Succeeded finally in moving the Regt forward on the line of the 47<sup>th</sup> and charged across the field through the woods. The fight in the rifle pits which we took. The order to

WEDNESDAY, June 1<sup>st</sup>, 1864

retreat, given by some unknown party. The three attempts to rally, during all which I had command of the Rgt. All them I will never forget. It was a terrible time but Thank God I was enabled to do my duty and my life was spared. Needed to rest at night but could not. We lost our US Colors.

THURSDAY, June 2d, 1864

I am writing up my diary while in the woods opposite the rebel's works. The balls are whistling around us quite lively. Several of our men have been wounded this morning. Genl Hancock is near with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps. The 6<sup>th</sup> is also [nearby] and a great battle is supposed to be pending in which we must participate although we are not in a fit condition. Moved up to the front with such men as I could collect. Took parts of each company in all about 100 men. Lay for some time on the edge of the woods through which we charged yesterday. Afterwards moved to the left and took a position when we were exposed to flank fire. Liet. Barrett wounded near me and afterwards Liet. Taylor. Several men. Relieved by the 139<sup>th</sup> PA. To camp. Up tents and in them for an hour when we were ordered to the [breastworks?] again. They will wear us to death. Casualties thus far, 1 officer killed, 4 wounded, 1[sick], 80 men killed, none captured or missing. Our Regt looks like a company. I am in charge of the Regt again. Raining when I laid down. A very uncomfortable night. Poor men are tired and worked almost to death. A letter from Lilly, grateful and a letter written in reply.

FRIDAY, June 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1864

Woke up chilled and shaking after an hour's rest. Spent a hard night. This morning got a partial breakfast and have been reading papers and listening to the firing which has been very heavy. We moved a little to our left. Have the impression from the nature of the firing that we have not been successful. Know nothing, however. Lt. Col. not yet appeared. Sent my letter to Lilly by the 2<sup>nd</sup> Sergeant. We moved several times along the same line of entrenchment, but not far. We had a good rest in a sheltered position. One of my men (Cook) came in from the picket line severely wounded. Learned that Brower and Steenwertt in hospital, wounded. Just at dark the rebels charged twice on our left but were driven back with great slaughter each time. We felt quite easy in our position, although the bullets came over us occasionally. We were all very much pleased to see Col. Barton back, who although quite unfit for duty, would not stay away from his command. Col. Strickland's case was [evaluated] and I think something will be done with him at once. I wrote a short letter and sent it to Father. A consultation of all the [officers][*MS illegible*] this afternoon, Grant's grand plan &c. White flower found in swamp near our line, June 4<sup>th</sup>.

SATURDAY, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 1864

It is now noon. After lying until about an hour in the old position we advanced directly in front of our line a hundred yards or so. I am [in] command of the Regt. Major Coan is on business at the rear. He has now returned. The report now is that we shall advance by approaches or rest for a little while. All in good spirits. Enjoyed a good night's rest and

SATURDAY, June 4<sup>th</sup>, 1864

feel pretty well, although my appetite is not good. We gained a slight success on the left yesterday. Wrote a letter to Lilly which I gave to the Brigade mail carrier. Have felt unusually well all day. In the afternoon, I borrowed the orderly's horse and rode back to the wagon train, where I had an excellent supper with Liet. Major. It was a great relief to get out of range and sit down quietly for a few moments. Returned in season to find the Regt., which moved soon after, to the left and afterwards to the right again, taking an exposed position in the rear of our advanced line of works, but within good range of the rebels. We are told that we shall move to the left tomorrow. It seems as if some important move was contemplated. Col. Strickland has resigned and Col. Barton has his papers to forward. Wrote a letter complaining a great deal of his treatment but he finds no sympathy on account of his conduct.

SUNDAY, June 5<sup>th</sup>, 1864

It rained nearly all night and is still sprinkling. Early the rebels commenced firing on us and in a short time four men were wounded; one, Yerks, from my company. Saw Col. Curtis and obtained permission to move the left wing behind the right which has taken [us] out of the heavy firing, although the bullets whistle over and near us every now and then. Have built heavy rifle pits and if the men keep down there will be little danger. Capt. Swartwout with us this morning. While in the rifle pits received several letters, including one from Lilly, which I had somehow expected. Enjoyed them all and sat [an] hour to write Lilly but it grew dark before I could finish the letter. Have thought of her much during the day. Have been annoyed and exhausted with the fire to which we have been exposed all day long. The men have built intricate and successive lines of pits but have been much exposed, notwithstanding. Seven men wounded in all. Moved in the evening to the new front where we are within a few hundred yards of the rebel line. An assault of the rebels in our left, repulsed with great loss to them.

MONDAY, June 6<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Had considerable sleep during the night but have not felt well but rather tired and languid during the day. No regular attack but desultory firing during the whole day. No men lost but compelled to keep close to the works for the rebels are very close in their practice and succeeded in throwing dirt in my face while leaning over the parapet. This afternoon there was a cessation for a short time and we had an opportunity of seeing the rebel works which are not as strong as ours and are disseminated. The impression is that we move to the left perhaps across the Chickahominy. Saw Liet. Wilson, the old sergeant at Daufuskie. Letter from Frank who has received the trunk, letters &c. and promises to write more frequently hereafter. Went back into the woods in the morning and took our stations behind entrenchments and lay down to sleep. Before we left entrenchments got the signals together and indulged the Rebs in [*MS illegible*]. The 148<sup>th</sup> Band on our left played very fine music in the front rifle pits.

TUESDAY, June 7<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A bright happy day. Enjoyed a good sleep and consequently have felt well all day. We lay perfectly quiet, only the rebels have thrown shot and shell around and over us quite lively. None of our men hurt but some in the rear have been lost. The right have been keeping up a lively fire and this evening, it is reported, that Burnside has lost his front line and a number of prisoners and material. All our fires, except Burnside's Corps and on our left and the right, has been strongly fortified to prevent its being turned. It is also supposed that several of the Corps are across the Chickahominy but is by no means certain. Reports in regard to Pope are circulated which if true, will have an important bearing on the company. The bands have been playing along our lines during the evening. Having indulged in a thorough bath, I felt in a mood for enjoying and making music and I have been sweetly dreaming of home and friends. Sent letter to Lilly and one to Frank, containing a number of letters to be placed in my trunk.

WEDNESDAY, June 8<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning woke early expecting to move in accordance with notification received last night. There was sounds of heavy firing on the left last night but I did not hear it. Nothing new. We lay all day [waiting?] [for?] orders, sleeping, talking, reading & writing. No casualties and on the whole a comfortable day. On the arrival of the mail, received a letter from Lilly, which I felt was my share of the mail. Papers of the 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> but nothing in them except falsehoods. No account of our charge of June 1<sup>st</sup> except a general statement. Wrote a letter to L. and another to Mr. Ingraham, enclosing two letters, addressed to his son. We broke up our camp at nightfall and took up our position in the pits behind the line occupied by us three nights ago. Account in Richmond paper of a victory by Hunter over [Jones?] and [took?] Staunton. Rebels Genl Jones killed.

THURSDAY, June 9<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A quiet night for which we all got good rest. During the day I have been in command of the Regt as Major Coan is Division Officer of the Day. Have been reading much of the time and sleeping at odd intervals. There has been little firing. Rumors have been current [representing?] that we have captured 1000 prisoners near Botts bridge. And now just at nightfall we hear cheering on all sides and are told that Genl Gillmore has taken Fort Darling but we do not believe it for we know his force is small and he has recently suffered a [?se]. The last report is that Hancock has beaten the rebels, captured a number/1000 prisoners, including General Ewell, but it is a mere idle rumor. We are to remain here tonight and accordingly make ourselves as comfortable as possible and retire early. All quiet. Genl Burnside is having the woods cut away to [connect] with the Corps.

FRIDAY, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1864

It has been a very pleasant day and we have been lying quietly behind the entrenchment. The opening to Burnside's Corps has been completed and a battery on the other side has been playing on the rebels and they have returned the fire ~~which~~ which has made it quite warm. One shell burst over us and scattered the pieces around us. The rifle shots never

FRIDAY, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1864

come very near us. No news at all. Wrote Mr. Marsh. Have felt quite well and read nearly all day. More rumors, but none that we credit. The orders discharging Lt. Col. Strickland came this evening. Wrote Mr. Marsh and mentioned that the [Majority?] was vacant. Wrote Lilly. Listened to the songs by Owen Co & a sweet singing and went back to our old ground in the rear, under the same old [tree?].

SATURDAY, June 11<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Have been in command of the Regt all day until evening. Major Coan being absent at the rear. Inspection in the morning. Finished letter to Mr. Marsh, to Lilly. Wrote George and Mr. Wyman and sent them all away. The one to Mr. Marsh, early in the morning by Baker, the mail carrier. Writing nearly all day. It seems quite settled that a new base has been determined upon on the James River, somewhere and the army has commenced to retrograde movement. Nothing has been said to me in regard to the promotions in the Regt and I shall act independently. Mortar shells from the rebel battery have been landing near us. Got shaved and feel better for it, although I feel weak and tired. Have in the whole, been busy all day. We shall probably go into the advanced rifle pits tonight, but very likely shall move out to the rear during the night. We did move, but then advanced during the night before leaving camp. However, I received a letter from Lilly. Quite a large mail.

SUNDAY, June 12<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Quite a cool night. Slept with my sword and pistol on. The men [fixed their?] bayonets before lying down. Have, during the day, felt well and in good humor. Having a half sheet of paper left, I could not resist the temptation to write Lilly. It is now afternoon and we have learned that all of our Corps, with the exception of Barton's Brigade, and one or two other Regts, have the major days we are going to Bermuda Hundred. The Army to follow soon. We shall probably march to White House tonight. Have been in command the [sic] most of the day. A Major being in the rear somewhere. I [?me] hearing the news. A warm day. Just at dark everything got in readiness to vacate the rifle pits but the Major returned and told us that we should be the last to leave and soon the 76<sup>th</sup> Regt on our left moving out of the pits and we occupied the whole line. Thus we remained constantly harassed with the firing and hollering of the rebels fearing they would attack our work lines. Tried to rest a little but was too cold. Kept waking and watching until [MS illegible] Jeff. Co D Dog went in front of the works and scared up a lot of rebels in a hole in front of one sharpshooter and commenced [barking] at them for which ultimately he lost his life as one of the rebs put a rifle ball through his head. Capt. Smith of the 111<sup>th</sup> in retaliation, shot one of the rebels. We all felt badly at the loss of Jeff for he has been in the Regt [MS illegible].

MONDAY, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 1864

We commenced moving out of the rifle pits about one oclk in the morning, the companies going on from the left. The rebels in the woods every now and then fired on our sharpshooters in the woods and sometimes into the pits. The Rebels kept up their musket

MONDAY, June 13<sup>th</sup>, 1864

shells against our rifles, but none of our men were lost. As the companies reached the rendezvous in the woods they were forward and we waited for Major Coan's line. Companies were taken down the road to where we formed for the charge on the 1<sup>st</sup> of June. The Major went back for the three companies in the rifle pits. Col. Henry, who has charge of the rear line, ordered me to start with his brigade and we commenced our march for the White House. Within one half of about ten minutes we kept up the march without stopping until we were within  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a mile. The most trying march I ever took. Arrived at White House about 10 AM. Remained all day and shall not embark until tomorrow. Bath and change of clothes and a rest. Examined the ruins of the White House and plucked a few leaves from the shrubs remaining in the ruins. No flowers. Retired early, very much exhausted.

TUESDAY, June 14<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning awoke about 7 o'clock having enjoyed a pretty good rest but still feel very sore and tired. Orders came in [8 o'clock] to embark. We were for a long time getting aboard and getting off. Considerable trouble about our meals but finally succeeded in arranging with the Captain to provide us while on board. Had a very good sail down the Pamunkey. No berths but the doctor got a room for one of the hands and changed with me. Retired early. I am very much used up and am out of order. Near command of seven companies. The Major on another boat with two companies. The whole army is moving and we are going to Bermuda Hundred. I hope this move may be successful. We shall probably get some rest on board.

WEDNESDAY, June 15<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Have enjoyed a good rest and feel better. If we can only be one night more in board, another night we can get so rested that we shall be in a condition for work, otherwise I am sure I shall not feel like doing anything. Have during the day enjoyed the scenery on the James River. No problems landing and [moving] all along. Within twenty miles of City Point. A pontoon bridge at Fort Powhatan. Arrive at Bermuda Hundred about 4 P.M. Have written a letter to Lilly, another to Father. Saw Jamestown and the old Church, or rather its ruins. The oldest Church in America, so it is said. We are now about landing at Bermuda Hundred but I see nothing of the rest of the Brigade or Division. Have been thinking that just three months from today my time is up. Arrive at the dock, ordered to disembark by Genl Ames and proceed to Genl Brigade Headquarters. Had to [?] my way. Arrived, washed and felt better. Men in camp prepared to enjoy the night. 18<sup>th</sup> Corps fighting at Petersburg; not taken. Broke camp, proceeded to a point behind the entrenchments and at 10 o'clock lay down to rest. Very cordial meeting from Genl Tracey. The staff officer remarked that I was reserve for 18<sup>th</sup> Corps rather [MS illegible]. 76<sup>th</sup> P is with us.

THURSDAY, June 16<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Early in the morning, received an order to move to the front and following in the line of several Regts, we followed outside the entrenchments. We marched to the first line of rebel works and halted for a while. Then moved forward again. The rebels evacuated our front last night and we followed them. Several miles out they were discovered in considerable force and the fighting commenced and continued during the whole day. We acted as reserve for the skirmishes for a while then marched to the front and to the railroad. I found myself, just when the rebels [*MS illegible*] such a fire on me, on that Saturday when we tried to get the railroad. No one took offensive on us and we destroyed the track for a long distance. The whole line destroyed was about 6 miles. Returned and succeeded back of the entrenchments. Men without food. Never was so near being used up in my life, borrowed a [*MS illegible*] from Major Young of the 142<sup>nd</sup> Ohio 100 days Regts. Got rations for the men from Hayes. Issued a ration of whiskey [cl?] 254—Rations for 254 men for 3 days. Retired at 10, very tired.

FRIDAY, June 17<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Not much sleep last night. Ordered to the entrenchments at 4 A.M. Not well. The remainder of the Brigade including the balance of our Regt arrived early in the forenoon. We shall probably remain for a day or two. All the words about Petersburg taken yesterday. 300 prisoners beside about 50 that we took. 15 pieces of artillery. The fighting during the day and evening was very heavy, all seemingly about Petersburg. Nothing reliable known. Received a letter from Lilly in which, for the first time, she responded without qualification, a desire for me to come home. I hope I may get through the service safe and count each day as it passes, anxious for the end to come. In the evening, although excused by the doctor went out with the Regt expecting to make a charge. Was halted behind one line of picket for some time and finally returned to camp without charging, much to our relief. The rebels [positioned] their old picket line and are quite strong in our front. Cannot hear particulars from Petersburg, only that we have taken the works before it and command the city. We have been successful in our charges. They are done with, we are told. Lee's army is in our vicinity and as I retire the firing is heavy.

SATURDAY, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Slept late for we did not get back from the front until almost morning. I have not been well and am excused from duty, although should the Regt be engaged, should take charge of my company as I did last night. Have been lying down nearly all day. Some firing in our front and heavy [cannoning] in the direction of Petersburg. The reports from that point are conflicting. I think we have been successful and the general impression is that we possess the town. I think we are in a strong position and it seems probable that we shall seriously incommode Mr. Lee. All reports concur that we have been successful thus far and hold strong positions. This evening we went into camp, nearby our old one, and we hope to rest. The rebels in our front are very strong. 18<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> Corps near Petersburg. The negroes show no [justice] to those opposed to them. We thought now we shall return to the 10<sup>th</sup> Corps and remain here for the present. Genl Brooks in command of the 10<sup>th</sup> Corps.

SUNDAY, June 19<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Had a good rest last night and a good wash this morning and feel much better than for some time past. Have had a long conversation with Col. Barton who is anxious on account of the majority, which he thinks I am working for, was pleased to learn that he had mentioned me favorably in his report of the action of June 1<sup>st</sup>. Expressed my views to him at some length and indicated my intention to act independently. Had a very pleasant day, taking all things into consideration, and the evening feel in a peaceful and happy state of mind. Have written Lilly, which I always enjoy. No mail. Services in the afternoon and music by the band. Have been writing as much as I could during the day and dreaming when I should be free and home again. No news from Petersburg but the impression is that the town is taken. The negroes have fought hard. Lee's army has suffered heavy losses and Grant seems to have the upperhand. Changed our camp a little.

MONDAY, June 20<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A warm day. We were left undisturbed last night and enjoyed a good rest and during the day I have felt more like myself than for some time. Have received two good letters from Lilly, one good one from Frank and one from Mother. Received the sad intelligence of Cook's death, June 15<sup>th</sup>. Wrote Lilly, Mother and Mr. Wyman. Had an interview with Elfwing in which I told him my views and that I did not desire the position of Major with the understanding that I must remain in the service. So I wrote to Mr. Wyman and Mr. Marsh. Up late. Have some fears that we will move. The rumor is that our troops are changing to the opposite side [of] the James and it has been settled, we are in the 10<sup>th</sup> Corps, which will keep us here.

TUESDAY, June 21<sup>st</sup>, 1864

A warm day. The Regt all in line early but they couldn't rouse me. I would not stir considering that there was no real occasion. Had my tent raised up and put in order for a good long stay but at noon received the information that we were going to move to the Appomattox. We are in the 10<sup>th</sup> Corps and under Genl Turner. We moved just before nightfall. Received and issued the rest of my clothing. Took our position near the river. Enjoyed an hour just before sunset or rather before dark in viewing the scenery. We occupy a fine position on a high hill commanding a view of the river and the valley as far as Petersburg which is partially visible. Near is another village (Port Walthall) sitting among the hills. The rebel forts are near and our forces are on the opposite bank of the river. The view is the first I have enjoyed in the service.

WEDNESDAY, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1864

Hot and uncomfortable. I did not rest well and have felt so much out of order that I have not been able to eat anything this noon. We took up the rear and started again. Paid Cummings up to today \$17.00. Saw Abe Lincoln (President) with Butler. Butler made a picture attempting to make the men cheer by his gestures and afterwards shaking his fist at them because they paid no attention to him. Wrote a letter to Lilly, which I got ready in season to deposit in the mail but before going on Picket. Have not felt well during the day and was doubtful about going on duty but concluded as I could walk to try it. Felt

WEDNESDAY, June 22<sup>nd</sup>, 1864

miserable on my way out and had not disposed of my men before I was taken sick and compelled to lie down. I tried to sleep, but was too ill.

THURSDAY, June 23d, 1864

Got no sleep last night and felt miserably sick in the morning and came into camp. Lay in my tent all day, ate nothing and felt unable to stir. I have been getting very weak and although have taken medicine, do not improve. The Regt went away in the direction of Petersburg this evening but I could not stir, consequently must remain behind with the sick men which is not very [agreeable]. Received letters from Lilly and Capt. Lockwood. I did manage to look over Lilly's in the morning and felt afraid for the [emotion?] but I was really too ill to do more and Lockwood's lay by my side unopened until evening. It seems as if Lilly always thought to write at just the right time for her letters reach me when they are most appreciated. Just when they seem most needed and do the most good. She is certainly my good angel.

FRIDAY, June 24<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning I found the camp deserted by all, save the sick and the cooks. Those on Picket were not relieved last night and will remain as they are until relieved when they will rejoin the Regt. I hope I may be able to go with them although it is doubtful. Collected all the sick and reported to Capt. Smith of the 115<sup>th</sup> who has charge of the convalescent camp. Feel a little better this afternoon than I have for the past two days, but am still quite weak and cannot eat. Shall remain here until I am fit for duty. We have a comfortable camp and with a little rest, which I have needed for some time, I hope to be able to go through the campaign. Firing in direction of Petersburg, heavy this morning, but now quiet. There lines are left with very few to man them. Word from Petersburg the rebels charged and were defeated, loss heavy in kind. Wrote Lilly. Have not been as well this evening as I hoped to be. Shall not [expect?] to be able to join the Regt. before Monday. Quiet at Petersburg when I retired. Took much pleasure in reading over Lilly's last letter and in writing her.

SATURDAY, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning I feel considerably better and shall be able to do some little business during the day. Ate a little this morning and during the forenoon wrote on my Returns. At noon ate a few beans and this afternoon have felt considerably better. Our Regt has been in the advanced rifle pits and have lost one or two men, but have not been in any charges. The picket line here not relieved. Probably will not be at present as there is no unit to relieve them. This line almost abandoned. The order to advance was received along the lines at Petersburg but there was no charge. Coan has but about 60 men and is quite [?ad]. He will, by and by, think it worth his while to stay with his command. A little nonsense to [regulate] his ambition would do him good. We hear that the whole Brigade has been captured but we do not credit it and shall wait for several confirmations before believing anything so unpleasant. Wrote Lilly and Frank. Have felt better today and have little

SATURDAY, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 1864

doubt that on Monday I shall be able to go on picket again. Am ordered by Capt. Smith not to go to the portion of the Regt with Major Coan but to remain here in this line.

SUNDAY, June 26<sup>th</sup>, 1864

It has been a warm day and I have kept within my tent until evening when I called on Col. Campbell who is near. Have enjoyed a good appetite and been much better than for some time past. Learned that the Brigade is all safe and have met but few losses. They are still in the advanced line. Learned also that from the Richmond papers of the 24<sup>th</sup> there was an order of Genl Lee to the effect that he had captured 1675 men, 65 officers, 3 pieces artillery and 8 colors which seems to be correct. All Hancock's men. Have enjoyed the day very much. From Sanitary Commission have received a number of articles which have contributed to my comfort. Shall go on picket tomorrow. Have spent a happy peaceful day only disappointed in not receiving letters. The mail has not come. Have written Lilly and now am about to retire as it is late. No definite news from the front. We [gained] no ground and I can see no lights. No northern papers. No prisoners from our lines.

MONDAY, June 27<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning I felt quite myself again although I am not strong and cannot depend upon myself. This illness indicates to me that the campaign has been more than I ought to bear. I work too hard and too long for the strength I possess. Went out on the picket line fortified with quite a quantity of good things furnished by Dr. Slosser, who has on hand a good stock of articles from the Sanitary Commission. Relieved Capt. Swartwout and after a good dinner went to visit the line. Excellent supper on roast pig and then on tour through the lines finding all the men preparing their duty well. Returned near where my company was stationed. They were relieved with the other companies on their right by ninety men from [Kanty?] Division. And we expect they will be sufficient to relieve our whole line once in three days. We hope to remain here for the present.

TUESDAY, June 28<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning I do not feel well and have been at the [home] where Capt. Swartwout has been stopping. A good breakfast but it has done me but little good for I feel very weak and my stomach is much [discomforted]. Now about 10 oclck a [order?] has come for us and we are to go to Petersburg. I am not fit but shall try to get there. Two very good letters. One from Lilly and another from Fannie. The first now does not hesitate to say she is glad I am to leave the service and counts the days. We had considered a delay in getting away but started at 4 PM. A pretty comfortable march arriving at the 2<sup>nd</sup> line entrenchment where our Regt is stationed about dark. Nothing new. Stopped at the [suttles?] a little way from camp when Capt. Smith (the dirty fellow) got tight. Learned that Elfwing had gone to New York and that Douglas, of my company, the Major's orderly, cleared out with his horse with [Giddis] who took the Adjts horse two days ago and apparently deserted.

WEDNESDAY, June 29<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Last night I slept behind a rifle pit; uncomfortable night. My lameness in my thighs increases and they were very sore last night. Letter from [Yorks] this morning. Poor fellow he was badly hurt. Letter from Ordinance Officer desiring Returns for 3<sup>rd</sup> for 60; shall write them today. We do not move today. Finishing my May Quarter Returns. Went to the rear to get papers from my carpet bag and took occasion to get a nice supper. I do not like the Mess. It is the least pleasant that I have been in since the time I messed alone in Hilton Head when we first landed. The association with Fee and others and the atmosphere that surrounds him is by no means elevating. [This] evening we moved up behind the first line of rifle pits. We are told that the shots come pretty thick sometimes but if men are careful I think we need not fear much loss. We relieved the 112<sup>th</sup> NY who have occupied the pits 3 or 4 days. Have a nice place to lie in and hope we may not be disturbed. Have been pretty busy today and heard this afternoon that the 19<sup>th</sup> Corps from New Orleans 15,000 strong were landing at Bermuda Hundred.

THURSDAY, June 30<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The last of June. Time flies [again?] although I am anxious for the period of my time to come and count the days, still I do not worry. A mail came this morning but there was nothing for me. I must not be disappointed for I have been quite fortunate in receiving good mails lately, quite often. Have been mustered. One roll made and another nearly completed. Still working on them. One of our good men lost today through his own rashness. Sgt. Graham went out on the picket line and [exposed] himself [and] was shot. His body not recovered. Learned today that the last company was mustered Sept. 13<sup>th</sup> which saves three days. In the afternoon we received orders to prepare for a charge. We were moved out of the entrenchments and the rebels seeing us, opened fire on us and for a while the men were very much exposed and quite a number were struck. Capt. Fee was dangerously hurt; Struck in the back of the shoulder, McNally hit in the hand. Moved to the right out of fire. Waited one half hour expecting to move on the charge. Finally the welcome order came to return to our old position. Then went into the 2<sup>nd</sup> line. Wrote Lilly. The Regt on our left were engaged and were badly cut up. A bad affair.

FRIDAY, July 1<sup>st</sup>, 1864

We have been in the second line of hits all day. Nothing has occurred of interest. Have not been as well as I could wish. I [am] very busy with my Muster Rolls and Pay Rolls. Col. Barton was relieved of command of the Brigade although not under arrest. Major Eddy of the 47<sup>th</sup> temporarily in command of the Brigade. Have found him to [*MS unfinished sentence*]. Wrote Lilly and Mother. In hope to be able to get our Pay Rolls so that we may be paid soon, for we are much in need of money. The Sanitary are doing a good work here for they are supplying the whole [division] with vegetables. Our Brigade receives a supply tonight. No firing, except by the pickets and a little artillery practice. Christopher Smith was killed, shot through the neck and buried nearby on the hill side. [George] Richmond of Co. D also killed.

SATURDAY, July 2d, 1864

Scarcely anything has occurred during the day; nothing of note. The company Muster and Pay Rolls have occupied me during all our leisure time and I have confined myself almost reclusively to my little subterranean retreat writing. Am getting along in the Rolls very well having the strong inducement to work. Namely, the hope to get our pay which they tell us is ready as soon as the Rolls. I hope so, for we are all suffering from the want of money. As we have been led to expect, the Regt was ordered to the front lines and will probably remain [for] two days. We went just about dark and the company occupies very good front. I slept under the tree just back of the Regt Headquarters. Col. Coan is here and was mustered today. Elfwing [is] back but could not be [mustered] Major. Below the [number?].

SUNDAY, July 3<sup>rd</sup>, 1864

Having provided myself with a post to the rear, I started early in the morning and went to the rear Regt. Headquarters. Met Liet. Anderson, the Swede. I like him and was very glad to meet him. He is still suffering from his wound and will not be able to do duty for some time and he has decided to return to Sweden to accept a commission in his country's service. I had a very pleasant talk with him. Received a very good letter from Lilly, who was at Saratoga. Worked on my Rolls and enjoyed a good bath, which is in this country, and under these circumstances, the greatest evening we can enjoy. Returned to Camp, a little trouble with Cummings, which gave Col. Coan an opportunity to [see] what I regarded as an insult, in not allowing Cummings to be punished. Should have punished him on the spot but had no [arms?] with me. Was appointed Brigade Officer of the Day. Went out with the picket and were under heavy fire, also with fatigue party.

MONDAY, July 4<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Independence day has come and nearly gone too. Have to chronicle our important event. I completed and sent away my May Return (Quartermaster). Have spent a pleasant day, Although up all night, I have felt remarkably well during the day and enjoyed it. The explosion of the mine at 9<sup>th</sup> Corps did not take place much to our disappointment. Was out with the picket and fatigue party until morning, although the firing was very heavy all night. We succeeded in breaking up the working party of rebels as we found this morning. For only 15 holes had been stuck in the ground and they [were] very irregularly, while the material for the work was laying in front of their entrenchment. Evening was relieved as Officer of the Day. Excellent dinner. Roast goose with [fir?] complete. Letter from George on business. Wrote a letter to Lilly in the afternoon, only a short one because I hadn't time. No casualties. Regiment went to the rear line. Completed my Rolls and sent them in. Got a letter from George.

TUESDAY, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Rested sweetly and this morning rose late feeling very much refreshed. It is cool and comfortable and I have been pretty busy thru much of the day and have the satisfaction of having completed my certificate for June Returns (Quartermaster) and hope to complete my Returns. I shall then only have my Ordinance Returns to make out when my papers

TUESDAY, July 5<sup>th</sup>, 1864

will be in very good order. All day long been at Regt Headquarters. Coan commands the Brigade and Captain Swartwout, the Regt and I tent with him or rather quarter with him. There have been no casualties and we have had a quiet day. Have been busy with my Returns which I have finished and deposited. I think now my Quartermaster's property is in such a condition that anyone could easily receipt or take up the property as I have it. Moved still further to the rear to have an opportunity to wash &c.

WEDNESDAY, July 6<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Have been at Regt. Headquarters all day long and have done little but read and write and talk. The shells have been bursting in a lively manner all about us but we have suffered no losses. The 76<sup>th</sup> Penn near us have lost four men during the day. It has been warm but Headquarters has been quite comfortable. Have this evening enjoyed the music of the 103<sup>rd</sup> NY band. They played at Division Headquarters. I think they know me, I am such a constant listener whenever they are near. This evening we came up to the front line and occupy our old place, with Capt. Swartwout at the old Headquarters. This evening I feel quite well, although during the day have not been quite as well as I like to be. Hope now to be able to get through the service all right. Letter to Lilly but none from her. Disappointed.

THURSDAY, July 7<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Enjoyed a good sleep. Nothing during the night to disturb me. The firing has been kept up as usual, I am told, but nothing could wake me. Today it has been pretty comfortable although the rebels have continued their shelling. The pieces drop around us every few minutes but no one has been injured. Hear that Marther, the drummer, was wounded at the rear last evening. Swartwout being away I have commanded the Regt during the day. No letter from Lilly today which is somewhat surprising. Have written out my Certificate from my Ordinance returns for the last quarter and only wait for Returns to complete them. Everything satisfactory. Detailed Field Officer of the Day after I had returned and inspected the lines. Occupied with adjusting them so that there may be harmony of action. I find many officers are [an?] of their responsibilities, many ignorant of their duties. The destruction of the *Alabama* by the *Kearsarge* produced great rejoicing.

FRIDAY, JULY 8<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Was relieved from duty as Officer of the Day just before noon. Went with the new Officer of the Day to show him the lines. Relieved by Capt. Shaw of the 115<sup>th</sup>. The firing during the night and day was not very heavy. Our lines have been strengthened and it seems evident that we make no more forward movement at present. Have been much interested in the account of the contest between the *Kearsarge* and *Alabama* the results of a challenge from Capt. Semmes to Capt. Winslow. We all hope the English will be compelled to deliver up Semmes and his Commander, who was taken off the wreck by the yacht *England*. This evening, an hour before sunset, the rebels made some demonstrations on our right which caused a general excitement. The men got into their

FRIDAY, JULY 8<sup>th</sup>, 1864

places and prepared to repel an assault, which we all expected. Soon quieted down. Nothing serious. Went to the rear in the morning. Liet. D'Arcy returned, but does not add much to our society.

SATURDAY, July 9, 1864

The sun is hot and confines us to our cover. No interesting letters from Lilly and Frank. A little anxious because I was in the convalescent camp. All concur in the feeling that it is time for me to leave the service. Have some doubts now whether we shall be allowed to go out of the service before the last of September. Major Elfwing became Mr. Elfwing yesterday and went North without stopping to call on his friends in the Regt. Swartwout to be Major, with which I am perfectly content now that the term of service is so nearly over, especially as it is thought that those mustered during this year will be held. Took a long and [tedious] walk down to the 18<sup>th</sup> Corps. Hospital. Obtained a flannel shirt from the Christian Commission but did not feel pain for my walk, although the shirt was much needed. Col. Barton very sick; will probably go home or resign. Nothing new or interesting. Very tired and sleepy.

SUNDAY, July 10<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Roused at a very uninteresting hour in a great hurry and moved with the Regt. to the front. Two or three deserters came in last night and reported that the rebels proposed to attack our works. Back to our old line in an hour. No fighting. Went back for my Sunday bath and then commenced the day regularly. Have written Lilly, Mother and Frank. Been very quiet during the day for it has been very hot. Not quite in my usual health but on the whole the day has passed pleasantly, like Sunday and this evening, I feel better. This evening it is cooler and really very delightful. Not much firing during the day. The rebels have commenced this evening and one shot passed into our quarters. Went to the front and took up quarters as before.

MONDAY, July 11<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Have been quite busy all day. Rested during the hour at noon when it was too hot to do anything. Have written up the accounts of all the men away from the company and written up the Final Statements of all killed. Very busy. This morning received letters from Lilly and Mother. Both very interesting. The firing has been quite heavy during the whole day and the shots have come closer than ever before. One casualty during the day. Tomorrow shall try and finish my Final Statements and Descriptive Lists. There is a great deal of work to finish up my papers. No news here and nothing accomplished. We are anxious to hear from the rebels in Maryland.

TUESDAY, July 12<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Wakened very early and on the line for an hours. The day has been very warm but I have managed to attend to business. Have written up my inventories of deceased soldiers effects and have [sic] this evening have written part of a letter to Lilly. The news from Maryland is not favorable. It is said that the rebels are very much stronger than was at

TUESDAY, July 12<sup>th</sup>, 1864

first thought and have defeated us at Monocacy and that our forces have fallen towards Baltimore. Rumor that the 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps has left our line. We feel that we are completely in the dark and can learn very little of what is going on about us. The raid into Maryland is assuming larger proportions and serious results may follow from it. However the people of the North should be safe to take care of themselves. Saw Col. Duncan who has proved to be a cousin of Sam's from Menden W.H. He commands the negroes in this vicinity. [Com?] Letter to Lilly.

WEDNESDAY, July 13<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The weather today is somewhat tempered by a cool breeze which has been blowing since morning. The rebels have been shelling us this morning and one of their shells which cut through our bomb proof, lies just outside. Fortunately for us, it did not explode. The news from the rebels in Maryland is bad. They are in strong force and occupy the railroad between Baltimore and Washington. Consequently we received no mail this morning. The accounts of the operations of the Sanitary Commission by the Chaplain of the Sanitary Commission [are] very interesting. In his judgment, only 5 per cent of the funds really reach the rank and file of the Army, which may be true. Sent a letter to Lilly and finished the Final Statements and Inventories. Were a little startled by a shell that struck against our bomb proof and rolled round near the side of our retreat but fortunately it did not explode. Nothing new along the lines and no news from home. Went into the 2<sup>nd</sup> line in the evening.

THURSDAY, July 14<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Another warm day with little to interest. This is our last day in the rear line. Have not been very well during the day. Received and issued the \$75 drafts to such men as are here. This evening have been detailed as Brigade Officer of the Day or rather was detailed this morning but did nothing except visit the line and experiment with the patent bullets. Evening took out the picket as usual and shall remain on the line during the night. The news from the North is unfavorable and the rebels are heaping [disgrace?] on us, having done much mischief and captured three trains cutting the communications with Washington have apparently settled down opposite the city. It is so strong, however, that little is to be [gained?] from them. I feel [enraged] and hope we may be ordered to the scene of operations to participate in destroying the whole line which certainly ought to be done. Douglas & Giddis returned today. Not deserting. All the shovels and other tools turned into Headquarters, which looks like a move.

FRIDAY, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Although I felt quite ill last night, I remained on the picket line. There was some work done by the rebels within their lines but we annoyed them very much by a constant fire. Was very glad to be relieved. Have spent the most of the day writing. Deposited a letter to Lilly in the mail bag this evening and hope tomorrow to hear from her as a mail is expected. Finished my Final Statements and Inventories and Descriptive Lists which leave me for [sic] to attend to my Ordinance Returns, which I wish to forward, as soon as

FRIDAY, July 15<sup>th</sup>, 1864

possible. Have seen papers of the 14<sup>th</sup>. Franklin escaped and Taylor is safe. The rebels have situated away from Washington and the railroads were not much injured. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps have leveled the works in the rear. Rumor that the mine is to be exploded very soon and the 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps to charge. Have written Lilly.

SATURDAY, July 16<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The sun is fading in the west and the clouds look calm and peaceful. But the shot and shells are flying around us, in any, but a peaceful manner. This annoying fire always commences at this time in the evening and this destroys the pleasure of what is the happiest hour of the day. This morning I was not awakened at the early hour that the Regt is [required] under arms. About six, however, I got up hearing that there was a truce along the lines and found that the rebels had come over to our pickets and exchanged papers. Quite a number of them returned to their lines within sight and in a short time the firing commenced again. We saw papers of the 15<sup>th</sup> Richmond. No news. Sherman seems to be doing well. Went to Meade's Headquarters about Douglas. Kelley returned. Saw our old Captain, now Lt. Col. Davis. Nothing new. Letter from Lilly. Sent 11 checks to Major B. F. Smith, Paymaster, at Norfolk. Must write Lilly tomorrow. We go into the rear line.

SUNDAY, July 17<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Was rejoiced by the receipt of two letters, one from Lilly and another from Mother. I could not read them until I had washed and was really awake, so that I could enjoy them fully. And they were even all I wished. Both were full of interest, only the one from Lilly seemed to indicate that she was much troubled on her Father's account. I sat down while I could write without interruption hoping to complete the letter before Swartwout and D'Arcy returned, but only half finished it. Spent the day in reading the papers and talking. Saw Coan who promised to assist in getting me out of the service at the expiration of my term. But [in] the afternoon saw the Musting Officer and found that all officers would be held by their most recent muster. A most lively evening, which I enjoyed very much. Taylor mustered a Captain and Paddock a 1<sup>st</sup> Liet in my company. I have been thinking almost all day of Lilly and the result is that I am most determined to get out [of] the service. Saw Lt. Potter, son of Bishop Potter of NY, learned that the 9<sup>th</sup> Corp's mine is nearly completed. A perfectly lovely evening.

MONDAY, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1864

It has been a comfortable day compared with many that we have had during the past month. Have completed my letter to Lilly and written one to Mother, but I will retain it to enclose a letter to Charles. Have done but little during the day, as usual. Have felt troubled for Lilly. The news by the evening's paper is chilling, for Sherman has sent Johnson to Atlanta. Capt. Miller called upon me with Mr. Anderson, correspondent of the Herald. Took them to our front line. Miller is with Hancock and told some interesting facts. Moved to the front line in the evening for 48 hours. Col. Sammons is on the ground and will probably relieve Coan. Received from Capt. Swartwout \$115.65,

MONDAY, July 18<sup>th</sup>, 1864

as senior member of the Council of Administration. This constitutes the proceeds of the fund collected at Pilatka . Capt. Taylor who has returned is to live with men.

TUESDAY, July 19<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning was wakened at the unreasonable hour of 2-1/2 oclck but afterwards enjoyed a couple of hours sleep. The rules in regard to the men are very strict and all must be awake and under arms at 8 A.M. It has rained quite hard during the day and Taylor and myself took up quarters under the bomb proof which is the only dry spot about the line. Had a letter from Lilly in which my fears were fully realized. Her father is quite ill, I fear dangerously so. She is anxious for me to get home and I am especially anxious to go. Swartwout commission came and he is now mustered Major. My turn comes next. Shall leave this to write Lilly. Sent my letter to Lilly. Afternoon nothing done but to remain in our quarters and keep dry. Every thing is flooded. I cannot feel easy while there is so much uncertainty about Mr. Marsh. But I hope to hear again very soon.

WEDNESDAY, July 20<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The weather is still unpleasant. Up in the morning as usual. Thought it possible that I might receive a letter from Lilly this morning and I shall continue anxious until I hear from her. Should her Father die, I fear the effect upon her. Busy during the day in preparing my Descriptive Lists and succeeded in sending away all when there has been notice of [sic] at the Hospital where the men are. The Council of Administration met and transacted all the business brought before it. The balance of \$21.72 after paying bill of Major Coan was left in my hands. Went early to the rear to secure a place for Capt. Taylor and myself; took 47<sup>th</sup> Headquarters. The office of that Regt is in disgusting condition. All drinking, such is the common practice of the army. I want to get out of it and shall certainly go as soon as possible. News from Sherman very cheering. He has crossed the Chattahoochee and Atlanta must soon be in his possession.

THURSDAY, July 21<sup>st</sup>, 1864

It has been a warm day or rather it was a warm day. I did not write up my diary yesterday. I had not the heart to write. This evening while sitting in the front of our quarters just after tea, Capt. Taylor read from the papers the account of the death of Mr. Marsh. It struck me a like a thunderbolt. What sorrow and suffering for Lilly. I tried to write and did finish a letter during the evening to her but I had no heart to write. It seems to me like the loss of my own father. The mail did not arrive this morning and I have not heard from her. All that I could do after writing a short letter to console her and sympathize as best I could was to comment [to] her that [the] Good God who does not forsake the sorrowing and afflicted. I have not known such sorrow as I now feel during the whole course of my life. I fear it will crush Lilly completely. How I wish I were at home, but I cannot. Received from Col. Coan \$47.20 making \$68.92 in all of Regt's funds that I have in my hands.

FRIDAY, July 22d, 1864

The first thought this morning was of Lilly and I hoped and expected a letter from her but was disappointed. I fear she is sick. Oh My God, that I might get away and go to her, but I cannot. I will put my things in order that if any opportunity should occur I may avail myself of it. I have consoled myself with the thought that tomorrow I shall certainly hear from Lilly. I cannot hope so and I hope and pray she may not be ill. This afternoon I finished my Ordinance Affidavit and it was duly sworn to and witnessed and the result is more favorable than at first glance. I had expected my property returns as soon as my ordinance blanks arrived will be in very good condition. This evening saw the Surgeon on my way to the front lines. He advised me to go to the rear but I think I will not at present. Have not felt well all day. Wrote to Lilly, Mother and Fannie. The news this evening from Sherman is favorable. He will probably take Atlanta. Saw an obituary of Mr. Marsh in the Baltimore American which spoke in high terms of him.

SATURDAY, July 23<sup>d</sup> 1864

This morning I notified Liet. [Bormen?] that I could not go on as Officer of the Day; I am too ill for that duty. Have written Frank and sent Lilly letters to be placed in my trunk. No letter from Lilly or any of my friends. I shall be very anxious until I hear from her. Do not feel as well today as yesterday and shall remain quiet in my quarters. I was very much disappointed in not getting letters from Lilly this morning and my anxiety on her account is rather increased than diminished. This afternoon and evening have not felt as well as for some days. If I continue to grow worse shall make application for leave of absence. Wrote Lilly as cheerfully as I could. This evening a telegram from Washington was announced stating that Sherman had taken Atlanta. Afterwards a rebel came to our lines with a paper, was warned away but proceeded in coming and was taken prisoner. His paper stated that Sherman had been whipped with loss of a large number of guns and that McPherson was killed; my birthday. Retire feeling quite ill. [Skirmish detailed?].

SUNDAY, July 24<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Have during this afternoon felt a little better than for some days past. This morning was quite ill, saw the doctor who promised to give me a certificate as a basis for leave of absence, which I shall accept if I do not seem better very soon. This morning received letters from Lilly (3) and one from Mother. Three from Lilly although they revived my grief, made me feel very happy on account of some expressions. How I wish I were with her now. Have spent the day in getting my clothing account book in order and finally succeeded in finishing it. This evening we go to the rear lines. I have not felt so well since tea. Shall write Lilly this evening if possible. Did write Lilly, talked with Taylor, read and reread those letters from Lilly. How I wished I were already out of this and with her.

MONDAY, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 1864

It is now late evening and I am hastening to write up this before retiring. Have been in my hole nearly all day & have felt pretty well until evening when I felt ill again. Anxious all the time to get away. The news brought by the Petersburg paper the other day of

MONDAY, July 25<sup>th</sup>, 1864

McPherson's death seemed to be confirmed. We were whipped and then repulsed the rebels, receiving most of the fire. Losses on both sides even. No paper tonight. Have had the clothing book signed. Have not written Lilly today but should have; felt better if I had. Have been thinking of the end of the service all day long. Must get home soon. Nothing new along our lines. Several men passed [wounded?]. These they drop off one by one each day. It is the more sickening because I want to be away. Wrote Mr. [Pert?] about Genl Birney. Shall send letter tomorrow.

TUESDAY, July 26<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Just one month now and I shall have been in this Regt. three years. That time arrived and I shall feel that my term of service is nearly past. The days seem to pass just as rapidly as if I were not counting the very hours. Thought this morning that I would receive a letter from Lilly. I fear she will not receive mine as early as usual because I diverted to Stapleton. We came to the front line in the evening and I was notified to go on duty as Brigade Officer tomorrow and although I do not feel well I shall try it. The news from Atlanta [is] good although not altogether reliable. McPherson killed. A very great loss. One of our best soldiers. Write to L. but did not finish the letter.

WEDNESDAY, July 27<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Am Brigade Officer of the Day and have already visited the picket lines and practiced a little on the rebels. Nothing particular has occurred during the day. Have spent the most of my time in quarters. Have felt better than for a week past. Sent a letter to L. The rebels keep up their firing and now this evening they have commenced yelling as usual but really there is nothing done and apparently nothing being done. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps went to Bermuda Hundred so we are told and whipped the rebels, capturing 4 guns and 200 prisoners, not considered altogether reliable. Evening went out with my picket and was on the line until late. A new mortar battery started near Headquarters of Regt. A mine also started near same place.

THURSDAY, July 28<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Had some sleep but not so much as I needed and consequently did not feel as well in the morning. Have lain in quarters nearly all day without accomplishing much. Have felt too ill to do any writing. Should have written Lilly, but did not feel well enough and the evening again I feel quite miserable. Hope I shall not have to recommence a course of medicine. This morning did not receive letters either from Lilly or others and this evening got no New York paper. Consequently the two great events of the day are failures. Went to our old quarters in the rear as usual and spent the evening at Dr. [Nolan?] of the 169<sup>th</sup>. He has his leave of absence for 30 days and leaves tomorrow morning. Genl Birney told him that we were to join the remainder of the Corps in a few days.

FRIDAY, July 29<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Did not rest well last night for my stomach troubled me. Have rejoiced this morning by two letters from Lilly. She is well and that fact relieves me from anxiety. Finished and sent a letter to her and this evening have written another. I am now preparing to move and am told that we go to the rear of Burnside to act as support. The mine is ready and will be exploded tonight or tomorrow. I am recued by the Doctor and shall not try to participate in the action unless much better. Do not feel well at all this evening. We leave our camp at sunset or dark and it is said the 2<sup>nd</sup> Corps takes our place [then] which is doubtful. Nothing definite known. The Regt. moved as expected and I remained in my old quarters and shall, if possible, join the Regt in the morning. I do not anticipate they will be engaged, although it is possible. Am not well.

SATURDAY, July 30<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Early this morning the firing commenced and continued very heavy artillery and infantry during the [sic] most of the forenoon. I attempted to join the Regt in the morning but did not feel well enough and went to the rear. Tried again to join the Regt but Cary Stearns, my guide, was drunk and did not know the way, so I returned to Liet. D'Arcy. Major Swartwout was killed and report says Liet O'Brien but the accounts from the field are conflicting. The Fort was blown up and we moved past it to the 2<sup>nd</sup> line which we took, but I am inclined to think we hit all but the Fort. Am going now to find the Regt. Later did not start leaving that the Regt was coming to me. They halted nearby and I went to them and although unfit, relieved Capt. Taylor who was sick with sun stroke. Afterwards Dunbar relieved me with his usual impudence. Had not before been able to stir a step but now seemed quite well. The Regt took its old position on the front line. The result of the attack on the rebel works was a failure with great loss. This result is attributable to the negros and I believe whenever they have been really engaged with anything like equal numbers the result has been [*MS illegible*].

SUNDAY, July 31<sup>st</sup>, 1864

Last night received notice that we were to move and from the Division Headquarters came the statement that we were going to City Point to embark for Washington. I was not able to travel and with Capt. Taylor and Liet. [Shulty] walked to the landing near 18<sup>th</sup> Corps Hospital and rode in cars to City Point. I could not get over the singularity of my position riding on a railroad almost entirely constructed for the use of the army and the piles of stones along the road gave me the best idea of the extent of the army that I have ever enjoyed. The number of branch roads at City Point reminded me of the entrance to a large city. Learned by visiting Genl Chief Quartermaster and Genl Grant's Adj't's Genl that we should be at Bermuda. Obtained a steamer and took all from the Divison to Point of Rocks. Tried to join the Regt but was unable to do so. Laid down in the field for the night very much exhausted. Do not feel much better. Am pretty nearly discouraged.

MONDAY, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1864

This morning after breakfast started for the Regt and joined them early in the morning. Capt. Dunbar [is] in command but soon learned the he was detailed as Ordinance Officer

MONDAY, August 1<sup>st</sup>, 1864

and the Command of the Regt [evolved] upon me. Received letters from Lilly [and] Mother. Mary and Frank [are] all very good. Col. Coan informed me that he should recommend me as Major and wrote to the Governor and I may reasonably expect the Commission in a few days. Have really been miserably sick but have attended to the duties of [Comity] Officer of the Regt. Have been much gratified by the expression made to me by the officers. We commenced the arrangement of the Camp and I hope we may remain here for some time. News from Sherman is good. Wrote Lilly and Mr. Wyman.

TUESDAY, August 2d, 1864

Had a very uncomfortable night and suffered considerably and during the day have been quite unwell. Received a letter from Lilly this morning and it was very gratifying. I should like to write her this evening but I cannot. Today I have been pretty busy and have succeeded in getting the Camp established in order and quite clean and have Headquarters in tolerable order. What is most gratifying to me [is] I have a bed whereon I may rest and I hope I may be allowed a good night rest which I need. Feel more comfortable this evening than for some days before and hope I may be better and get over my ailments. No papers last night or tonight.

WEDNESDAY, August 3d, 1864

Not very well this morning but after attending to a great amount of business, start for Camp Headquarters and Point of Rock. Visit the Christian and Sanitary Commissions. Decidedly in favor of the former, who I am satisfied do more good with less means. I [sic] both were well [treated]. The Christians promised to send over a quantity of articles tomorrow. Have eaten a great deal of fruit and at noon [and] after dinner [experienced] the results. For an hour or two after dinner I suffered intolerable pains. I got a little discouraged about any difficulties. The Lt. Col. has recommended me for promotion but I cannot be mustered in, the number being too small. Busy getting Camp in order. We have a good location with a prospect of remaining. Heard from Frank, Lilly & others.

THURSDAY, August 4<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning visited the picket line early before reporting as Division Officer of the Day. Afterwards at Headquarters and visit the remainder of the lines on the left at Baker's Creek. A beautiful ride through the woods. Not knowing the road, I was in doubt whether or not I was riding into the rebel lines. Came out all right. After visiting the lines, spent the remainder of the day in quarters. Busy all the time; work has so accumulated. Take the picket out in the evening. The rebels very curious, standing on the parapet to see me as I rode up to the line. No firing, pickets very near. Strange state of affairs to us, just from Petersburg. The full number was not furnished by Col. [Bell?] and I was compelled to go out twice. Have wanted to write during the day but I get no time except for business of the Regt. Stores arrived from Christian Commission which are much needed for the men had nothing to eat. Health better.

FRIDAY, August 5<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Went out to visit the lines very early this morning and was proceeding to Baker's Creek when my horse got in a hole and tumbled, falling on my leg. Pretty sore, but able to get about. Letter from Lilly and a reply. Spent the day very busily employed on Regt. business. An immense amount has accumulated but this evening I felt that we had got it all up to date as far as we can. Wrote Lilly & Frank and sent home letters. Regt. inspection; pretty good. Must improve. Busy all day placing shelters on the tents. Have felt pretty well and hope now my difficulty is passed. The first game of cards this evening that I have enjoyed for a long time. Heavy firing in the direction of Petersburg. There was also firing the day before. No news from them. [Pray?] we may [not?] be sent back there. An excessive warm day. O'Rourke sent me a piece of the root of the celebrated oak tree under which Pocahontas saved the life of Capt. Smith, which he cut himself. The time is all gone.

SATURDAY, August 6<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Very warm again. Letter from Frank and lots of official correspondence. Mr. Wyman desires me to have the majority. Busy all day with Regt. matters. There is an immense amount of work in hand. Notice came of the appointment of Liet. D'Arcy to be Captain. [Lentz?], Dunn & Fletcher to be Liets. Went to Bermuda Hundred in the evening and had a very pleasant ride. Collected \$161.60 for [Danny Sutter?] for Regt. fund. It was a very affable trip and the Adj. as well as myself, enjoyed it very much. It always seems singular to get away from the bustle of Camp and after such a campaign the quiet, the green fields, and the singing birds seemed especially grateful. Returned late in the evening and could not but feel that we should be my [sic] likely to move. Such events have occurred in just such a way so many times. Retired early; tired.

SUNDAY, August 7<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Have succeeded in obtaining a respite from work for those men who are in Camp and it is in some measure a day of rest. We have been pretty busy at Headquarters, as usual and there seems no end to the work. Wrote Mr. Wyman and Lilly and tried to write several other letters but gave up the attempt. Have not felt well during the day. This evening the band played and the Chaplain of the 16<sup>th</sup> had service during the afternoon near Camp. The weather has been excessively warm and everyone has kept as quiet as possible. Saw the Mustering Officer and must wait for information on the subject of muster out of the officers of the Regt. until he makes his Consolidation Report. A little out of sorts because unwell. Must refrain from excitement on the subject of musters.

MONDAY, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Another excessively warm day and lots of business to do which keeps me busy from morning until night. Still at work endeavoring to get our camp in order but without much progress. We have, but few teams. The news of the passing of Forts Macon & Gaines by Farragut with 19 ironclads and the capture of Admiral Buchanan and two ironclads and the dispersion of the remainder causes great rejoicing. The news is from rebel sources and consequently is unworthy of credit. This evening until late playing Whist,

MONDAY, August 8<sup>th</sup>, 1864

which I have enjoyed very much. Letter from Frank in regard to a Substitute which he is anxious to get. I cannot help him here.

TUESDAY, August 9<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning there was the usual amount of business. Early in the forenoon there was a terrible explosion towards the [sic] Appomattox which we learned was caused by the blowing up of two barges of ordinance stores. Wrote to L. & Fannie. Letter from Col. Barton to Col. Coan to the effect that he should urge my claims. Also a letter from Mr. Wyman to the same effect. Made a list of officers for muster. Genl Birney states that all officers who desires will be allowed to get out. In the evening indulged in a game of Whist, which is a very enjoyable way of spending the evening. Am extravagantly fond of the game. No letter from Lilly but one from Frank, desiring me to procure for him a Substitute. There continues to be a great deal of business to attend to in the office.

WEDNESDAY, August 10<sup>th</sup>, 1864

An extremely warm day and we are well satisfied to remain within doors. This morning news reached us that Mobile is captured and in the evening the papers confirm the old rumors in regard to the capture of the rebel ironclads and the [sic] Admiral Buchanan. I think from all counts that we have possession of Mobile or at least of the Fort Gaines and Morgan. Enjoyed a pleasant ride to the Point of Rocks and called on the Engineer officers. Major Graff, Capt. Fanwood and Liet. Butts in camp. Capt. Eaton gone home for 15 days. Lucky fellow. Evening another game of Whist. I played the evening away for the purpose of passing away time until the mail arrives. No letters for me of any kind. A delightful afternoon and evening.

THURSDAY, August 11<sup>th</sup>, 1864

As usual there has been a great deal to do. Rode round in the morning, made some purchases and then went out into the woods to look after the fatigues. Enjoyed the ride and found the 2<sup>nd</sup> Dept had selected some beautiful location for their camp. In the evening we had [a] parade, the first that I even attended as Comity Officer. At night we had a game of Whist and during the game came an order sent rear [sic] here by Henry Bondinot to the effect that all officers will be retained in the service. [And] later came a letter from Lilly which showed how necessary it is for me to leave the service as soon as possible and I shall certainly go very soon for it [is] so clearly my duty to myself and others that I must go. It was a very interesting letter and I shall reply to it tomorrow if possible. Retire late. Good news from Mobile, Sherman and Sheridan.

FRIDAY, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 1864

It has been intensely hot and I have been glad to remain indoors. The weather is insufferable. Busy as usual during the day and disappointed in not getting an opportunity to write letters. I should have answered the one received last night. Parade, as usual. Nothing new or [startley?] during the day. In the evening stayed up pretty late playing Whist, hoping to receive important letters by mail. Saw Capt. Lord, but little comfort

FRIDAY, August 12<sup>th</sup>, 1864

from him. In reply to [Woods] letter to Secretary of War it was stated that we muster out on the 16<sup>th</sup> and I have little doubt this will be settled. We vote Wood a nuisance. Have made up my mind to the course I shall pursue. [I] shall tender my resignation on the 26<sup>th</sup> of this month, at which time my three years will be up and I shall then not be liable to draft.

SATURDAY, August 13<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Rather late in rising this morning. Immediately after breakfast received notice to repair [report] to Brigade Headquarters where I received the very unwelcome announcement that we must be ready to move at a moment's notice and we are very busy getting ready. Supposed [to] be going to Deep Bottom. Busy in preparation during the day and in the evening, final orders came to move. Just before we started, the mail came and I received two letters, one from Lilly and another found to be from Mr. Pert, an introduction to Genl Birney's [C?] Corps. Marched all night and we soon found that we were not to embark on . It was tedious. We went across the pontoon at daylight. Had a little sleep, but was not refreshed. It was tedious but the men kept up pretty well. Slept a little in my saddle.

SUNDAY, August 14<sup>th</sup>, 1864

What a Sunday. It seems all of movements must be made on Sunday and I cannot believe that movements commenced on Sunday will be successful. We were reserve and during the forenoon did not engage at all and were not under fire. Had the pleasure of seeing Genl Grant who does not appear the Genl he is. He was accompanied by Genl Barnard, Chief Engineer. A medium sized man is Grant, not erect in his carriage, and with nothing particular about him to mark the soldier. We moved in the afternoon and were under fire for a while. Capt. D'Arcy was killed and several men wounded, but the losses by heatstroke were fearful. At least a hundred and fifty must have been carried out to the rear. Some very bad cases. Afterward moved to the right and during the night the left was abandoned. Counted 50 prisoners captured by Genl Terry. The 100<sup>th</sup> NY charged on a battery which they found deserted and captured 6 guns. We were without shelter in the rain during the night. Cannot imagine what the object of this movement can be and no one seems to know.

MONDAY, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Last night we got but little sleep for it rained quite hard and I was called up several times. In the morning we put out a few pickets and waited the issue of events until early in the forenoon, when orders came to move to the right. It has been intensely hot and we have suffered very much indeed. We have marched several miles in the heat and very many of the men have fallen out. Only four officers and seventy men with the Regt when we halted. The remainder of the Brigade was in the same plight. It is now 5 P.M. and we are still resting where we have been about three hours. I really hope we shall not be engaged for I am not well and we have but few officers and men. We lie down with everything

MONDAY, August 15<sup>th</sup>, 1864

on, horses saddled, ready for a move and hoping we may remain undisturbed. No hard fighting but the troops have been moving in on our right continuously.

TUESDAY, August 16<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Last night we were allowed to remain and although I was interrupted several times had a little sleep, but this morning do not feel much refreshed. During the forenoon moved to our left in rear of the battery. Remained a little when there and then moved to our right through the woods. On the way, the firing became heavy in our front and we soon got the order to double back. Through the woods, over dead bodies, our own and rebels, past lines of prisoners into the open. Found knapsacks thrown off, full of enthusiasm, away we went and back of the rebels works on the right by file into the lines as finely as the Regt every did it. Cheering on each other and the 115<sup>th</sup> NY who jumped over the works after the rebels, down into the pits. Men, cheerful, cool and obedient. Under fire, Tantum killed, Seaward wounded in the front I was in. Men falling from shots in the rear. 76<sup>th</sup> PA running away. Still sticking to the works until the rebel colors were on our flank. Regt on our right and left away before we started. They skedaddled through the woods and then halted. Picket all night. Poor Taylor wounded on picket and seems mortally wounded. Myself, the only one left of those in the fight. It has left an impression on my mind which will never be effaced. The fight occurred near Fussell's Mill and the Charles City Road.

WEDNESDAY, August 17<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The night duty. No sleep. The collection of stragglers around the Colors and the return of McKeller to the Regt. March to the rear in the night. Rest until morning and move to the fortifications at Deep Bottom. Very good letter from Lilly. Detailed on picket with the whole Regt. Hard work in the long line. The duties very severe on a man already worn out but I kept up. I have had occasion and have returned, thanks to that Merciful Providence, that has spared my life, while others have been taken away. It was a long weary day of duty and at night I lay down on the hill, wet and weary. Rainy and I have very little shelter but I hope I may be able to bear the fatigue and exhaustion. We have indeed had a hard time and am here to *[MS illegible]* aid *[merit?]* hoping to remain.

THURSDAY, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning I woke early, much refreshed by a pretty good night's rest. A good wash, good breakfast and a long ride around the Picket line with new Officer of the Day. Attended to the Regt business and found and laid out the Camp ground. Got up quarters and got the Regt in Camp, the few tents up that are left. We have very good ground and an effort will be made to keep us here or where we can remain at rest. We need it very much. Had a great deal of business to attend to. Wrote Lilly and feel easier on that account. Examined the stragglers, sick and convalescents, Links, Lacoppidan, Hutchinson, Shultz, Himrod and Williams, back again with us but none but Williams doing duty. He is my Adjutant. There has been heavy fighting near us on our right front.

THURSDAY, August 18<sup>th</sup>, 1864

No particulars. Bed, ten oclck, for I need sleep. That is it. Is now 10 and I am going [to sleep].

FRIDAY, August 19<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Unpleasant. Lots of work. Wrote Lilly. Regt all on picket more than we ought to spare, but the orders from the Brigade Headquarters were imperative. The bit of deception and double dealing on the part of Col. Coan exhibited in the little slip of papers shows what are the men of the army. Evening I wrote and during the day have been busy in getting up the business of the men. The account of our forces are, to the effect, that we were assaulted at the point when we left and the rebels beaten. At Petersburg the firing has been heavy for two nights. Report is that we have taken it but the truth seems to be that we have weakened their line and occupy the Weldon Railroad and are likely to keep it. The 8<sup>th</sup> Corps has done the work.

SATURDAY, August 20<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Raining during the day. Writing, talking, walking, working, the day passes. Letter from Col. Barton in the morning while we were on our way to the other side [of] the pontoon. Orders came late in the afternoon for us to move and we found we were required as a picket to guard the retreat of the army of the Potomac. That [i?] we remain out in the rain until two oclck and then proceeded to Camp. The line of pickets was thrown across Strawberry Plains. It was a delicate duty as our own forces were coming in on the roads which the rebels were expected to come. We had thought to remain at Deep Bottom but shall probably move away in the morning. All the forces crossed the river in the night. Rumors of successes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Corps at Petersburg. Not confirmed. Capt. Noble, Genl Birney's Staff thought we had been successful during the week, the object being mainly to retain or recall troops designed to [reinforce?] early in the Shenandoah Valley, than our own. He thought the losses of the rebels greater. The place where our fight took place was [Fussell's?] Mill. Sent letter to Mr. Wyman with list of casualties.

SUNDAY, August 21<sup>st</sup>, 1864

As expected, and as usual, we move today. Started early in the morning and proceeded by slow marches to our old camp at Bernard's Landing. It was refreshing to get back to the old spot after such experiences as we have had during the past week. During that time we have lost, killed three officers. Capt. D'Arcy, Liets. Tantum and Sears. Wounded, Capt. Taylor and Liet. Seward, [Sumstuck?] are [in] hospital. Lt. Acker. The others are not according to their own account, fit for duty. Letter from Seward and word from Capt. Taylor, both doing well. Our Corps was rather dilapidated but we can soon [be] put in order. Heavy firing at Petersburg City, reported captured. Don't believe it. Went up in the old spot and a good bath and change and I feel like a new man. A shave and shampoo finished the work. Orders to move to the works at 4 A.M. Disturbed during the night with orders to be ready to move during this night; order countermanded. A letter from Lilly and another from Mother contributes to make me not well. Lilly was particularly affectionate, sent letter to her this afternoon and wrote Frank.

AUGUST 22d, 1864

The morning opens with a great deal of work. Liet. [Hilliard?] is here; arrived yesterday. Liet. Schultz is arrested by Col. Coan who will [?fer] charges. Called up the Sgts and gave them a lecture. Have also had an interview with one officer with reference to his conduct and shall see others. This morning were aroused and went to the entrenchments. At 4 oclck this afternoon enjoyed a very satisfactory interview with Genl Birney, Major Genl [Comity] Corps. He was a friend and schoolmate of Charles' at Andover and have been acquainted with him since. In the evening, game of Whist. This is a relief and keeps me occupied until the arrival of the mail about 10 oclck. No letter of importance. I am convinced Genl Birney will help me out when I make the endeavor, although I am convinced that he does not believe in granting resignations. The case of the S officer of the 8th NY which he read to me is one of Genl Butler's sharpshooters.

TUESDAY, August 23d, 1864

Still in Camp with lots to do. We all earnestly hope to remain here for some time but I fear the operations near Petersburg are such that all our forces will be demanded there. Got the Muster Out Rolls. Had my tent shaded. Wrote quite a number of letters including one to Lilly which I was not able to complete. We are to have an inspection tomorrow by the Corps inspector and the whole command is busy preparing. I hope we may make a good appearance. Although it cannot be expected that we can look as we would if allowed to remain quiet for a little while. The evening I spent over a few games of Whist, waiting for the arrival of the mail, which came in early. None, but official letters. Petersburg said to be over but I don't believe it.

WEDNESDAY, August 24<sup>th</sup>, 1864

It is afternoon and we have already had inspection. Lt. Col. Jackson, inspected. Growled and grumbled at great deal but I couldn't stand it and saw no reason why he should find fault. The inspection was a good one under the circumstances. Am very much desperate because I have the intelligence that we are going to move to Petersburg to relieve the 18<sup>th</sup> Corps. We ought to be allowed to remain until we are mustered out. Muster Out Rolls are being worked up. Finished letter to Frank enclosing \$10 asking him to send pants, hat, shirts and stamps, to be sent to Edward Shinden, Co. F. Letter finished to Lilly and another to Mother. Positive orders have come to be ready to move at a moment's notice. We go to take Genl Tracey's place tonight. Went to the right just at sunset and deployed behind the works. Very thin line. Stopped with Liet. Sebine, of Capt. James battery, near the works. Expect to move during the night. McKeller and Williams went to hospital today. Only two officers besides myself and acting Adj. Hutchinson.

THURSDAY, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Wakened during the night several times and got but very little sleep. This morning early was informed that one of the 47<sup>th</sup> had deserted and probably rebels would attack. Early in the morning the rebels attacked the pickets and the firing was quite sharp. Our line had been strengthened on account of information received from deserters, so that the rebels did not accomplish much. We have lost one man, killed, and 9 wounded and missing.

THURSDAY, August 25<sup>th</sup>, 1864

We hear that the 47<sup>th</sup> has lost 2 officers and about 40 men taken prisoners. About 100 rebels have come within our lines, one man brought 20 rebels. Artillery firing this evening pretty sharp. The last day of my old muster and Lilly urges me in a letter received today to get out [of] the service as soon as possible. We expect to leave tonight. Saw the officers of the 24<sup>th</sup> Main Regt. Old [Augustin?] acquaintances. Late in the evening received my pay to June 30<sup>th</sup>, less than \$10 per month, restitution money.

FRIDAY, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A weary night with little sleep. Got back from the paymaster, Major [Farr] about 12 o'clock and was roused early this morning. Have paid over to Paddock the Regt. Fund \$427.49 and his bill \$24.00 and to O'Rourke \$110, giving him note for \$30 and sent money check to Father for \$200 given by Major Farr No. 67. Also sent a letter to Lilly. Have heard today that Elfwing is made Major but do not believe it. Col. Barton came this evening but I have heard no news from him. We expect to move tonight and everything is in readiness. We hear from the Richmond paper that Fort Morgan is taken but we also hear from other sources that we have been whipped near Petersburg and rumor says have lost the Weldon Road again. I am afraid it is true. Everything is in readiness to move. The men's knapsacks are packed in wagons to be carried for them.

SATURDAY, August 27<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A very bad night. Everything was packed and we had no shelter. It rained very hard and I got very little rest and woke up this morning very weary. Saw Col. Barton and learned from him that Elfwing had received his commission as Major because he was willing to be mustered and I had told him I should go [get] out [of the] service. Told Col. B my opinion of him and left him. I feel the indignity very much but it cannot be a disgrace because all the officers express their disappointment and Col. B himself declares that he would not have done this but [would] have promoted me if I would have remained in the service. At Division Headquarters for an hour or so in the afternoon. They know little or nothing of our movement but expect to go tonight or tomorrow morning. Evening in Camp in preparation for our movement., Get to rest early as I am very tired. Col. B has no friends here and his course with regard to the majority is severely censured by all. At Division Headquarters he has no friends. We are not driven off the Weldon Road but Hancock was whipped pretty badly.

SUNDAY, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 1864

No move last night and now at midday there seems as little prospect of it as for the past three or four days. Did not rest well and rose tired. We have succeeded in getting our baggage back and I have my desk. I hope we will remain [for] some time yet. Only 14 days more for the old man. Liet. Acker has just returned looking pretty well and I am glad to see him and should like to see others. Gen. Birney reported under arrest, which I do not believe. Col. Barton in command of Brigade and Col. Coan lying off. Was interrupted while writing Lilly in the afternoon by a very urgent order to move instantly. Evening was fixed for a short stay although I feared we should move as it is Sunday. Got

SUNDAY, August 28<sup>th</sup>, 1864

ready and started in about 15 minutes. Easy march to Petersburg, arriving about 9 P.M. and took over position on the right of the line in the open field. Considerable firing but no one hurt. Col. Coan took command on the march but I think he may go away soon.

MONDAY, August 29<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Up pretty early. Notice from the Adjt at 3 ocl<sup>k</sup> but did not get up, being on the line, so that I had only to rise up and be ready for duty. This morning commenced work on the Muster and Pay rolls. Received two letters, one from Lilly urging me to come home and another from Dr. Strickland. Read one of my letters which Mr. Wyman improperly had published in the Brooklyn Daily Union. Am getting everything ready so as to hand in my resignation this week if possible. Shall make out my Final Return in two or three days. This evening we came to the rear. The artillery firing was very heavy and continued until about 10 ocl<sup>k</sup> in the evening. It was really a magnificent sight – the air alive with shells almost all taking the direction of Petersburg. Some of them seemed rising to the stars and mingling their light with them. Lay down on the wet sand and having a cold do not like it much. Col Coan, if decent, could have invited me to stay with Lippencott & Acker, back with the Regt.

TUESDAY, August 30<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Up in good season. Not much rest. My cold is worse. Change my quarters and succeed in putting up my tent in a very good locality where I shall not be compelled to be around Headquarters continuously. Have been busy with my Muster Rolls and my Returns. Made an arrangement for turning over my property to Fletcher, who was mustered as an officer today. Williams is back with the Regt. and will act as Adj<sup>t</sup>. I have made out my request for an officer to be designated to receive my property. Coan says that there will be no difficulty in getting out and Williams says there is an order to the effect that any officer who has served three years, by giving ten days notice, may resign. My resignation, I think, will go in tomorrow. This evening we have had a good sing and I have enjoyed the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Band. Commenced a letter to Lilly but could not finish it. Received letters from Mother and Taylor. Muster tomorrow.

WEDNESDAY, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 1864

My cold is so severe that I am excused by the Doctor from duty and thus escaped detail for Brigade Officer of the Day and obtained a respite so that I may attend to my papers. Made the Muster Rolls. Completed Muster Out Rolls and Monthly Report and during the evening completed my Monthly Returns for C&C&G.E for August, all but the oath of certificate for the Sergeant to sign, and having received the order to turn over my property to Fletcher, hope to have everything completed by tomorrow, when I propose to make out my resignation. I shall then see Genl Birney to have it put through immediately. Letter from Mother and another from Taylor. I wanted to answer but could not. Everything quiet, spent part of the afternoon with Dr. Throop and Hilliard at Avery's. Have drank more than usual for the purpose of curing my cold, but not enough to hurt. Shall be glad when I can get out of the army and away from those with whom I

WEDNESDAY, August 31<sup>st</sup>, 1864

am compelled to associate. Visited the Petersburg express battery 3. 30 Parrot rifles. No firing today. Enjoyed a very fine view of Petersburg from this hill. This is [a] beautiful country. Just as intended, the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Command playing and I lay awake for some time listening to the exquisite music. The Last Rose of Summer, so appropriate, was very beautiful. I was almost entranced.

THURSDAY, September 1<sup>st</sup>, 1864

This morning received a letter from Lilly and one from Dunbar about [copy] paper. Have entirely completed my Monthly Returns and shall finish the Ordinance this afternoon, I hope. Have written Taylor and altogether spent a busy forenoon. During the afternoon went to the trenches, saw the papers exchanged with the rebels but they contained no news. The officers of the 47<sup>th</sup> NY were indulging in melons collected in front of our works. This afternoon and evening have been very busy in getting my papers ready for the transfer of property to Liet. Fletcher and finishing my Return which I hope to send away tomorrow. Then my resignation will be made out and I shall urge it with all the power I possess. Col. Coan promises to see it safely through Brigade Headquarters and I shall see Genl Birney. Coan sick with a chill.

FRIDAY, September 2<sup>d</sup>, 1864

Taylor, my clerk, was here at work on the papers when I got up and at 10 ocl<sup>k</sup>, Fletcher had signed the receipts. Fagans had sworn to the affidavits and I had got everything ready for the closing up of my Returns which were all ready to send at noon. My resignation is now in the hands of Col. Coan. He's somewhat ill, but will see to it as soon as he can. I am free of all responsibility and have written to the Chief of Depts to send new certificates of some indebtedness. Sent a letter to Lilly and mother and another to Frank. McClellan nominated but the platform of the [conservative?] said that I cannot vote for him. Lincoln must be elected under the circumstances. News of Sherman success created a great rejoicing along the whole line. He is said to be in Atlanta.

SATURDAY, September 3<sup>d</sup>, 1864

The case of Liet. Schultz came off this morning and I went with the Doctor to Division Headquarters to give testimony. Detailed all the forenoon but allowed at noon an hour, during which times I saw Col. Barton and secured a good endorsement of my resignation. With it, I returned to Genl Foster and Major Eddy, secured me a favorable endorsement there. Gave my testimony in the case. Attended to the affairs of Capt. Moser and during the evening played a game of Whist. A notice that I am the Division Officer of the Day for tomorrow and a copy of the official report of Col. Barton of the actions of June 1<sup>st</sup>, Cold Harbor. A letter from Lilly [in] the evening. I shall be exceedingly anxious until I hear from my paper and shall call on Genl Birney tomorrow and urge his favorable endorsement.

SUNDAY, September 4<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Sunday again, with all the duties of any other day. Through my morning duties and at Division Headquarters early in the morning. Receive instruction and go to Corps Headquarters but the General is out. On the line all the forenoon. Pretty tired at noon. A little rest and then another trip to the Corps Headquarters. Saw Genl Birney, but could not get nothing satisfactory from him. I hope he will endorse the paper favorably but cannot tell from what he says on the line in the evening. After writing Lilly, Fletcher & 2 sergeants captured on the vidette line. Heavy cannonading during the night. An indistinct rumor that we are under orders to move but nothing definite.

MONDAY, September 5<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Learn early this morning that the firing last night was in honor of a victory by Sherman who occupies Atlanta and has whipped Hood, cutting his army in two. At Division Headquarters, with report not required in Court Martial. The rumor proves true that we are under orders to be ready to move at a moment's notice. Provisions cooked. Have heard nothing from my papers, only they left the Division Headquarters yesterday morning. Rose plucked at the Friend's Home. Division Headquarters on the hill overlooking Petersburg. Back to Quarters, very uneasy. Sent to Bondinot in afternoon and received word that he would write me in the morning. Wrote Lilly for I must keep her informed of the progress of events. Shall be very anxious until I hear from the papers. Bondinot said, "Don't worry. The papers will be back in two or three days," from which I infer they have received a good endorsement. A good letter from Lilly and one from Seward.

TUESDAY, September 6<sup>th</sup>, 1864

The first thought this morning was in regard to my resignation. Wandered around until ten A.M. when I went to the Headquarters. The letter of Bondinot's came about 11 A.M. while I was at the Colonels. The endorsement was not what I wished. It was simply forwarded without approval or disapproval. There is some hope but I fear the worst. Could not write Lilly [for] two or three days. Will soon pass and I can do nothing until the result is known. This nervous excitement has made me sick. The weather is cool and it has been raining a little during the day. Have seen the Colonel. He has recommended that the companies be consolidated and that several officers be mustered out. At my request, my name is next to Col. Barton's on the list.

WEDNESDAY, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning received a letter from Father and one from Mother. They want me out of the service and am sure will be very glad when I get home. Still anxious about when my resignation [comes]. Hope to hear tomorrow. Not much [?id]. Prepared for a disapproval but then, am still hopes of being able to get out in other ways. I feel that I could talk to Genl Birney and tell him some truths and if I am allowed to go, shall do so. Am to try a case tomorrow, James [Muirdale?] Co. B. Can do but very little in my present state of mind. Learned that Genl Butler is to be back tomorrow whereas the accumulation of business for the past ten days will be presented to him, and in the [sic] a

WEDNESDAY, September 7<sup>th</sup>, 1864

hurry and classed with the other resignations that have been accumulating for the ten days, mine will be dishd. My name is first on the list of those to be mustered out if the companies are consolidated. Wrote Lilly.

THURSDAY, September 8<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Got everything prepared to hold court and waited for the witnesses, but none came. Ordered the man to return to duty without trial. My Muster Out rolls are nearly finished. Wrote Seward and Father. Taylor, I learn, has gone to Annapolis, from which place the ride to Baltimore is but short. Still anxious about my resignation. No news from it. [Barnum Carver?] bid goodbye having obtained his leave of absence. The news by the paper, confirming the capture of Atlanta, the various little successes and the speech of Seward on the Election, give a cheering aspect to affairs. Expected a letter from L. but none came. May expect to hear, when my resignation [comes] tomorrow, but have lost hope of to [sic] it being successful. Up in the trenches this evening and tomorrow. Resumed my duties regularly.

FRIDAY, September 9<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A cloudy, lowery morning. No disturbances during the night and only a little musket firing during the day. The rebels have been guilty of very unmanly acts in shooting officers who were led to their lines under cover of a truce and the good feeling established some time [ago] [and] since ceases. Came down to my Quarters this morning and returned, but this afternoon I felt so ill that I could not go back. I have a considerable fever. Head aches and my limbs ache and altogether am very miserable. Got in bed before dark and covered myself well with clothes. I am so miserable that I fear a fever. My back troubles me. No word from my resignation. It seems a long time in getting through, but since I learned that Corps Headquarters did not approve it, I have been preparing myself for a disappointment and I am rather at a loss what to do if this fails. There will be some [opinion?]. Loud cheering along our lines over Sherman's victory.

SATURDAY, September 10<sup>th</sup>, 1864

On Monday, and even Sunday last, I thought it possible I might spend the next Sabbath home, but there is very little prospect. I am considerably worried by various matters. Fear that my resignation will not be accepted is but one trouble. This morning the Colonel sent me a letter referring me to give in writing the reason for being absent from the trenches. I regarded it as an insult and in my answer endeavored to exhibit my feelings without being disrespectful and in consequence, another letter came. I think I have now settled the matter. A little better today than I was last night but still very far from being well. Letter from Frank. No word from my resignation. Retire quite early, quite ill. Fainted away while I was being shaved.

SUNDAY, September 11<sup>th</sup>, 1864

A most miserable night and I am so ill that I am now packing up to go to the Hospital, probably the Base Hospital. I fear I am going to have a fever, although I never had one yet. Very miserable, because very weak. Cannot eat or drink anything but water. It is now middle afternoon and I expect to go in an hour. It is said that Grant will let officers who have served as such three years resign. Started for the Field Hospital but was not detained there long, being sent forward to the Base Hospital. I was very tired when I arrived and got to my bed as soon as possible. I really feel quite miserable and cannot longer dodge the fact that I have the fever and as I fear I have carried it in my system for some time. I may be confined to Hospital longer than I would like. Not a word from my papers. No letters.

MONDAY, September 12<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Commenced my course of medicine during the night and think it will, with the rest I get, secure me pardon from the fever very soon. During the day several of the men of the Regt. detailed here visited me and some of them, who went to the Regt during the day, brought letters. 2 from Lilly, always welcomed. They always come at the night time. During the day I sat up a little but couldn't move about. My head feels bad, heavy, and I am often troubled with dizziness, and I cannot walk far. Had considerable rest last night. Wrote part of a letter to Lilly but it was not fit to send and I was really not in a condition to write a letter. So weak and dispirited. The men returned from the Regt with the statement that nothing more is known of the muster out, than I have known for some time.

TUESDAY, September 13<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning I felt decidedly better. I think my fever is about gone, although I still take medicine. After breakfast I took a walk around the place and afterwards visited Dr. Porter with whom I had quite a long conversation on Sunday matters. Afterwards shaved by O'Rourke and then was prepared to return to my couch for I was quite tired. Succeeded in writing a letter to Lilly and preparing it for the mail. Kept [in] my bed during the rest of the day and at night felt a little feverish. Took a little more exertion than I ought. One addition to the sufferer, have been much surprised in the Hospital to notice that most of the officers are living on full diet and seem quite well having been here in this condition for weeks. The attendance here is excellent in all respects. No particular news from the Regt. Elfwing is back. Barnett is also back. Don't know when the men will be mustered.

WEDNESDAY, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 1864

This morning thought when I rose I was quite myself again but found myself quite mistaken when I attempted to walk about. Still weak and my head is in a bad condition. Heavy firing in the front artillery and infantry. Seems to be on our front, but I think it is nothing particular. Considerably better than I have been for some days. Have been reading most of the time and this evening I took a walk with the Chaplain of the 169<sup>th</sup> NY, Mr. Chapman. We went out into the woods and were chatting together cozily when

WEDNESDAY, September 14<sup>th</sup>, 1864

I was much surprised by the appearance of Dr. Throop and Adj. Williams. After considerable parlaying the Adj. handed me my discharge signed by Butler on the 13<sup>th</sup>. I jumped with delight; am a free man again and I went to bed and thanked God for this goodness.

THURSDAY, September 15<sup>th</sup>, 1864

Today I was up early and felt quite myself. Soon after breakfast went to the Regt, visited my men, visited the officers and had a kind parting from all; spent several hours there. Saw Genl Tracey, who was very kind, and Captain Brooks and the others of his staff, all kind. Also called on Col. Pennypacker, who I have found to be a gentleman, and I like him much. All express their good wishes. Before starting this morning, I wrote Lilly and Frank. Received a letter from Lilly and it was good. This evening has been smoking, talking and indulging in the pleasant prospect of going home. It is a happy thought and I retire, rejoicing that God has been so good to me.

