

The Totoket Historical Society, Inc.

**The Civil War Diary of John Henry Palmer  
Company K, 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers**

**January 1 to December 31, 1864**

Transcribed & Digitized

by

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This document contains the transcription of two separate diaries, those for 1864 and 1865. Each was a separate book, 3" by 4 ¾". The diaries are identical in appearance.

Friday, January 1, 1864.

Here I am with the – 10th Regiment again down in St. Augustine. Cold windy day. Was on Camp Guard. The darkies had a big time downtown today. There was so much mail arrived today but there was no letter for me this time.

John H Palmer  
Company K 10th Connecticut volunteers  
St. Augustine  
East Florida

Saturday, January 2, 1864.

Went downtown and cruised around all day, called on some young ladies. Had my Picture taken. Evening went down and practiced with the minstrels.

Sunday, January 3, 1864.

Cold rainy day. Lay in my bunk nearly all day. Evening wrote a letter to my Sister. The old tent leaks so bad that I went over and slept in the adjutant's tent.

Monday, January 4, 1864.

Rained hard all day. Was on company fatigue. Tonight a number of the boys have reenlisted today and been examined. Went downtown in the evening and practiced with the minstrels.

Wednesday, January 5, 1864.

Cloudy and warm. Went on Guard. Went downtown in the evening and practiced with the minstrels. There was an alarm in camp tonight, it seemed that there is a large force of Rebs. not far from here contemplating an attack on the city. Signed the payroll today and was paid off, up to 1 January, 1864.

Thursday, January 7, 1864.

Damp and rainy. Lay in my bunk all the forenoon. Afternoon wrote a letter to Lou. The men that reenlisted were getting paid off today. Evening went downtown and had a gay supper.

Friday, January 8, 1864.

Cold damp day was on Company Fatigue. The boys are having big times with their huge quantities of greenbacks. Went out on Drill Parade this

afternoon for the first time in over six months. Evening went downtown and practiced with the minstrels.

Saturday, January 9, 1864.

Rather cold. Was on Guard. No news today of any account that we could rely on. The weather was very cold through the night.

Sunday, January 10, 1864.

Clear and cool went down to Chaplin Trumbull's Church in the forenoon and afternoon cruised around Town. Evening went to Church again. Had a Dress Parade down on the square this afternoon. General Gilmore arrived here right after it was all over.

Monday, January 11, 1864.

Warm and pleasant. Went on Review this morning and then went out on Picket. Nothing of any importance occurred through the day or night. A deserter came in today from Savanna. He reports pretty hard times.

Tuesday, January 12, 1864.

Cloudy and warm. Cruised around town nearly all day. Some new Tents came for the Reg't. today and we have got comfortable quarters once more. Evening went downtown and practiced with the minstrels. It rained quite hard all night. Received two letters today one from my Sister and one from Lou. Wrote a letter to my Sister.

Wednesday, January 13, 1864

Rained pretty much all day was in. Was on a Company Fatigue. Evening wrote a letter to Lou. Retired early

Thursday, January 14, 1865.

Very pleasant day. Was on Company Fatigue. Had to help dig a well and various other jobs. Went downtown in the evening and had a gay supper and cruised all around town.

Friday, January 15, 1864.

Warm and pleasant. Had a Regimental Fatigue, and they kept us shoveling all day. A Boat arrived here today with a small mail, but there was no letters for me. Evening went down and played with the minstrels. The hall was jamed full, and a great many were obliged to go away.

Saturday, January 16, 1864.

Clear and cool lay around in the Tent nearly all day. Wrote a letter to William Franklin. Evening, retired early as I did not feel very well

Saturday, January 17, 1864.

Warm and pleasant. Went down to Chaplain Trumbulls Church in the forenoon. Afternoon, staid in camp. Evening, went down town and cruised around. No news today of any account. Went on the sick list this morning.

Monday, January 18, 1864.

Rainy day. Lay around in my Tent pretty much all day. Began a letter to my Sister. Evening, played whist.

Tuesday, January 19, 1864.

Clear and pleasant. Went downtown and cruised around all day, came up to camp about 7 o'clock in the evening. I turned in for the night. All the beer halls were closed today, and the beer spild out. Had my picture taken today.

Wednesday, January 20, 1864.

Returned to duty. When out on Battalion Drill in the forenoon. Afternoon went on camp drill & went down Town to Dress Parade. Evening went down Town and called on some young ladies. Had a very pleasant time.

Thursday, January 21, 1864

Went out on Battalion drill in the forenoon, comp. drill in the afternoon. Some more deserters came in today. Went downtown in the evening, and started the prayer meeting. The Minstrels gave an entertainment, but I was slightly indisposed and left them

Friday, January 22, 1864.

Went out on Battalion drill in the forenoon. Comp. Drill in the afternoon. Staid in camp in the evening and finished writing a letter to my Sister. Nothing new today.

Saturday, January 23, 1864.

Went out on Pickett, was very pleasant through the day and night. A Boat came in today, bringing some Recruits for the Reg't. and a small mail, but there was no letters for me.

Sunday, January 24, 1864.

Went downtown and cruised around, until 2 o'clock and then came up to camp and went down Town on Dress Parade, there was quite a large crowd of spectators. Evening went down Town to the prayer meeting. There was another mail Boat came in here today, but brought no letters for me.

Monday, January 25, 1864.

Went out on Battalion Drill in the forenoon. Afternoon lay around camp. Evening staid in camp and had a gay old time playing Whist and singing.

Tuesday, January 26, 1864.

Went out on Battalion Drill in the forenoon. Afternoon Company Drill. Evening played whist.

Tuesday, January 27, 1864.

Same as usual, Nothing new. Went downtown in the evening to the Band concert, stood Guard at the door. Ten deserters came in today.

Thursday, January 28, 1864.

Went over the river on a Scout, saw nothing of any account. It was very warm and the gnats were very troublesome. Evening went downtown and got supper.

Friday, January 29, 1864.

Went downtown on a pass. Three or four more deserters came in today. Evening played Whist.

Saturday, January 30, 1864.

Lay around in Camp pretty much all day. A Boat arrived here today but brought no mail or any news. Evening, told stories, for a change.

Sunday, January 31, 1864.

Went on Picket on the Sebastian River by the Bridge. A lot of deserters came in today, from the Rebel army. Everything passed off quietly through the day and night. Another Boat came in today, with a mail. I received one letter from my Sister.

Monday, February 1, 1864.

Very warm day. Went downtown on a pass, and cruised around all day. Had my Ambrotype taken. Received my fifth State Bounty check of ten dollars. Evening wrote a letter to my Sister.

Tuesday, February 2, 1864.

Cloudy and a little cooler. Lay around in my Tent pretty much all day, and read. Another Boat came in today but brought no mail. Evening, sang.

Wednesday, February 3, 1864.

Was on Company Guard. Nothing of any consequence occurred today. All quiet through the night.

Thursday, February 4, 1864.

Went downtown on a pass, and made several calls etc., etc. Evening, join the minstrels again, and went downtown to the rehearsal, on our way up to camp we gave some of the people a parade.

Friday, February 5, 1864.

Was on Regimental Fatigue. Nothing new today. Evening played Whist and sang.

Saturday, February 6, 1864.

Went downtown on a pass, cruised around all day. Two Boats came in but brought no mail. Evening went down on practice a little while. Four more deserters came in today.

Sunday, February 7, 1864.

Lay around in camp all day. Some more deserters came in today and they report the Rebel Army as nearly broken up. Evening, went down Town to the Prayer meeting. Some of the men have reenlisted today.

Monday, February 8, 1864.

Was on Regimental fatigue. Went down Town in the afternoon to rehearsal. Went downtown to the Band contest in the evening but did not stay long as I did not feel very well.

Tuesday, February 9, 1864.

Was on Company fatigue. Went down Town to the rehearsal in the afternoon. Eight deserters came in today with their arms and equipment. Went down Town in the evening and played with the minstrels. The Hall was crowded fully and it passed off lovely.

Wednesday, February 10, 1864.

Went on the sick list. Went down Town and cleared out our Minstrel Hall, and took down the scenery, as the Veterans are going home in a day or two, and we can have no more performances until we get together again. Some more deserters came in today. Evening went down Town, and settled off accounts etc.

Thursday, February 11, 1864.

Did not feel well. Lay in my Bunk nearly all day. Evening played Euchre.

Friday, February 12, 1864

Rainy day. Had a very bad sore throat. Lay in my bunk all day, without Eating, or drinking anything. Evening, retired early.

Friday, February 13, 1864.

Clear and pleasant. The Veterans left here this morning for the North. There were all in high spirits and went off with flying colors. Lay in my bunk pretty much all day. Evening retired early.

Sunday, February 14, 1864.

Lay around in my Tent pretty much all day. A Boat came in today bringing seven new recruits, and a mail. I received four letters, two from my Sister, one from Ett, and one from Lou. Wrote a letter to Lou. Evening, retired early.

Monday, February 15, 1864.

The Reg't. has orders to pack up everything and strike tents and be ready to fall in at a moments notice. As I am not fit to go, I shall probably remain behind with the rest of the sick, lame, and lazy. Evening, retired early, my throat being considerable worse. Wrote a letter to Ett.

Tuesday, February 16, 1864.

Everything is all in confusion, the boys are getting ready to leave. Orders came this afternoon to have the 24th Mass. leave here, and report to Jacksonville. Our regiment is to stay and Col. Otay has command of the post. We shall probably move into the Fort.

Wednesday, February 17, 1864.

Moved all of our furniture and things into Fort Marien, where we shall probably remain some time. Evening the 24th Mass. took their departure from St. Augustine. I retired very early, but did not rest very well, for it was pretty cold.



Thursday, February 18, 1864.

Cold windy day. Wrote a letter to my Sister. Lay around in my Tent pretty much all day. Evening, retired very early. The wind blew a gale all night.

Friday, February 19, 1864.

Windy and cold as the Devil. Staid in my nearly all day, There is a rumor that Gen. Gilmore's forces in this State have been driven back. Evening retired, before dark, but did not rest very well for I could not keep warm.

Saturday, February 20, 1864.

Very cold this morning. Staid in my old tent pretty much all day, as usual. Nothing of importance occurred to day. Evening, retired early.

Sunday, February 21, 1864.

Some warmer. Lay around in the Fort pretty much all day. The Monohanssett came in today but he brought no mail. Evening went down town and cruised an hour or two. The Boston came in about dusk and brought us a mail. I received three letters, one from Lou, one from Mrs. Franklin and one from my Sister.

Monday, February 22, 1864.

Pleasant day. Wrote two letters in the forenoon, one to Lou &, one to Mrs. Franklin. Afternoon was on fatigue with the rest of the sick, carrying in wood. Evening, retired early as usual. The Boys that were stationed out to Pickett, came in early this morning.

Tuesday, February 23, 1864.

Warm and pleasant. Was on fatigue nearly all day, lay around in the Tent, with the rest of the sick, lame, & lazy. Evening went down Town just for a change.

Wednesday, February 24, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the morning. Afternoon, went to look for Sanford, who disappeared very mysteriously last evening, but did not find him. Evening retired early.

Thursday, February 25, 1864.

Was on fatigue as usual. The Island City came in today with a mail. I received four letters, two from my Sister, one from Allie G. & one from Lou. Wrote a letter to my Sister and one to Allie. Evening went down Town and rehearsed

Friday, February 26, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the forenoon, afternoon lay in my bunk. Evening, retired about dark, as I did not feel very well. We hear today that the 6<sup>th</sup> C. V. is coming here.

Saturday, February 27, 1864.

Was on fatigue again. Dr. Newton left here today for the North, the rumor is that he has resigned. Evening went down Town and cruised around an hour or two.

Sunday, February 28, 1864.

On fatigue as usual. The Monohanssett came in here today bringing a very small mail, only four letters. Evening, went down town and cruised around there was any quantity of Females promanading the Street.

Monday, February 29, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the forenoon, afternoon was mustered in for two months more pay, and signed the Pay Roll. Evening went down Town and seronaded.

Tuesday, March 1, 1864.

Was on fatigue as usual, was paid off today up to this date, two months pay. Evening retired very early, but did not rest very well.

Wednesday, March 2, 1864.

Rainy day. Wrote a letter to Ette. Evening retired very early, did not feel well at all.

Thursday, March 3, 1864.

Pleasant day. Was on fatigue in the forenoon. Afternoon went down Town. Evening went downtown and cruised around until 8 o'clock. We have heard from Sanford, it seems that he has deserted and gone in to Rebeldom.

Friday, March 4, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the forenoon. Afternoon went down town and rolled Ten Pins. Evening, went up around in Co. B's quarters and had a gay old time singing.

Saturday, March 5, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the forenoon. Went downtown in the afternoon and had my picture taken. Went down town in the evening.

Sunday, March 6, 1864.

Was on fatigue and the forenoon as usual. Afternoon went down Town to the Catholic Church. Evening went down town Seronading got back about 11 o'clock. Sutter Hawleys Schooner arrived here to day.

Monday, March 7, 1864.

Did not feel very well lay in my bunk nearly all day. A boat came in today bringing a mail. I received a letter from my Sister, and I wrote an answer forthwith. Evening retired before dark.

Tuesday, March 8, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the forenoon. Afternoon loafed around in the Fort. Evening went down Town and cruised around. There is a rumor today that we are going to Connect. to join the Reg't. and go out with Burnside.

Wednesday, March 9, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the forenoon. Afternoon loafed around in the Fort. Evening went down town serenoding, and had some bouquets handed to me.

Thursday, March 10, 1864.

On fatigue in the forenoon as usual. Afternoon went downtown. Evening went downtown. Nothing new today, excepting we had a pretty heavy thunder shower today.

Saturday, March 11, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the forenoon. Afternoon it rained, consequently I staid in my bunk and slept. Evening, went down Town and cruised around.

Saturday, March 12, 1864.

Went out sailing all the forenoon, at a nice time. Afternoon was on fatigue. Evening, retired early.

Sunday, March 13, 1864.

Was on fatigue and the forenoon. Afternoon went down town to the Catholic Church. The Boston came in today bringing a mail. I received two letters, one from my Sister and one from Lou. Evening went down town and cruised around to see the sights and fashions.

Monday, March 14, 1864.

On fatigue and the forenoon. Afternoon took a walk up to the Camp Ground. Evening, rainy, retired early. Wrote two letters today one to my Sister & one to Lou.

Tuesday, March 15, 1864.

Was on fatigue and the forenoon. Afternoon went off in the – for walk. Evening went down town serenading, had a huge lot of Bouquets flung to us, did not get back to the Fort until twelve o'clock.

Wednesday, March 16, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the forenoon. A Boat came in today, but brought no mail nor any news. Evening went down Town and called on a young Lady in Bridge Street.

Thursday, March 17, 1864.

Was on fatigue and the forenoon as usual. Afternoon, went out sailing, there was a whirlwind came and upset us, but we were all lucky enough to keep top of the water until a Boat came and picked us off. Evening went down town seronading.

Friday, March 18, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the forenoon. A Boat came in today bringing us a mail. I received one letter from Ett. Evening, went down town and called on a young Lady in Bridge Street. George Woodward returned to the Company today

Saturday, March 19, 1864.

Was on fatigue and the forenoon. Wrote a letter to Ett. Went down Town and cruised around. Evening went down town until Roll Call.

Sunday, March 20, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the morning a short time. Went to the Catholic Church all day. Evening, went down Town and cruised around.

Monday, March 21, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the morning. Did not feel very well, lay in my bunk nearly all day. The Cosmopolitan came in here today, bringing a very small mail, there was no letter for me. Evening, retired early. It rained quite hard all night, and thundered very heavily.

Tuesday, March 22, 1864.

Rainy day. Staid in my Tent nearly all day. Went down Town in the evening, but soon came back to the Fort and turned in, as it was very cold.

Wednesday, March 23, 1864.

It is eighteen months ago today that I am listed in the United States Service. Cold and windy. Was on fatigue in the morning. Lay around in the Fort pretty much all day. A Boat came in today but brought no mail. Evening went down town to a Negro Dance.

Thursday, March 24, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the morning. Went off on a cruise in the afternoon. Evening, went down town to the Trinity Church and went to the Catholic Church.

Friday, March 25, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the morning as usual. Went down Town in the afternoon. Evening went down Town to the Catholic Church.

Saturday, March 26, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the morning. Went down Town in the afternoon, and cruised around. Evening went down to the debating meeting, held at the Convalescent Hosp. After leaving there we went seronading, and was treated to Pie and Cake and Bouquets.

Sunday, March 27, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the morning. Went down Town to the Catholic Church all day. Evening went down Town to the Trinity Church.

Monday, March 28, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the morning. Went down Town in the afternoon and evening. Wrote a letter to my Sister.

Tuesday, March 29, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the morning. Went down Town in the afternoon, and called on Miss Walton. Evening, went down town, and practice singing would the Trinity Church Choir.

Wednesday, March 30, 1864.

Windy and cold. Was on fatigue in the morning. Went down Town in the afternoon. A Boat came in sight today but could not get in as it was so rough. Evening went downtown and cruised around.

Thursday, March 31, 1864.

Put up a Tent outside of the Fort and moved out into it with Charlie Hardin and Mr. Frencher. A boat came in today with a mail. I received two letters, one from my Sister & one from Lou. Evening went down Town and cruised around.

Friday, April 1, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the morning. Wrote a letter to Lou. Went down Town in the afternoon and evening. There is several rumors afloat today, in regard to where the veterans will report, but none that we can rely on

Saturday, April 2, 1864.

Was on fatigue in the morning. Went down Town in the afternoon. Evening went down to the Church and practiced singing, with the Choir, passed off a very pleasant evening.

Sunday, April 3, 1864.

Went to the Trinity Church in the forenoon, and sung in the Choir. Afternoon, went to the Catholic Church. Evening, went down town and made two Calls.

Monday, April 4, 1864.

Went down Town to meeting to the Catholic Church, in the forenoon. Went down Town in the afternoon and cruised around. Evening, went down Town, but did not stay long.

Tuesday, April 5, 1864.

When up St. John's River and got some very nice oysters, and had a roast. A Boat came in today bringing us a mail. I received three letters, two from my

Sister, and one from Allie G. Wrote a letter to Allie. Evening went down Town an hour or so.

Wednesday, April 6, 1864.

Went out Horse back riding, had a gay old time. Evening went down Town and called on several young Ladies.

Thursday, April 7, 1864.

Went down Town to the Ten Pin Alley, and then took a walk out to the Picket. Evening went down Town Seronading, some very nice bouquets were presented to us.

Friday, April 8, 1864.

Lay around in the Fort all day. Evening went down Town to a Party at Mr. Waltons. Got acquainted with some very nice young Ladies and had a pleasant time. Singing playing Euchre, etc.

Saturday, April 9, 1864.

Cloudy and somewhat rainy. Went down to Mrs. Cambell's and took dinner. Evening, went down Town to the Church and practiced singing, with the Choir.

Sunday, April 10, 1864.

Pleasant day. Went to the Trinity Church in the forenoon and sang in the Choir. Went to the Catholic Church in the afternoon. A Steamer came in here today with Brig. Gen. Hatch and staff, and a Schooner came in with a prize. Evening strolled around the City.

Friday, April 11, 1864.

Staid in the Fort nearly all day. Went down Town and cruised around in the evening.

Tuesday, April 12, 1864.

Went down Town and cruised around in the forenoon. Staid in the Fort in the afternoon. Evening, went down Town to a dance to Mrs. Cospors, had a splendid time, and got acquainted with quite a number more of the young Ladies in Town.

Wednesday, April 13, 1864.

Went down Town and cruised around. Went down Town in the evening and called on Miss Lopez, had a very pleasant time.

Thursday, April 14, 1864.

Went down Town and cruised around. Evening went down Town. Over 200 Cavalry came in here just at dark, the rumor is that we are to be relieved soon.

Friday, April 15, 1864.

Damp, rainy day. Went down Town, and cruised around. A Boat came in today but brought no mail. Evening went down Town and called on Miss Lopez.

Saturday, April 16, 1864.

Went down Town and got pretty well set up, then cruise around and raised the Devil generally. Orders came today to have us be ready to go on the next Boat. Evening went down town and called on Miss Masters, and went to walk.

Sunday, April 17, 1864.

A Boat came in today bringing the 17<sup>th</sup> Conn. Vols. to relieve us, but she brought no mail. Went to the Catholic Church all day. Evening called on Ms. Lopez and walked down to the Plaza to hear the Band play, then came back to camp and went out seronading.

Monday, April 18, 1864.

Went down Town and called on all of the young Ladies, and bade them goodbye. Afternoon went on board of the transport and bade farewell to St. Augustine. The Ladies were all weeping and feeling very badly, to see us leave. Nearly all of the boys had a huge bunch of flowers presented to them by their Ladies. There was not room enough for us on the transport, and we were obliged to stay on deck, and get along the best we could. Seemed to us all like leaving home, we were so well acquainted.

Tuesday, April 19, 1864.

The wind blew a gale all day and it was very rough. Lay on deck all day. Evening arrived off Hilton Head. The weather is considerable colder here than it was in St. Augustine.

Wednesday, April 20, 1864.



Lay off Hilton Head until afternoon, and then went up to Beaufort, and lay off the in the Stream all night. A Private Soldier is allowed no privileges. Received a letter from my Sister. The principal part of our mail had gone on down to St. Augustine, and it will probably be pretty old before we get it. The boys are all feeling pretty bad, and wishing themselves back to St. Augustine.

Thursday, April 21, 1864.

Pleasant morning. Lay off Beaufort until 3 o'clock in the afternoon, and then was transferred on to the Navy Boardman, and shoved down in the hole, so thick that there was hardly room to stand up, the meanest coarsest place that we were ever in. The Officers take up more than half of the boat to themselves and we may get along as we can without anything to eat or any place to sleep. Evening, came down as far as Hilton Head, and dropped anchor. Nearly all of the troops in this department are ordered to Fortress Monroe.

Friday, April 22, 1864.

Clear and pleasant. Lay off Hilton Head until noon, and then put out to Sea. Received an Express box, with clothes in it. The sea was very smooth, being a dead calm. Slept in the Wheel House, as there was no room on deck, and there was such a stench in the Hole, that I cannot stand it to sleep there.

Saturday, April 23, 1864.

Had quite a fresh breeze, and something of a Sea, and the vessel rolled considerable, and some of the boys were pretty Sea Sick. I managed to get some good books, and amused myself with reading. There is some prospects of having a pretty rough time before we get to our destination. The Sea was very rough all through the night, made Hatteras about 2 o'clock in the night.

Sunday, April 24, 1864.

The Sea is rather smoother all day. Lay around on deck all day and slept. Evening we arrived off Fortress Monroe and dropped anchor. Went into the cabin with the Sergt's and sang, slept down below in a bunk with one of the Boys, it was pretty crowded but I managed to sleep very well. The weather is considerable cooler here than what we have been used to through the winter.

Monday, April 25, 1864.

Pleasant morning. Lay off Fortress Monroe until noon and then weighed anchor and started up the Chesapeake Bay, and up the York River. Arrived off Yorktown about four o'clock and dropped the anchor but soon hoisted it again, and went ashore and lay down on the ground and slept through the night. There is a lot of troops here, and we shall probably start for Richmond in a few days. The place that we have landed on is called Gloucester Point, and is opposite Yorktown.

Tuesday, April 26, 1864.

Pitched our tent and laid on our Camp. Wrote a letter to my Sister. The Veterans joined us today, and shall probably have to advance on Richmond soon. Had the headache pretty bad all day. Evening retired early.

Wednesday, April 27, 1864.

Lay around in my tent pretty much all day. Wrote a letter to Philomena. The Band came out in their new rigs today, and they looked gay. There was an inspection today in heavy marching order. Evening, retired early.

Thursday, April 28, 1864.

Lay in my tent nearly all day, sent home some all of my things. A mail arrived for our Reg't, that had been sent to Florida. I received four letters, two from my Sister, one from Ett, and one from Allie. Evening wrote two letters, one to my Sister and one to Ett. Drewed a new gun and equipment today.

Friday, April 29, 1864.

Felt pretty bad all day, consequently lay in my Tent nearly all day. Wrote a letter to Lou. There was quite a number of men deserted last night from the different Regiments here. Twelve of them were caught today five miles outside of our Pickets. Evening retired very early.

Saturday, April 30, 1864.

Lay around in camp all day. Was mustered in for two months more pay. The troops here were all reviewed this afternoon, and it was a grand sight. They were reviewed by Gen. Hatter. Drewed shelter tents today. Some soft bread was dealt out to us tonight, for the first time since we left St. Augustine. Evening retired early as usual.

Sunday, May 1, 1864.

Rainy day. Lay in my tent all day. Began a letter to my Sister. Evening, read until ten o'clock and then retired.

Monday, May 2, 1864

Pleasant day. Took down our tent and put up a shelter tent. Evening, a tornado of wind rain, and hail, visited us with a very –, passing right through our tents as though they was sieves wetting us and nearly drowning us out.

Tuesday, May 3, 1864.

Clear and cool. Lay around in my Tent pretty much all day. Had marching orders just at night to be ready at three o'clock in the morning.

Tuesday, May 4, 1864.

Turned out at a quarter before three this morning and packed up everything, and then lay around until noon, and then fell in and marched down to the Dock, and all of the companies but A, I, & K. Went on board of the Gen Hooker and dropped out in the Stream. We lay around until after dark and then went on board of the Willard Harder and dropped out in the Stream and remained there during the night, we had favorable accommodations, and a good night's rest. There is quite a large fleet here ready to sail.

Thursday, May 5, 1864.

Pleasant morning. The fleet have all gone, and we weighed anchor and started for the York River. Reported at Fortress Monroe, and then to Newport News, and then we went on up the James River, as far as City Point which was captured by our Gen. Boate this morning. We passed by nearly every Steamer and Vessel in the fleet. Lay out in the stream until three o'clock in the night or next morning rather.

Friday, May 6, 1864.

Came onshore at City Point three o'clock this morning. Lay around two or three hours and then started in our march most all of the Boys flung away their woolen Blankets and Overcoats, and some have away their knapsacks, I flung away my blanket, and one shirt, and managed to get along with the rest. Evening, baracked in the Woods about five miles from Petersburg. We understand that our forces have possession of that Place. Was on Guard all night, everything was quiet, there and no disturbance through the night.

Saturday, May 7, 1864.

Was relieved from Guard this morning and fell in with the Reg't. and marched out about three or four miles, to the Petersburg and Richmond Turnpike, and to the Railroad, tore up a lot of track and broke down and destroyed the Telegraph and burned up in large sawmill. Fought the Rebs. four or five hours, and were held in reserve, right where the bullets, and shells flew pretty lively. Quite a number were killed and wounded on both sides. Fell back to our old camp on our way back I was sun stroked and had to be brought on a stretcher.

Sunday, May 8, 1864.

The regiment moved back to the rear about a mile and put up their shelter tents, I felt pretty bad all day, but I managed with a little help to get where the Reg't. was encamped. About 6 o'clock in the afternoon the Reg't. went out on Picket. I remained in Camp. I have a violent pain in my head and am obliged to keep in the shade and lay very quiet keeping a wet cloth on my head all the time. Evening there is various rumors afloat about Grant's Army and I managed to get a very little sleep through the night.

Monday, May 9, 1864.

Did not feel much better, lay in my Tent all day, kept my head bathed in cool water. There has been heavy fighting to the front all day, but our forces still drive the Rebs. Evening received a letter from my Sister, and I answered it forthwith. We are expecting an attack here tonight and all of the men that were able have had to turn out and lay in the Breastworks until morning. It is a perfect haven of confusion here all the while and almost impossible for anyone to get any sleep.

Tuesday, May 10, 1864.

Felt some better, lay in my Tent all day. There has been very hard fighting to the Front all day. But our boys came off victorious and drove the Rebs. back slaughtering them dreadfully. Evening the boys came off Pickett, and they look pretty hard having had scarcely any sleep since the fleet landed here. We hear that Grant has been victorious and drove the Rebs. The Boys captured a lot all of meat out there and we had some gay old pudding which was something of a treat for us.

Wednesday, May 11, 1864.

All quiet to the Front today. Did not feel much better, lay in my Tent all day. Various rumors today but none that we could rely on. Evening, a small mail

arrived, but there was no letters for me. The whole Reg't. had to go out on fatigue building Breastworks Retired very early but did not get much sleep. The place where we are encamped is called Bermuda Hundred.

Thursday, May 12, 1864.

Rainy day. Felt pretty bad all day. The Reg't. left this morning in light marching order and the last that I heard of them they were marching on toward Richmond following up the Rebs. Received a letter today from my Sister, and I sat down and wrote in answer forthwith. Evening, retired very early, we could hear some pretty heavy cannonading, and the Boys, very likely are having hot times.

Friday, May 13, 1864.

Damp rainy weather. Lay in my bunk all day. We hear today, that our Reg't. is in the advance, and are within seven miles of Richmond and still marching on. Our Army has been victorious all around, and everything looks favorable for a speedy close of the war. Evening retired early, but did not rest very well.

Saturday, May 14, 1864.

Showery. Late in my tent all day, feeling very badly. Our Boys are fighting pretty hard, and are gaining ground and driving the Rebs. on toward Richmond. The wounded are coming in all the time. Lembert who Moulthrop came in with a shell wound in the head, and James Hindle was killed. So more reinforcements came here today. Evening retired very early, but did not rest well at all.

Sunday, May 15, 1864.

Cloudy and damp. Our Reg't. lay quiet today in the rear. There was some fighting going on to the Front all day. Received a letter from Lou. and as I had some spare time I sit down and answered it. We hear more good news today from Gen. Grant's Army. All of the Boys, that are able our ordered to be ready to go to the Front tomorrow. Evening retired early as usual, but did not sleep much, there is much fighting going on, all along the lines.

Monday, May 16, 1864.

Very foggy this morning and the Rebs. took advantage of it and charged on our forces, with four times our number. We were obliged to retreat, and have our dead and wounded on the field, they captured quite a number of our men and cut up some of the Reg'ts. very bad. We piled the ground with their dead

and wounded. Our Reg't. covered the retreat, and kept the Rebs. back, and did not lose very many men, but were under a terrific fire. It was a dreadful sight to behold, to see the dead and wounded lying on the field groaning and crying for help.

Tuesday, May 17, 1864.

Fixed up the camp and laid out the Streets. There was an inspection of Arms today. Wrote a letter to my Sister. Our loss yesterday was six killed, twenty wounded and eight or ten missing. There was some shelling, going on today, but no infantry fighting. The Rebs. came down and attacked our Pickets this evening, and there was pretty lively work, for an hour or two. Our Reg't. and one or two others turned out and they were some drove back to their holes perfectly satisfied with their nights work.

Wednesday, May 18, 1864.

The Rebs. came down and attacked us this morning and fought us all day, until after dark, but we held our own and took some prisoners. How many we have lost in killed and wounded, we cannot tell at present. We understand by the prisoners that we took, that the Rebs. buried fifteen hundred of their men on Monday, and there was no end the wounded. Everything was quiet, the whole length of the lines during the night, the Gun Boats occasionally throwing a shell over where the Rebs were stopping.

Thursday, May 19, 1864.

The Rebs came down and shelled us an hour or two at a time, three or four times during the day, wounding a few, but not doing much damage. Evening, they attacked our Pickets, and fought them nearly all night, but did not drive them back at all. All the Reg'ts. were obliged to turn out and lay behind the Breastworks on their arms, all night. It is almost an impossibility to get any sleep here, and has been ever since we first landed. We got no mail today nor any news from Grant's Army.

Friday, May 20, 1864.

The Rebs came down upon us this morning in full force, and the fighting was terrible all day, but we gained the Battle and drove them off the field. There is a great number of killed and wounded on both sides, the ground is completely covered with dead and wounded Rebs. We captured, Col. Walker acting Brigadier, he was very badly wounded, and we captured quite a number of prisoners. The firing was kept up all through the night. There was

a large mail came in today, I received an old back letter, from my Sister. No news from Gen. Grant's Army.

Saturday, May 21, 1864.

The artillery have been firing on each other all day, their shells did not reach us to do any harm however. Received two letters today, one from Ett, and one from my Sister. I answered them both. Evening the Rebs. attacked us, and there was pretty sharp fighting for an hour or so, when the Rebs. were obliged to fall back and give it up as a bad job. We hear that there is some reinforcements down to the landing for us. I hope it may be true. The Rebel Band played some very pretty tunes for us just at night. I should judge that they had a very fine Band.

Sunday, May 22, 1864.

No infantry firing today of any account, although the shells are flying over incessantly. The Rebs. came in today with a flag of Truce and brought Gen. Walker's Trunk. They have had about all they could well attend up to day, to bury their dead, that we killed last night. There are several rumors in camp today, but none that we can rely on. Our forces have been to work pretty hard all day, fortifying and getting ready for another attack which is soon expected as the Rebs. are being reinforced. It seems that Col. Walker had turned out to be a Major General instead of a Col.

Monday, May 23, 1864.

My sixth State Bounty check of Ten Dollars is due here today. It has been very quiet all day with the exception of the Rebel Sharpshooters, and an occasional shell from our Gun Boats. The weather has been very warm. Evening, the Reg't. went out on Pickett and there was a very heavy artillery firing at intervals all through the night. Several of the first Conn. Heavy Art. went home today, their terms of service having expired, they were feeling pretty gay. I should like to have been one of their member.

Tuesday, May 24, 1864.

Warm day. All quiet along the lines. The Reg't. here are nearly all out on fatigue, fortifying very strong, it will be almost impossible for a large force to drive us away from here after what has been laid out, is completed. No news of any importance from Grant's Army. One of the Artillery men was killed today while asleep in his tent, by one of the Rebel Sharpshooters. Evening retired early, and had a good night's rest, as there was no Picket

firing, nor any shelling, everything was quiet through the night. Something strange.

Wednesday, May 25, 1864.

Gen. Grant's big Victory over the Rebs was read to all the troops here, and there was very loud cheering. Moved our camp today about a quarter of a mile to the rear. All has been quiet today, the whole length of the lines. Evening, received a letter from my Sister. The Pickets commenced firing just at dark, and kept it up nearly all night. The Corp have been running to and from this junction all night, for what purpose we cannot tell. It commenced raining just before dark, and as kept it up all night, making it rather uncomfortable.

Thursday, May 26, 1864.

Warm and showery. Wrote a letter to my Sister. All quiet along the lines. The 18<sup>th</sup> Army Corps left here to day, for what purpose is not known by us of course. William Pierce and George Thompson returned to the Reg't. today. The Boys were fixing up their tent gay, and making bunks, I think that I shall let mine remain as it is, and sleep on the ground and get along the best I can. One of Co. F's men was found dead in his tent this morning. It was thought that he had the heart disease. Evening, retired early, but did not rest very well.

Friday, May 27, 1864.

All quiet to day, except an occasional shelling. Our Reg't. lay in the Breastworks all day. Nearly all of the Troops have left here, but Gen. Terry's division. We hear good news from Gen. Grant. Evening the Reg't. went out on Pickett. I remained in camp. The mail came in about 8 o'clock. I received four old back letters, that had been sent to St. Augustine. One from Alice, one from Vie, one from Lou, and one from Allie G. All was quiet through the night. The Pickets have ceased to fire at each other.

Saturday, May 28, 1864.

Cloudy and damp. Wrote two letters, one to Sister Vie, and one to Allie G. Our Pickets and the Rebs. Pickets are very friendly crossing over to one another and conversing, changing papers, exchanging Coffee for Tobacco, and they have made an agreement not to fire at each other. We continue to hear good news from Gen. Grant's army, and from Gen. Sherman's also. Evening, retired very early. The Reg't. came off from Pickett about dark. The Gun Boats are giving the Rebs. a few shell for his Supper.



Sunday, May 29, 1864.

Clear and pleasant. Fixed up my Tent. The Reg't. is in fatigue building a Fort. Nothing new to day of any account, everything is quiet all along the lines, but it does not seem much like the Sabbath. Some of the troops have left here today, probably to join Gen. Grant's Army. There is lots of rumors flying around camp as usual, but they are hardly worth noticing. Evening, retired early, as usual and had a good nights rest, as there was no shell flying over, or anything to disturb the quiet.

Monday, May 30, 1864.

The boys all went to work today, and built shades over the Tents, and fixed up things very nice. Just at night, the Rebs. opened their Artillery on us, and our Batteries return the compliment, and the shells screeched over us pretty lively, how much damage was done, I have not been able to learn. Heavy firing was heard in the direction of Richmond all the afternoon. Evening, retired early, all was quiet through the night, the Rebs. have in all probability got more than they bargained for.

Tuesday, May 31, 1864.

Warm and pleasant. The Rebs. opened up their Artillery on us again this noon, but our men were ready to return the compliment, and silenced them very soon, some of the shell and solid shot flew over, and into our Camp, but done no damage. We hear very heavy cannonading in the direction of Richmond, and towards Petersburg. Evening we had good news from Gen. Grant's Army, and it is very encouraging to us. Several deserters came to our Pickets today and gave themselves up, having served long enough for Jeff.

Wednesday, June 1, 1864.

The Rebs. opened their Artillery on us early this morning, and the shells flew over pretty brisk for an hour or two, killing and wounding of few in the sixth & seventh Conn., but doing no damage in our Camp. Received two letters today and a paper, one from my Sister, and one from Ett. Evening, the Rebs. opened their Artillery on us again for an hour or so, the Pickets kept up a firing all night. Sergt. Carliss came back to the Company today, and reported for duty. No news of any account today from Gen. Grant's Army.

Thursday, June 2, 1864.

The Rebs came down early this morning and charged several times on our Rifle Pits, finally taking them and capturing quite a number of prisoners,

besides our dead and wounded, they took major Sanford of the 7<sup>th</sup> C. V. And wounded the Lieut. Col. of the 11th Me. Wrote three letters, one to my Sister, one to Ett, and one to Lou. Evening the pickets commenced firing and continued to do so through the night. We hear good news from Gen. Grant's Army and everything looks favorable in that quarter. No mail tonight.

Friday, June 3, 1864.

When out to the Front on fatigue in the forenoon, all was quiet along the lines. We can hear very heavy firing in the direction of Richmond. It is a rainy damp day. Afternoon, lay around Camp. It seems that there was quite a number of prisoners taken by our men yesterday, and a Rebel Col. shot. Evening, the Pickets were firing pretty heavy nearly all night. Good news from Gen. Grant's Army, he is steadily advancing on Richmond.

Saturday, June 4, 1864.

Lay in Camp all day. Everything quiet along the lines, went out on Pickett just at night had a first rate position, everything was quiet all along the lines, it was very dark and rained pretty hard all night. We understand that Capt. Jepson is ordered to return to the Company.

Sunday, June 5, 1864.

Cloudy and hazy day. All quiet through the day. Received a letter from my Sister. We could hear the Rebel Parson preaching to the men, but could not understand what he was saying, to get my sense of it, we could hear the singing quite plain. We hear good news from Gen. Grant again. Was relieved from Pickett just at night by the 11<sup>th</sup> Maine, after we had been in camp about fifteen minutes the Rebs. opened their artillery on us, shelling our camp pretty badly, but injuring no one in our Reg't. There was some Picket firing through the night.

Monday, June 6, 1864.

Lay around camp in the forenoon. Afternoon, went to the Front on fatigue, digging Rifle Pits for the Pickets. All quiet today. One of our Sergeants went out with a flag of Truce today and carried some things to Maj. Sanford. Evening, signed the payroll for two months pay, all quiet through the night. No news of any account from Gen. Grant to day.

Tuesday, June 7, 1864.

Wrote a letter to my Sister. Was paid off today up to 1 May, two months pay. Built a bunk in my tent. No news from Gen. Grant's army of any importance. All is quiet to the Front. Evening retired early but did not rest very well.

Wednesday, June 8, 1864.

Lay encamped nearly all day. When out on Pickett just at night, was standing on the left in an open field. All's been quiet through the day and night, accepting an occasional shell tossed over to us by the Johnny Reb's. There is a few deserters came inside of our lines every day. Not much of any news from Gen. Grant's Army yet.

Thursday, June 9, 1864.

Lay in Camp all day. Wrote two letters, one to Vie and one to a firm in Detroit. All has been quiet to the front to day. Evening, retired early and had a good nights rest.

Saturday, June 11, 1864. Lay in camp all day. All is very quiet to the front accepting an occasional shell thrown over by the Rebels. Received a Gold Pen and a Silver Case from a Lottery that I'd took a ticket in some time ago, and the pen favors to be a good one. Wrote two letters, one to Lou and one to a firm in Troy N.Y. Went out on Picket just at night, had our old positions on the right again, all was quiet through the night, and I slept more than half of the time.

Sunday, June 12, 1864.

Pleasant day, everything has been very quiet and it had seemed more like the Sabbath than any day since we came here. Received a letter from Alice. There has been various rumors around here today but none that we can rely on. We understand that a number of Reg'ts. are landing here, so that we shall probably make a move before long. Evening, retired very early but I did not rest very well.

Monday, June 13, 1864.

All quiet again today. Wrote a good long letter to my Sister. Lay in camp all day. There has been various rumors today about Gen. Grant's army, they say that he has left, crossing the James River at Wilson's Landing, a few miles below us. Evening retired very early but had to turn out about twelve o'clock and go up to the Breastworks and lay around & - the remainder of the night, as an attack was expected, but everything was quiet.

Tuesday, June 14, 1864.

All quiet again today, came into Camp about nine o'clock, and lay around all day. Various rumors afloat again, but none that we can rely on. One thing sure, there is a larger force of Rebs. in front of us. Evening, retired early, but had to turn out and go up and lay in the Breastwork all night, and it was a pretty cold place to sleep. All was quiet through the night.

Wednesday, June 15, 1864.

Came back to camp about sunrise. Went on the sick list, as I felt pretty bad, and passed out. Lay in my Bunk all day, could not eat anything. The Reg't. went out on Picket just at night. There was a Gen. Inspection today in heavy marching order. Heard very heavy cannonading in the direction of Petersburg. Evening retired early, and had a good nights rest. No mail this evening. All quiet to the Front.

Thursday, June 16, 1864.

Plan my bunk all day feeling pretty bad. The Rebs nearly all evacuated their works this morning, and our boys took possession of them, five or six of the Boys in the confusion captured over 30 men alone, there were three or four Officers among them. Just at night time Rebs came down with a large force, and drove the Boys back out of their works with but little loss on our part, but their loss was heavy. Evening, retired very early, but Gun Boats were shelling the Reb's all night, otherwise it was very quiet.

Friday, June 17, 1864.

Very warm day. Received four letters this morning. One from Sister Al, one from Lou, one from Allie G. and one from Ett. Answered them all forthwith. There has been pretty lively Picket firing all day, and some pretty lively shelling, quite a number of the men have been brought in wounded. Evening our Reg't. went on to the Breastworks. I staid in Camp as I did not feel much better retired early but did not rest very well, heard heavy firing on our left, at intervals during the night.

Saturday, June 18, 1864.

Lay in camp all day, had did not feel much better. The Reg't. went to the Front and fought nearly all day, behind the Rifle Pits, loosing but one man. There has been very heavy firing in the direction of Petersburg all day, on the whole it has been a very noisy day. Our Company remained out there, during the night, on Picket. Evening retired before dark, everything has been

quiet, once more, through the night. A mail came up today, but there was nothing for me.

Sunday, June 19, 1864.

Lay around in camp all day. Felt pretty bad. Received a letter from Sister Alice this morning. Everything has been very quiet to the Front today, but it does not seem much like a Sabbath. Commenced a letter to my Sister. The Comp. came into camp just before dark and remained during the night. Had Soft Bread dealt out to us again today. Evening retired very early, heavy firing in the direction of Petersburg.

Monday, June 20, 1864.

Felt pretty bad. Lay in my bunk nearly all day. All is very quiet in the front. The Reg't. had marching orders with two days rations, and left here about five o'clock. P.M. and went down towards the landing. Received a letter this morning from a firm in Troy. Evening, retired very early, but did not get to sleep very soon for the different Bands were playing until very late.

Tuesday, June 21, 1864.

Damp, foggy morning. Amused myself by reading part of the day and wrote two sheets of paper full of nonsense to my Sister. Our Gun Boats and the Reb rams and the Batteries have shelled each other all the afternoon, and quite a number of shells came over and into Camp, but did not do much of any damage. The Picket firing had ceased altogether. It seems that our Reg't. is over on the Peninsula, throwing up a line of Breastworks. Evening, retired early, but did not rest well at all, but were dreaming only dreams all night.

Wednesday, June 22, 1864.

Felt some better. Finished the letter that I had commenced to my Sister. Two days more cooked rations, were sent to the boys today. All has been very quiet to the Front. Abraham Lincoln rode along our line of Breastworks today, and was very heartily cheered by every Reg't. Evening, received a letter from my Sister, with some stamps enclosed, retired early, and had a good nights rest.

Thursday, June 23, 1864.

[Unreadable]

Friday, June 24, 1864.

Very warm day. Packed up everything, and struck all of the tents, and started for the Reg't. went through some nice fields of wheat and corn, crossed the James River on the Pontoon Bridge and reached the Reg't. about noon, pretty well played out and used up. We have a nice Camp Ground in a clover field, right beside a large Ravine, where there is splendid drinking Water. Just at night the Reg't. went out on Picket. I retired very early in the evening but did not rest well at all.

Saturday, June 25, 1864.

Another very warm day. Lay in the shade nearly all day. Wrote a letter to Sister. Al. Not much of any news today, all is quiet. The Doctor returned me to duty this morning, and told me to go up to the Front, but I did not feel able consequently I acted my own pleasure. Evening, the Reg't. came in from Pickett, and got their supper, and then part of them had to go up to the Breastwork and stay all night. I turned in very early, and had a very good night's rest although it was very warm all night.

Sunday, June 26, 1864.

The weather still continues to be hot, and very dry. When out on fatigue, shoveling all day. I hardly felt able to stir around, but a Private Soldier has got to do duty if he is half dead. No news today of any account. Evening, retired early, and had a good nights rest. No letter or papers for me today.

Monday, June 27, 1864.

Very warm. Lay in my bunk all day. The cooks had orders to day to keep two days cooked rations on hand constantly. When out on Pickett just at night, were stationed on the Out Post, by a home called the Grovert Place. There is a splendid field of corn here. The Rebs. fired an occasional shot at us, but did not do any damage. All quiet through the night, we had quite a smart little shower which cooled the air considerably.

Tuesday, June 28, 1864.

Pleasant day the Rebs. fired at us nearly all day, but all the damage they done was to wound one Cavalryman. Picked a lot of Blackberries today, and had a gay old dinner, some of the Boys had a nice dinner of garden -. There is a large orchard here of very nice fruit Trees of all kinds. Was relieved from Pickett just at night and came in to Camp, but did not rest very well the weather was so much cooler, that it was almost impossible to keep warm.

Wednesday, June 29, 1864.

Lay around in camp all day. Wrote a letter to my Sister. The Rebs. shelled our Gun Boats pretty well all day, they threw a shell at a Schooner that was coming up the River and took one man's leg off. One of the Monitors came up and tossed a few Camp Kettles over to the Rebs. Evening went up to the Breastworks and lay all night, all was very quiet.

Thursday, June 30, 1864.

Lay in my tent and slept pretty much all day. Was Mustered this morning for two months more pay. Two mails came in today, but there were was no letter for me, something strange that I have had no letters so long a time, I can't account for it. When out on Picket just at night heard very heavy cannonading in the direction of Petersburg all night. All was quiet on the Front.

Friday, July 1, 1864.

Very warm day. Picked a lot of Blackberries. All has been very quiet today. Received two letters today, one from my Sister Al, and one from Ett. One of the Soldiers was bitten by a Snake today and had to have his leg amputated. Was relieved from Pickett just at night, and came into camp. Evening retired very early, but did not rest very well.

Saturday, July 2, 1864.

Warm and dry. Went out on fatigue, throwing up Breastworks. Mailed a letter to my Sister this morning. All has been very quiet to the Front. No news of any account from Gen. Grant. Evening retired very early, and had a good nights rest.

Sunday, July 3, 1864.

Rather more air today, but the sun is very hot. Received a letter this morning from my Sister Vie. Wrote two letters, one to Vie, and one to Ett. All quiet today, to the front. Two deserters came in, and reported that the Rebs. were going to attack us tomorrow morning. Went out on Pickett just at night, all was very quiet through the night, with the exception of occasional Rifle Shots.

Monday, July 4, 1864.

Cloudy and warm. All was quiet through the day. I was very sick had three very severe attacks of the cramp in my Bowels and it seemed as though my breath would leave my body, but some of the Boys carried my things and I

managed to get to camp. Was pretty sick all night so that I did not rest very well.

Tuesday, July 5, 1864.

Felt pretty sick, went over to the Dr. and he returned me to duty. Lay in my Tent all day. Wanted to go after some water once, but fell down twice before I could get back to my Tent. At night the Lieut. ordered me up to the Breastworks. I told him that I could not go unless he carried me. The Dr. came over then and concluded that I was quite sick. Had a very severe attack of the cramps in my Bowels, & Stomach and did not think that I should live through the night.

Wednesday, July 6, 1864.

Felt pretty bad. Went over and see the Dr. this morning and he gave me some different medicine. Lay in my tent all day. All quiet. There is a rumor that we are going to Washington, to relieve some Reg'ts. that are full. Evening retired very early, and had a good night thrust. The Reg't. went on Pickett.

Thursday, July 7, 1864.

Very warm day. Felt pretty bad all day. Lay in my tent the greater part of the time. Receive a good long letter from Sister. Al. Sit down and wrote a short answer. Evening, retired very early.

Friday, July 8, 1864.

Felt a little better today but very weak, no appetite for any thing the Reg't. is out on fatigue it is a very warm day. Rumor says that the Petersburg is ours, was surrendered at 10:00 AM, Also that the rebels have made a raid up into Pennsylvania. All is very quiet in our front there is scarcely a gun fired. Downs Edgar, & Harley Beecher & Warner made me a nice bunk and brought to my Tent. Evening retired very early but did not rest very well.

Saturday, July 9, 1864.

[Nothing written]

Sunday, July 10, 1864.

Was sent away from the Reg't. to the Corp Hosp. at the Point of Rocks on the Appomattox River very sick with the typhoid fever. I cannot remember much of any more until I found myself at Hampton Hosp. and I was not able to write during my stay there, consequently my Diary remains a blank until I



arrived in New York, which I deeply regret as I did not intend to have a blank leaf in it.

Tuesday, July 12, 1864.  
35 Day St., New York

Wednesday, July 13, 1864.  
William H Freeman  
269 State Street  
New Haven

Lambert H. Moullthrop  
45 East St.  
New Haven

Prof. Reynolds  
35 Day St.  
New York

Friday, July 15, 1864.

John H Palmer  
Company K 10<sup>th</sup> Conn. Reg't.  
Third Battalion  
Third Brigade  
First Division  
10th Army Corps  
in the field near Richmond Va

Miss Mary Todd  
116 Grove St.  
New Haven

Miss Mary L. Todd  
16 Grove St.  
New Haven  
Conn

Saturday, July 16, 1864.  
List of my correspondence

Alice L Palmer  
Vive E. Palmer  
Mary Todd  
Lucy M Russell  
Bertha Glover  
Marietta Chedsey  
Hattie and Sarah Granniss  
Jeanette H. Burrell  
Hannah Stedman  
Joseph S Gladwin  
Lambert H Moulthrop  
William H Freeman  
William Seward  
Aelon E. Gordon

Saturday, July 23, 1864.  
Shoulder Brace & Money Belt  
Dr. H. L. Byrn  
PO Box 4669  
New York City  
3 dollars a pair & 2 pairs for 2 dollars.

Sunday, July 24, 1864.  
Amount of clothing drawn this year beginning with October 23<sup>rd</sup>  
Blouse.  
Pr. drawers.  
Pair socks.  
Nov. 25<sup>th</sup>  
woolen blanket.  
Pr. socks.

Wednesday, July 27, 1864.  
In the Hosp. Fort Schuyler  
N.Y.

Thursday, July 28, 1864.  
Wrote a letter to my sister.

Friday, July 29, 1864.

Don't gain very much strength yet.

Saturday, July 30, 1864.

Feel about the same don't gain my strength any yet. Wrote a letter to J S Gladwin.

Sunday, July 31, 1864.

Don't gain any. This is the meanest hospital that there is in the United States without any exception whatever. I hope that I shall be transferred to New Haven as soon as possible.

Monday, August 1, 1864.

Feel about the same don't gain any strength yet.

Tuesday, August 2, 1864.

Just about the same don't gain any at all hardly, don't get half enough to eat. It is a mean old place here to make the best of it. I hear nothing from home yet. Three or four men have died in the Ward since we came here, but they were near dead when they came here. Most all of the men in the Ward are badly wounded.

Wednesday, August 3, 1864.

Whether some cooler. Don't gain but very little. No letter from home today. A lot of Pennsylvania men went home on furlough today. Commenced raining this afternoon and kept it up through the night. Another man died in the Ward this evening, his disease was chronic diarrhea, he was very bad with it.

Thursday, August 4, 1864.

Feel some better. Cloudy day. Extra diet was pretty good today no letter from home yet. No signs of being transferred yet, and I cannot get paid off from the Musters in the Reg't. A squad were sent to the Front today. Could not get to sleep until quite late.

Friday, August 5, 1864.

Gaining slowly. Diet pretty poor today, scarcely enough to keep a man alive. Received a letter from my Sister, with a five dollar Greenback enclosed. Wrote an answer forthwith.

Saturday, August 6, 1864.

Felt considerable better. And quite a nice little shower today, which makes the air fresh and nice, it makes me want to get out and enjoy it, but I am not strong enough yet. No chance for a transfer today. Not much of any news from the front. Evening went to sleep in good season and had a good nights rest.

Saturday, August 7, 1864.

Warm day. Went on full diet again, either one is poor enough, not severely fit for the Hogs. Feel considerable stronger, walked around in the Ward more today than I have since I came here. Evening, three or four hundreds sick and wounded came in to this Hospital, they are pretty bad cases but some of them happen to get in this Ward.

Monday, August 8, 1864.

Foggy and warm. The Ward Master took my name today for a transfer. Our dinner did not come around today until a quarter past two, but it was a pretty good dinner when it did come, the best I have had since I came here. Evening went to sleep in good season and had a good night's rest.

Tuesday, August 9, 1864.

Did not feel quite as well today, lay abed until two or three o'clock in the afternoon. Quite a number of visitors came here today. Evening, retired very early.

Wednesday, August 10, 1864.

Very warm day received a letter from J. S. Gladwin, answered it in the afternoon, the letter contained very sad news. Edgar Beecher poor fellow, is no more, he was shot while faithfully performing his duty. I do not gain my strength very fast yet. Evening retired very early and had a good nights rest.

Thursday, August 11, 1864.

Weather warm as ever. Feel quite smart today. Saw a woman drummed out of the garrison of the Regulars, stationed here, for stealing clothes. Diet not very good today, and but a very little of it. Evening very warm, did not get to sleep in very good season.

Friday, August 12, 1864.

Whether some cooler. I am improving in health very fast. Received a letter from my Sister, containing very sad news, Alice Glover is no more, in the world, she was a very near, & dear friend of mine, and I shall miss her sorely.

Answered the letter as soon as I received it. The Dr. took my name, and has recommended me for a transfer. Evening, retired just at dark, and slept pretty sound, as I got pretty tired walking around, and keeping on my feet rather to much.

Saturday, August 13, 1864.

Warm day did not feel quite as well. The diet was pretty poor today. Wrote a letter to Lou. Evening, retired just about dark, but did not rest very well, there was a heavy shower about the middle of the night.

Sunday, August 14, 1864.

Inspection this morning. Diet pretty good today. The Pennsylvania men have their furloughs made out today with a transfer, to their own State Hospitals after these furloughs are out. Evening sang, and told stories, until 9 o'clock, and then retired and slept as sound as a log all night.

Monday, August 15, 1864.

Whether some cooler. Wrote a letter to George Woodward. The Pennsylvania men went home today, with their thirty day furloughs. Had a pretty good dinner today. Drew a pair of Cavalry Pants today. No signs of being transferred yet. Evening sit out on the corridor and talked over the times as they use to was, before the war broke out. Retired about nine, and slept undisturbed until morning.

Tuesday, August 16, 1864.

Very pleasant morning. Diet was pretty poor today. Worked on my Pants, and got pretty well tired out. Received a letter from my Sister. Three of the men in this Ward were put into the Guard House today for being gone over their Pass. Evening, retired just at dark, but did not rest very well.

Wednesday, August 17, 1864.

Quite a heavy shower this morning. Wrote a letter to my Sister. Do not feel quite as well today on account of a bad cold in my head. The rumor is this Hosp. is to be broken up the first of next month. Another heavy shower just before sundown. No signs of being transferred yet. Evening retired early, and had a good nights rest.

Thursday, August 18, 1864.

Very fine morning, the weather is considerable cooler. Wrote a letter for one of the Boys. I am sick enough of this place, and hope that they will hurry up

and transfer me, but they don't seem to be in any hurry about it. Evening retired early, as usual.

Sunday, August 19, 1864.

Clear and cool wrote a letter to my Sister. Quite a number of visitors came in here today, and brought us Peaches and Tomatoes, and they were very nice. 100 men were sent off to the Front today, but there is no sign of any transferring yet. Evening, retired about dark.

Saturday, August 20, 1864.

Whether quite cool. My name was taken to day for a furlough of thirty days, and carried in to Ward Masters so the prospects of getting away from here are a little brighter. The diet today was very severe, and not really fit to eat, it grows worse and worse every day. Evening sit and talked until nine o'clock, and retired, and slept very sound all night, as it was a cool night.

Sunday, August 21, 1864.

Weather cold and raining. Went down to Headquarters and had my furlough made out. Had a pretty good dinner today, but a very poor breakfast. Some Ladies came in at supper time and gave us each a plate of Blackberries and sugar, and they were very nice. Evening, retired early, but did not rest very well, some of the men were talking in their sleep all night.

Monday, August 22, 1864.

Cloudy and warm. Some visitors came in today and brought us some Peaches, & Cake etc., which did not come amiss for our dinner was rather scant. The diet was very poor today. Another man died in this Ward this afternoon, Disease, Typhoid Fever. Evening, retired about 9 o'clock and slept very soundly.

Tuesday, August 23, 1864.

Pleasant morning, and another poor breakfast of burnt rice, and a very scant and poor dinner, the supper was very good. No signs of our furloughs yet, it seems to take a long time for anything to be done in this place, excepting sending men to the Front. I am getting about discouraged. Evening, retired at nine o'clock and slept very sound all night.

Wednesday, August 24, 1864.

Very fine morning. A poor breakfast as usual. Dinner and supper likewise. Wrote a letter to my Sister. Just one furlough was brought in to the Ward

this afternoon, and I don't understand what it means, unless they are not going to give the rest of us any. I shan't put up with their damnable abuse much longer. Evening, sit and talk until nine o'clock and then retired.

Thursday, August 25, 1864.

Clear and very pleasant. My furlough was brought in to me this morning it was made out for the thirty days and I've picked up all my duds and started for New York city, arrived there soon enough to take the afternoon boat to New Haven. Felt pretty tired, stayed to Aunt Mary's all night.

Friday, August 26, 1864.

Hired a team and went out home, surprised my Folks very much. Evening, quite a lot of company came in and we had quite a little time, singing and dancing, etc.

Saturday, August 27, 1864.

Went over to New Haven with the team and then came back home again. Evening A lot more company came in, and we had another nice time singing & dancing.

Sunday, August 28, 1864.

Very pleasant day. Went to Church in the forenoon and sang in the Choir. Afternoon stayed at home and read. Evening went to walk. Wrote a letter to William Watson.

Monday, August 29, 1864.

Lay around the Store all the forenoon. Afternoon went up to Lou's and she came down back with me just at night, and, quite a lot of company came in and in the evening we had a gay little dance. It seems very nice to be at home once more where I can enjoy the pleasantness of the peaceful life.

Thursday, August 30, 1864.

Went up to Susie's and spent the forenoon. In the afternoon loafed around the Store. Evening staid at home and played my violin. Had a large Bouquet presented to me today by the Rev. - Curtiss.

Wednesday, August 31, 1864.

Whether some cooler. When up to Mr. Glover's and spent the day. Evening went down to Stony Creek and to Branford, turned over, and came very near breaking our necks, did not get everything to eat but a plenty to drink.

Thursday, September 1, 1864.

Loafed around in the forenoon. Afternoon, went over to Mr. Chedsey's to the --. Evening went up to Northford and called on Miss Lette Foote, had a very pleasant time.

Friday, September 2, 1864.

Loafed around the Store in the forenoon. Afternoon went down to Uncle Luther's. Evening, staid home and received company. Received a letter today from William Watson.

Saturday, September 3, 1864.

Staid around home in the forenoon. Afternoon went over to New Haven. Wrote a letter to William Watson. Very warm day. Evening, stayed at home and received company. Played Euchre etc.

Sunday, September 4, 1864.

Staid at home in the forenoon. Afternoon went to the Episcopal Church. Weather, cloudy and damp. Good news from our Armies now. Evening, staid at home and received company.

Monday, September 5, 1864.

Rainy day. Staid at home all day, and amused myself, by Reading, and playing Euchre. Evening, Staid at home and had a gay little time dancing singing, etc. My health is improving very fast.

Tuesday, September 6, 1864.

Went over to Fair Haven. Nettie and Dave came out with me. Evening staid at home and received company.

Wednesday, September 7, 1864.

Loafed around the Store in the forenoon. Afternoon went over to New Haven and rode around, had a very pleasant time. Evening, staid at home and received company, as usual.

Thursday, September 8, 1864.

When over to Uncle Bell's and spent the day. Evening, staid at home and received company, danced & sang, and had a very pleasant time.

Friday, September 9, 1864.



Damp rainy day. Loafed around the Store pretty much all day. Received a letter from Wm. Watson. Evening, stayed at home and played Euchre.

Saturday, September 10, 1864.

Warm and pleasant. Went down to Pine Orchard. Evening, when out on a foraging expedition, got some sweet apples. Wrote a letter to William Watson.

Sunday, September 11, 1864.

Rainy day. Went to meeting all day. Evening, went up to Lou's, and passed a very pleasant eve.

Monday, September 12, 1864.

Cloudy and cool. Loaf around the store in the forenoon. Afternoon went down to Uncle John's. Evening, stayed at home and received company.

Tuesday, September 13, 1864.

Cloudy and cold. Loafed around all day. When up to Sam's and took dinner. Evening, when up to Uncle Russell's, and played on my violin with Earl.

Wednesday, September 14, 1864.

Pleasant day. Went up to Faulkner's Island with the Branford crowd, it came on to blow and we were obliged to stay all night, we sang and danced and had a splendid time.

Thursday, September 15, 1864.

Came ashore this morning and, reached home about nine o'clock. Afternoon went up to Lou's. Evening, when up to John Appells and had a little dance.

Friday, September 16, 1864.

Stayed around home in the forenoon. Afternoon went down to Guilford and to Leete's Island. Evening, when over to Mr. Chedsey's, and had a little dance, passed off a very pleasant evening got acquainted with the Misses Todd's.

Saturday, September 17, 1864.

Went down to Branford in the forenoon. Afternoon went over to New Haven. Evening, retired very early.

Sunday, September 18, 1864.

Went out to Branford to meeting, came out to Uncle John's and spent the night.

Monday, September 19, 1864.

Came home this morning. Staid at home all day. Evening, a lot of company came in and we had a nice little dance.

Tuesday, September 20, 1864. When up to Glover's in the forenoon. Afternoon loafed around the Store. Evening, when up to John Rose's and had a nice little dance.

Wednesday, September 24, 1864.

Loaf around home all day, went up on top of the Steeple just for the fun of the thing. Charles Linsley died very sudden of Heart disease. Evening went over to New Haven took Miss. Todd with me the horse got tired out and we did not get there soon enough for the Minstrels.

Thursday, September 22, 1864.

Went over to New Haven to the -- Mass meeting. Evening came out to Culvers and spent the night.

Friday, September 23, 1864.

It is two years ago today that I enlisted in the United States Service to serve in the Tenth Reg't. Went over to New Haven in the forenoon, went out home in the afternoon. Evening quite a lot of company came in and we had a fine little dance.

Saturday, September 24, 1864.

Went into New Haven and took the cars for Williams Bridge, arrived there about five o'clock hired a team and went back to my old prison in Fort Schuyler. Evening, retired very early.

Sunday, September 25, 1864.

Wrote a letter to my Sister. It is a cold windy day, and I feel very lonesome. Evening, retired about dark, but did not rest very well.

Monday, September 26, 1864.

Loafed around in the Ward all day, playing cards, etc. Wrote a letter to Sister Vie. Evening played Euchre.

Tuesday, September 27, 1864.

Played cards nearly all day. Evening played Euchre. There is a squad to be sent to the Front in a few days, and I shall probably be one of the number. Those that are not able to go to the Front are to be furloughed home until after Presidential elections.

Wednesday, September 28, 1864.

Wrote two letters, one to Lou and one to Hattie. Played Euchre in the evening. Everything dull & quiet.

Thursday, September 29, 1864.

Whitewashed in the forenoon. Afternoon, wrote two letters, one to Ett and one to Bertha. Evening played Euchre.

Friday, September 30, 1864.

Cold, damp, day. Received a letter from Watson and I answered it forthwith. Began a letter to my Sister. Whitewashed in the afternoon. Evening retired about dark.

Saturday, October 1, 1864.

Finish writing the letter that I had begun to my Sister. A cold sour day. Went down in Ward B. and spent the afternoon. Evening, retired about dark.

Sunday, October 2, 1864.

Cold rainy day. Helped to put up a stove in the morning. Sit by it all day, and told stories, read Newspapers etc. Evening retired early, as usual, but did not rest very well.

Monday, October 3, 1864.

Warm pleasant day. Was on fatigue all day digging, and picking up stones. A squad was sent off to the front today, and over two hundred sick and wounded came in from the Front. Played Euchre in the evening.

Tuesday, October 4, 1864.

Work at gardening nearly all day. Nothing of any importance transpired today. Evening, played Euchre.

Wednesday, October 5, 1864.

Worked at gardening. Received three letters, one from Alice, one from Vie, and one from Watson. Wrote two letters one to Alice and one to Vie. My name was taken to day for a discharge. Eve, retired about dark.

Thursday, October 6, 1864.

Damp rainy day. Wrote a letter to Watson. Was examined today and set down for the Front. The old Tenth have got home. Evening, retired about dark, did not sleep very well, had sundry dreams, of being at home, etc.

Friday, October 7, 1864.

Pleasant day. Loafed around the Ward in the forenoon. Afternoon, got aboard the Boat and went down to Bedford Island, was sent in to old Barrack, to sleep on the floor. Found Sgt. Hennesberg, and he gave me part of his bunk, and I made out to rest very well. There is a large squad of men here, from all parts of the World, & it is a perfect haven of confusion.

Saturday, October 8, 1864.

Cold windy day. Lay my bunk and read nearly all day. Wrote a letter to my Sister. Evening, retired very early.

Sunday, October 9, 1864.

Lay in my bunk nearly all day. Wrote a letter to Sister Vie. The Officer in charge here kept us standing in line an hour, under Guard, this noon, because there was a little noise made by a few of the men. Evening retired very early.

Monday, October 10, 1864.

Cold windy day. Lay in my bunk all the forenoon. Afternoon Went on board of a Transport and was crowded down in the hole so thick that it was impossible for us all to stay there, went up on deck and lay down and tried to sleep, but could not it was so cold. I passed a miserable night. There is over sixty deserters on board, stowed away down in the hole.

Tuesday, October 11, 1864.

Warm pleasant day. Lay around on deck all day. The men are cursing the day that they enlisted, on account of the bad treatment we get. Arrived off Fortress Monroe in the evening, and dropped anchor. Lay on deck all night, and managed to get a little sleep. We hear no news from the Front.

Wednesday, October 12, 1864.

Hoisted anchor this morning and started for City Point. Arrived there about three o'clock in the afternoon, and was turned in to a big Pen like a parcel of Hogs. There was a very heavy shower, and we were obliged to lay down in the mud up to our knees. I got wet through, and did not get much of any sleep. There is everything here that is bad. It is a disgrace to the Government, the way a Volunteer is used.

Thursday, October 13, 1864.

Lay around in the mud some under Guard all the forenoon. Afternoon went to Bermuda Hundred and staid all night, lay out on the ground, but did not sleep it was so cold.

Friday, October 14, 1864.

Pleasant day went up to the Reg't. which is stationed about four mile from Richmond. The Reg't. was in a hard fight yesterday, losing many Hands, and forty five men killed, wounded, and taken prisoner. There is but one hundred men left in the Reg't. and one line, and two Staff Officers, and there is but eight men in the company, under command of a Corporal. Evening, retired early, but did not sleep very well as it was so cold.

Saturday, October 15, 1864.

Was on fatigue all day, on the Breastworks. Wrote a letter to my Sister. Received a letter from Ett. Evening retired early and had a good nights rest.

Sunday, October 16, 1864.

Pleasant day. The Chaplain preached us a sermon today on the Death of our day and our fallen comrades. Wrote three letters today, one to Ett, one to Mary T., one to Seward. Evening, went over in comp. C. The Chaplain leaves here for the North this evening.

Monday, October 17, 1864.

Made out a requisition for clothing. Wrote two letters, one to Abraham Lincoln, and one to an unknown. No news of any importance today. Evening retired early.

Tuesday, October 18, 1864.

Wrote two letters. One to W<sup>m</sup> Freeman, and one to Gladwin. No news of any account today. Evening retired early, as usual.

Wednesday, October 19, 1864.

Was on fatigue all day, on the Breastworks. Wrote a letter to Pete. Evening, received a letter from Sister Vie, with three of my Pictures enclosed. Nearly all of the Officers in the Reg't. have been mustered out.

Thursday, October 20, 1864.

Worked hard all day building a log cabin, and got pretty well played out, and tired. Retired very early in the evening, with a violent Headache. We hear good news from Gen. Sheridan's army, a salute was fired about dark.

Friday, October 21, 1864.

Was on fatigue all day on the Sergt. Major's Tent. Received a letter from Hattie & Sarah. Wrote three letters, one to Sister Vie, one to Hattie & Sarah, and one to Herman Hendrick. Evening, sit around the fire and told stories, etc.

Saturday, October 22, 1864.

Cold squally day, there was quite a snow squall just at night. Wrote a letter to Hannah Steadman, and sent her my picture. Wrote a letter for E. S. Johnson & done some writing for the company. Evening, sit around the fire and told stories.

Sunday, October 23, 1864.

Warm pleasant day. Wrote a letter to Sister Alice, and done some writing for the company. Evening, sit around the fire and talked over old times, etc. Received a letter from sister Vie.

Monday, October 24, 1864.

Done some writing for the company. Had a gun given to me today and some equipment. Nelson Flood returned to the company from the Hosp. Evening, retired very early, and had a good nights rest.

Tuesday, October 25, 1864.

Pleasant day. Lay around in the tent all day. Wrote a letter to Lem. Evening wrote in the company books all the evening. No letter for me today.

Wednesday, October 26, 1864.

Wrote a letter to Mary Todd. Was on fatigue in the afternoon. Evening had marching orders, with three days rations in our Haversack's to be ready at four o'clock in the morning. Turned in early and went to sleep.

Thursday, October 27, 1864.

Started out about 4 o'clock in the morning and met the enemy about daylight. Our Reg't. was on the Skirmish line all day. We had some pretty lively work, we drove the Rebs. out of one line of their works. I fired about sixty rounds, and some very near getting hit twice. Charles Hatch and George Thompson of our company were wounded. Fell back into the woods and staid all night, it rained quite hard through the night, and it was a very uncomfortable time.

Friday, October 28, 1864.

Pleasant morning. Received three letters this morning, one from Sister Alice and one from Ett, and one from Mary. Afternoon fell back to camp in good order, was pretty well tired out. Evening wrote a letter to Mary.

Saturday, October 29, 1864.

Wrote three letters, one to Mary and one to Ett and one to sister Alice. The Rebs. came down and drove in our Pickets, and retook a line of their old works. We fell in and went out and charged on them, and drove them out, and parted our line of Pickets. Evening came back to Camp, and began a letter to Alice and Vive. All quiet through the night.

Sunday, October 30, 1864.

Worked on the Muster Rolls all day, and until late in the evening. An Express box came to the company today, from William Whittlesey. It was well filled with nice cake, and was quite a treat for us. It seems we are not forgotten by our old comrade yet, although he is no longer a Soldier.

Monday, October 31, 1864.

Was mustered in the morning for two months more pay, making in all six months pay due me. Worked on the Pay Rolls all day from early in the morning until eleven at night, and finally made out to get them done, was pretty well tired out. Sgt. Martin spoiled one for us, after it was finished. Consequently we were all obliged to get a new blank, also made out another.

Tuesday, November 1, 1864.

Pleasant day. Worked on the cabin in the forenoon. In the afternoon wrote for the company, making out inventory duplicates etc. Wrote a letter to Sister Alice & Vive. Evening, retired very early, and had a good nights rest.

Wednesday, November 2, 1864.

Worked at the log cabin all day. Evening, received a letter from Sister Alice & Vie. Rained hard all night, was waked up about 12 and ordered to pack up everything and be ready to move at a moments notice.

Thursday, November 3, 1864.

Started about two o'clock this morning, and marched down to Deep Bottom, in the mud up to our knees, lay around there until late in the afternoon, then went on board of the Monohansett, we were stowed so thick that we could not lay down, consequently we sit up all night, in the cold and rain, trying to rest ourselves the best we could.

Friday, November 4, 1864.

Went on down the river to Fortress Monroe, and from there to Crancy Island, and there got on board of the Gen. Laydon and was packed down in the hole thick as we could possibly be, made out to get some sleep. We are bound North.

Saturday, November 5, 1864.

Sailed all day towards the north, the wind blew a gale and it was very rough. Past a brig in distress for want of food, gave her some hard bread. Evening lay down pretty early but did not sleep very well, the boys made such a noise. Anchored off Sandy Hook about Midnight.

Sunday, November 6, 1864.

Hoisted anchor and went up the Harbor, laid off the Battery all day, had nothing to eat but three Hard Tack all day. Evening, went down the Harbor, to Fort Richmond Staten island, stole three or four barracks of ham etc., to keep from starving. Got ashore about Midnight and then had to lay out on the ground the rest of the night. We don't fare half is well here as we did to the Front.

Monday, November 7, 1864.

Rained hard all day. Fell in two or three times, and got pretty well wet through and then went into Fort Richmond and stacked our arms. Wrote a letter to my Sister. Evening fell in again, in light marching order, and kept our equipment and everything on all night, ready to move at a moments notice. We have been used worse since we started from the Front, than we ever were there.

Tuesday, November 8, 1864.



Damp rainy day. Fell in about a dozen times during the forenoon, and stacked arms, had to keep all our things on. Afternoon, went on board of a Ferry Boat, and went up in the East River, staid on board all night, there was no room to lay down, so we had to sit up all night and sleep the best we could. We now in New York this Election. There is a lot of troops laying around here but none of them have landed as yet. Rained hard all night.

Wednesday, November 9, 1864.

Another rainy day. Had a nice breakfast of Soft Bread and Fresh Pork. Staid on board of the Boat all day, no chance to lay down, or go on shore, it is pretty rough usage. There is all kinds of rumors afloat, as to our going back right away or going to our own State to –. The Band joined in the afternoon, and several young Ladies came down on the deck, and waved their Handkerchief. Evening lay down on a bench, and made out to get a little sleep. Capt. Goodyear, Capt. Graves & Lieut. Dornwall came to see us.

Thursday, November 10, 1864.

My birthday, Age 26 years. Rained hard all the forenoon, afternoon cleared off pleasant. Lay on board again all day. We get but one meal a day, excepting those that have money to send ashore and buy their food, and I don't happen to have any money, so I have to get along as I can. Never were we used so mean in our whole Virginia campaign. Evening, lay down on a bench again but did not sleep very well. I despair a soldiers life.

Friday, November 11, 1864.

Lay on board of the Boat all day. The Boys are crying and swearing, about the ill usage we get. Evening went down to Fort Richmond again, and lay down on the fore stands and went to sleep.

Saturday, November 12, 1864.

Pleasant day. Had a Regimental Inspection this morning in light marching order. Slowed a number on the Boys. Wrote a letter to Kate. Quite a number of – came in to see the Boys today. Andrew Granniss came and spent the night. Evening retired very early.

Sunday, November 13, 1864.

Clear and cold. Was on fatigue. Parents, Sisters, & Brothers came to see the men today. Tried to write a letter to my Sister but it was so cold that I was obliged to give it up. Evening, lay down very early, but did not rest very well, the weather was so cold.

Monday, November 14, 1864.

Cold windy day. Was on Guard and fatigue. Packed up everything and went on board of the Ashland and started for the South. We were packed in so thick that we could hardly lay down, but I managed to get a very little sleep. The men here are all swearing mad, at the ill usage we are receiving.

Tuesday, November 15, 1864.

Clear and cold. Sailed towards the South all day, the Sea was very calm. Wrote a letter to my Sister. Evening lay down before dark, and made out to sleep very well. Arrived at Fortress Monroe sometime in the middle of the night.

Wednesday, November 16, 1864.

Started up the James River about eleven o'clock this forenoon. Wrote a few more lines to my Sister. Evening lay down early, but did not sleep much. Anchored off City Point just at dark.

Thursday, November 17, 1864.

Was on Guard over Baggage. Went up to our old place of encampment, and put up our shelter tents, and lay down for the night, without any supper, rested very well. Received nine letters, two from my Sisters, one from Kate, one from Ett, one from Hattie G. one from Miss. N. W. Turner, one from Gladwin, one from Nettie, and one from Fort Schuyler Hosp.

Friday, November 18, 1864.

Warm and pleasant day. Worked hard all day building a Log Cabin. Did not have anything to eat until late in the evening. I am more and more discouraged with the service every day. Evening, made out Clothing Requisitions. It rained hard all night, received a letter from Luther, and one from President Lincoln.

Saturday, November 19, 1864.

Rained hard all day. Got up before daylight and went to work in our Cabin, worked until dark in the rain and got it about finished so that we are comfortable once more. Evening, wrote a letter to Kate, and then retired. Had to turn out about twelve o'clock, as there was an alarm. We stood out in line of Battle nearly an hour in the rain, and mud, and then slept on our Arms the remainder of the night.

Sunday, November 20, 1864.

Rained hard all day. Received a letter from Lou. Wrote five letters, one to Sister Vie, one to Ett, one to J. Gladwin, one to Hattie & Sarah, and one to Bertha. Evening retired very early with a very severe headache.

Monday, November 21, 1864.

Rained hard all day. Wrote two letters one to Mrs. N. E. Turner, and one to Nettie. Got an order on the Sutler today, and bought something fit to eat, once more. Evening wrote a letter to Lou, and read Newspaper etc.

Tuesday, November 22, 1864.

Cloudy and cold. Built up some today. Had an inspection this afternoon in heavy marching order. Evening, retired very early.

Wednesday, November 23, 1864.

Clear and very cold. Sit over the fire pretty much all day. A lot of Recruits came into the Reg't. today, fourteen for our Company. Evening, retired very early and had a good nights rest.

Thursday, November 24, 1864.

Pleasant day was on fatigue in the afternoon. Began a letter to Sister Alice. It has been a very dull Thanksgiving. Evening retired very early and slept quite soundly. Two more Recruits came into the Company today

Friday, November 25, 1864.

Sgt. H. L Parker came into the company as 1<sup>st</sup> Lieut. I am put in Company Clerk. Done very little writing today. Evening there was some Turkeys and Apples came here for us and we had a gay old supper.

Saturday, November 26, 1864. Warm and pleasant road all day, making all Clothing Requisitions etc. Evening wrote until very near Roll Call. The Reg't. went on Picket.

Sunday, November 27, 1864.

Was on Guard. Wrote letter to Sister Alice. Received a letter from Lucy. All quiet through the night.

Monday, November 28, 1864.

Cloudy and warm. Wrote a letter to Kate. Evening retired very early, with a very severe Headache.

Tuesday, November 29, 1864.

Warm and pleasant done some writing for the Co. Evening, some more Recruits came into the Reg't. 15 came for our Company. Retired very early, and had a good nights rest.

Wednesday, November 30, 1864.

Made out the Monthly return and a Clothing Requisition and some orders etc. Evening Winfield F. Works returned to the Company. Received two letters, one from Sister Alice and one from Sister Vie.

Thursday, December 1, 1864.

Wrote a letter to Sister Alice and Vie. All quiet, no excitement at all. Evening retired early, as usual.

Friday, December 2, 1864.

Lay around in the Tent all day. All quiet. Evening, Fred Smith returned to the company. Read until after Roll Call and then turned in.

Saturday, December 3, 1864.

Lay around pretty much all day. When out on Dress Parade. Evening, received a letter from Ett. Worked at my Pants, until after Roll Call, and then retired for the night, and slept very soundly.

Sunday, December 4, 1864.

Very pleasant day. Went out on Company Inspection this morning. Wrote two letters, one to Ett. and one to an unknown. Evening, retired early. Everything is very quiet.

Monday, December 7, 1864.

Rainy day. The Reg't. went on Picket instead of going to march. Received a letter from Gladwin and answered it. Some new State Colors came to the Reg't. today. Evening, received a letter from Sister Alice. 60 deserters came in and more of our subs deserted us this morning.

Thursday, December 8, 1864.

Whether some cooler. Wrote a letter to Sister Alice. Nothing new today, all is quiet. Evening retired early, and had a good nights rest.

Friday, December 9, 1864.

Very cold, Windy day. Lay in my bunk all day, with a very severe headache. Evening retired before dark but did not rest very well. It commenced raining before dark and continued to do so all night.

Saturday, December 10, 1864.

There is about three or four inches of snow on the Ground this morning, and the weather is cold, and seems very much like winter. The Rebs. attacked our Pickets early this morning and we turned out and formed a line of Battle, and were obliged to keep our equipment on all day and hold ourselves in readiness. Evening, retired early but had to sleep with our equipment on and be ready to fall in at a moments notice.

Sunday, December 11, 1864.

Cloudy and somewhat warmer. Received a letter from Alice and Vie, and wrote one in return. Everything is quiet today. Evening told stories etc. Very cold night.

Monday, December 12, 1864.

Clear and cold, and there was good skating on the Parade ground this morning. Sit over the fire pretty much all day. The Reg't. went out on Battalion Drill. Do not receive but very few letters now for some reason unknown. Evening, retired early, and had a good nights rest. All is quiet.

Tuesday, December 13, 1864.

Cloudy and cold. Lay around in my Tent all day. Orders came around today to allow no one outside of the Breastworks, except the Pickets. Evening, made out a clothing requisition. Always is very quiet.

Wednesday, December 14, 1864.

Cloudy and warmer. Lay around in my Tent all day. Evening, received a letter from sister Alice, and it seems a good long one

Thursday, December 15, 1864.

Pleasant day. Lay around in my Tent all day. Wrote a letter to Sister Alice. The Pickets fired pretty lively for an hour or two this morning. Evening, retired early, all was very quiet through the night.

Friday, December 16, 1864.

Went out on General Inspection this afternoon. Evening, retired early as usual. All quiet.

Saturday, December 17, 1864.

Warm and pleasant day. Lay around in my Tent all day. Evening, received a letter from Sister Vie. All quiet.

Sunday, December 18, 1864.

Rainy day. Lay around in my Tent all day. Evening, had a good sing, then turned out and formed a line on the Parade Ground, and gave nine cheers for the Victories that Sherman had won. The band played a few National airs, and the Chaplain made a speech and then gave thanks to God.

Monday, December 19, 1864.

Cloudy and damp. Struck our Tents, and moved our Camp about a mile to the right, and had to go at work building up new quarters, worked very hard all day, and made out to get up a very little shelter for the night, but we slept pretty cold. We are up on a Hill now and in a very pleasant spot.

Tuesday, December 20, 1864.

Cold and windy. Worked on our Log Cabins all day very hard, and got them nearly finished. Evening lay down very early, but did not rest very well, rained hard all night. No Express, or mail for me yet.

Wednesday, December 21, 1864.

Rainy, cold, day. Work some on our Cabin. The Reg't. all turned out, and marched about two miles in the mud and rain, to see five deserters shot, it was a bad scene as they were not killed the first shot. Evening, began a letter to my Sister. Very cold night.

Thursday, December 22, 1864.

Cold windy day. Work on our Cabin all day, and got things arranged a little more comfortable. Evening, retired early. No mail or Express for me today.

Friday, December 23, 1864.

Cold windy day. Received three letters, one from my Sister Alice, one from Bertha, and one from Mrs. N. E. Turner. Worked at the Cabin all day. Evening, finished a letter to my Sister.

Saturday, December 24, 1864.

Pleasant day. Came out to Parade Review. Evening wrote a letter to Bertha. All quiet yet. No Express has made its appearance as yet.

Sunday, December 25, 1864.

Received a letter from Ett. Wrote a letter to Mrs. N. E. Turner. Corporal Pierce had an Express box from home and we had a gay old supper of Bread and Butter, Bologna Sausage, a nice Cake. Evening wrote a letter to Ett. and then helped to eat a nice dish of Walnuts.

Monday, December 26, 1864.

Damp, rainy day. Fell in early this morning, and marched down to see another deserter shot. The poor fellow was murdered, as he had to be shot three times before he was killed. It was a sad scene. And Express came up this morning and I received a box, with some good nice shirts etc. Serg't. Smith received one with a nice Turkey, and Mince Pies, etc. and we had a gay old supper. It really seem like Christmas. We hear of another big Victory and the capture of Savanna

Tuesday, December 27, 1864.

Warm and pleasant. Wrote a letter to Sister Alice. Made out Clothing Rolls in the afternoon. Evening wrote some, and read some. All quiet, as usual.

Wednesday, December 28, 1864.

Damp rainy day. Turned out about noon and formed the Line of Battle, in anticipation of an attack. Very heavy cannonading heard on our left. Evening Serg't. Fowler and Lieut. Hovey gave us a call and we passed a very pleasant evening.

Thursday, December 29, 1864.

Cloudy and cold. Worked on the Muster Rolls all day and in the evening.

Friday, December 30, 1864.

Work on the Muster Rolls all day. No Mail today everything is very quiet. Evening worked on the Muster Rolls until after ten o'clock. Another batch of Subs. arrived this evening. 23 for our company. A number of Gloves and Mittens came to the Reg't. presented by the Hartford Ladies, I took a very nice pair for my own use

Saturday, December 31, 1864.

Was mustered for two months more. Snowy, cold day. Worked on the payrolls all day, and finish them. Evening retired very early. Received a

letter from sister Alice. This ends a year of very hard fighting and suffering for the Tenth Conn. Reg't.



## Memoranda

### St. Augustine Ladies

Miss Philomena Miranda  
Miss Eunice Walton  
Miss Lena Lopez  
Miss. Kate Leonardy  
Miss Delia Leonardy  
Miss Minnie Munson  
Miss. Jenny Munson  
Miss Lonier Southwick  
Miss Maggie Cooper  
Miss Fanny Ponce  
Miss. Bellaine Masters  
Miss Margaret Cape  
Miss           Cape

The Totoket Historical Society, Inc.

**The Civil War Diary of John Henry Palmer**

**Company K, 10<sup>th</sup> Regiment, Connecticut Volunteers  
24<sup>th</sup> Army Corp  
Before Richmond, Va.**

**January 1 to March 31, 1865**

Transcribed & Digitized

by

Theodore Groom, Ph. D.  
Chairman, Technology  
The Totoket Historical Society, Inc.

September 30, 2014

Sunday, January 1, 1865

J Henry Palmer Co. K, 10<sup>th</sup> Conn. Vol.  
Before Richmond Va

Very cold today. Lay around in the Tent pretty much all day. All very quiet. Evening, wrote a letter to sister Alice. Two more Subs come to the company tonight. Received a letter from sister Vie.

Monday, January 2, 1865

Wrote a letter to sister Vie. Made out some Reports. Received this Diary from home. Evening wrote a letter to William Wittelsey.

Tuesday, January 3, 1865.

Cloudy and rainy. Lay in my Tent all day. Tonight a number of Troops left here today for Washington. Evening, wrote a letter to Mary. Sent my old diary home.

Wednesday, January 4, 1865.

Clear and cold. I write a little poem of snow on the ground this morning. Lay around in my Tent for much of the day with the exception of the gathering of a little wood. Was promoted to the rank of Corp. to date from 1 January. Evening, sewed stripes on my pants, had a gay old time after supper after Roll Call.

Cpl. John H Palmer  
Company K, 10th C. V.  
Before Richmond  
Va.

Thursday, January 5, 1865.

Warm and very muddy. Lay in my Tent in the forenoon. Afternoon, went out in the woods with a squad of recruits after timber. Had a present of a nice pair of Chevrons from Capt. Parker. Evening retired early but did not rest very well.

Friday, January 6, 1865

Rainy, bad day. The mud is knee deep. On Guard. Had some trouble with the Subs. They would not wake up and were pretty drowsy. Had a letter from sister Alice.

Saturday, January 7, 1865.

Cold, windy day. The Reg't. went to see two more Deserters shot. I remained in camp. Wrote a letter to my Sister. Parke Grammiss called in the evening and we had a good old chat about N. B. and so forth. All remained quiet on our Front.

Sunday, January 8, 1865.

Clear and cold. Went out on Company Inspection in the forenoon, and fell in and heard the Articles of War read. Afternoon we were all filled in and marched over to the Col's tent to hear the Chaplain hold forth. It was a mean afternoon for men that have so much duty to do as there is to be done here. Evening, retired early.

Monday, January 9, 1865

Warm and pleasant. Did an hour and a half with the Non Commissioned Officers and two hours with the Company, and two more on Battalion drill in the mud halfway up to our knees. Evening, retired early, but had to turn out and form a line of Battle, as there was an alarm, were obliged to sleep with our equipment on all night. It rained very hard!

Tuesday, January 10, 1865.

Rainy day. Lay around in the tent all day began a letter to Sister Alice. Peter Moriarty, one all of our subs left the Vidette Port last night and went over to the Rebs. Evening, wrote a letter to Edward Jones of Winthrop.

Wednesday, January 11, 1865. Clear and cold. Drilled pretty hard all day. All quiet on our front. Evening, retired early.

Thursday, January 12, 1865.

Very pleasant day. Went on went out on Picket. All quiet with the exception of a few shots from the Rebs.

Friday, January 13, 1865.

Pleasant day lay around in my Tent nearly all day. After coming in from Picket. Finished a letter to Sister Alice. Received three letters, one from

sister Alice, one from Ett, and one from William Whittelsy. Evening wrote a letter to Ett and then retired.

Saturday, January 14 to Saturday, February 25, 1865.

The ink on these pages has faded so badly that they are extremely difficult to read.

Sunday, January 15, 1865

Pleasant day went out on monthly ----- . Received a letter from Gladwin . Evening wrote a letter to Gladwin and retired. Slept very soundly all night.

Monday, January 16, 1865.

Drilled like the Devil all day and then General Drill Parade. All is very quiet not a shot has been fired for two or three days past. There is rumors of a Rebel movement. Evening retired very early.

Tuesday, January 17, 1865.

Cloudy, cold day. We are in our review this morning with the 10th. One of the subs in Co. H shot through the head last night on the Vidette Line. He got \$30, 60 days furlough and is mustered out. ----- . We hear good news that the war will soon end. Evening, wrote a letter to my Sister Alice.

Wednesday, January 18, 1865.

Cloudy and cold. Went out on Pickett. All was very quiet on our front through the day and night. It was very dark and bad – Vidette.

Thursday, January 19, 1865.

Came off Pickett this morning then --- . Went out on Battalion Drill in the afternoon. Evening, retired very early. --- of the Col. and are taken to and are to be shot in the head. I hear that more came under to our line and for the----

Friday, January 20, 1865.

Drilled very hard six hours and a half certain. I am so lame and my feet so bad that I can hardly walk. As other --- U. S. Commissioned Officer. Evening, I wrote letter to my Sister. No mail for me today.

Sunday, January 22, 1865.

Damp, bad weather. Had a General Inspection three o'clock this afternoon. Came out with the Colors. Received two letters one from Hattie and one from Hannah Freeman. Evening wrote a letter to Hannah.

Monday, January 23, 1865.

Rainy day. Lay around in my Tent and I received my eighth Bounty Check of ten dollars. Evening retired early, heard cannonading on our left all night.

Tuesday, January 24, 1865.

Turned out under arms early this morning, expected an attack as there was heavy cannonading all day on our left. Received a letter from Sister Alice. Then on Guard. All quiet through the night. Got excused from a weeks Picket, as we were the best and cleanest looking Regiment in the Brigade at inspection last Sunday.

Tuesday, January 25, 1863.

Clear and cold. Did not get relieved from Guard until afternoon, as there was an Inspection by the General. Evening retired very early, all was quiet throughout the night.

Thursday, January 26, 1865.

Drilled on Skirmish Drill pretty much all day, received two letters, one from Mary and one from Sister Vie. Evening wrote a letter to Mary. All is quiet. No news of any account. A very cold night.

Friday, January 27, 1865.

Skirmish drill again today did not feel very well this afternoon. Got excused. Received a letter from Sister Alice. Wrote a letter to Sister Alice. Evening wrote a letter to Vie. Rumors of Peace afloat, such as never have been before.

Saturday, January 28, 1865.

Sunday, January 29, 1865.

Some had rumors. Peace -----.

Evening, retired early, received no letters -- had none to answer.

Monday, January 30, 1865.

Drilled hard all day.-----

Tuesday, January 31, 1865.

Warm and clearing today -- all day. -----. -----. All quiet

Wednesday, February 1, 1865.

Went out on Company Inspection this forenoon. Afternoon made out Company Requisitions and wrote a letter to my Sister and sent my Bounty Check, received a letter from Mrs. A. E. Turner and Ett. Had orders to have forty days rations in our knapsack to be ready to march at a moments notice. Evening done some writing for the company.

Sunday, February 26, 1865.

Pleasant day. Received a letter from John Shoars. Afternoon worked on the Muster Rolls. Evening retired early. Some prospects of being laid off soon.

Monday, February 27, 1865

Worked on the Muster Rolls all day. Not much rest today. Evening, retired early as usual.

Tuesday, February 28, 1865

Was mustered this forenoon for two months more pay which makes ten months pay to me. Afternoon, worked on the payrolls. Received a letter from Ett. Evening, wrote a letter to Ett.

Wednesday, March 1, 1865.

Worked on the Pay Rolls in the forenoon and afternoon, loafed around in camp. Evening, retired early.

Thursday, March 2, 1865.

Rainy day when out on Pickett. All was quiet. Received two letters, one from Sister Alice and one from W. E. Whittelsy. Another man deserted but was caught and will possibly be shot.

Friday, March 3, 1865.

Came off Pickett this morning. Went on Brigade Review in the afternoon. Evening the orderly had an Express box from home and we had a gay old supper. No news of any account.

Saturday, March 4, 1865.

Lay around pretty much all day. Wrote a letter to W. E. Whittelsy. Evening wrote a letter to my Sister Alice. We hear today that there was 234 Reb. deserters came in last evening.

Sunday, March 5, 1865.

Pleasant day. Went out on Inspection and Review. There is no sign of the "/62 men getting mustered out and I shall probably be detained against my will, for six months longer. Evening, retired early.

Monday, March 6, 1865.

Loafed in the forenoon. Afternoon went out on Company Drill. Evening worked on my Pants.



Tuesday, March 7, 1865.

Very pleasant day. When out on Pickett. Two men deserted and went over to the Reb's. about four in the afternoon. Evening all was quiet, and continued so during the night.

Wednesday, March 8, 1865.

Rainy day. Came off Pickett this morning and lay in my cabin the rest of the day. Received a letter from Hattie. Evening wrote a letter to Hattie. Two more men deserted.

Thursday March 9, 1865.

Rain cloudy and warm. Went out on Company Drill in the forenoon. Afternoon worked on my Pants. There is considerable excitement about our subs deserting. Evening, retired early.

Friday, March 10, 1865.

Cloudy and somewhat rainy. Two deserters from our regiment were shot today. I was one of the Squad detached to do the job that was not a very desirable job, but I drew a good bead on him and fired. Evening, there was some Commissioners here from Conn. to take our votes for Governor, but I did not vote.

Saturday, March 11, 1865.

Pleasant day when out on Pickett. The Rebs came over and exchange papers and traded with us. Received a letter from Sister Alice. We had a noisy lot of Subs. out with us.

Sunday, March 12, 1865.

Came off Pickett. Another Sub. left this morning, four shots were fired at him, but did not hit him. Two more left this afternoon. We were Reviewed that afternoon by Gen. Grant and some of his friends. Evening wrote a letter to Sister Alice. The Reg't. has got a very bad name now on account of so many Deserters.

Monday, March 13, 1865.

Warm and pleasant. When out on Company Drill in the afternoon. Received a letter from Whittelsey the and answered forthwith. Evening went to a Debate, held in the Chapel Tent, enjoyed myself very well.

Tuesday, March 14, 1865.

Cleaned up my rifle in the forenoon. Afternoon loafed around camp. Some Rebel deserters came in today. Evening, retired early.

Wednesday, March 15, 1865.

Cloudy and somewhat rainy. When out on Pickett. Two men and a Corporal deserted this morning, and returned fire on our picket. The Corps, Sergts, & Officers have to walk the Vidette Lines all the time. The Reg't. has got a very bad name and cannot be trusted. All quiet through the night with the exception of an occasional shot.

Thursday, March 16, 1865.

Windy but warm. Came off Pickett. Went out on Monthly Inspection in the afternoon, signed the Pay Roll for eight months, some signs of getting paid off soon. No mail for me today. Evening retired early, as usual.

Friday, March 17, 1865.

Windy and cool. Went out on Review, the whole Corp was out, we were received by Sec. Stanton, Gen. Grant, Mead, Ord, Gibbon, and quite a number of distinguished individuals from Washington and some Ladies. Each Reg't. gave three hearty cheers as they passed. Evening, wrote a letter to my Sister. No mail for me yet.

Saturday, March 18, 1865.

Lay around in my tent all day, no excitement, very dull indeed. Evening, retired early.

Sunday, March 19, 1865.

When out on Pickett. It has been a very pleasant day. Four more of our Subs. left last night. Received two letters, one from my Sister Vie, and one from Hannah Steadman. Eight Rebel deserters came in during the night, and several shots were fired at them by the Rebels, and by our own men. Everything looks favorable for an early opening of the spring campaigns.

Monday, March 20, 1865.

Came off Pickett this morning. Very warm day. Went out on Battalion Drill in the afternoon. Evening, wrote two letters, one to Sister Vie, and one to Hannah Steadman. Orders came around about nine o'clock to have everything packed up and be ready to march at eight in the morning. I went to sleep and slept very soundly all night.

Tuesday, March 21, 1865.

Packed up everything and struck our tents and fell in for a March, with four days rations. Pitched our Tents again about noon, as the orders were countermanded. Was paid off today up to 1 January. Eight months pay. Evening wrote a letter home, sent sixty dollars. Rained hard all night.

Wednesday, March 22, 1865.

The wind blew very hard all day. Received a letter from Cousin Sarah. When out on Inspection, heavy marching order. evening wrote a letter to Sarah.

Thursday, March 23, 1865.

The wind blew a perfect gale all day, and the sand flew so that it was impossible to see a rod from us. Received a letter from William E. Whittelsy the. Packed up our Blankets and things that we cannot very well carry on a march. And they are to be sent back to Norfolk. Bought a watch of the Captain today, paid him 30 dollars. Evening wrote a letter to Wm. E. Whittelsy. Three more of our Subs. deserted last night.

Friday, March 24, 1865

Went on Guard. Received two letters, one from Sister Alice, one from Ett. Cavalry, Artillery, & Infantry were moving all night. All quiet in camp.

Saturday, March 25, 1865.

Was relieved from Guard in due season this morning. Had orders to pack up everything, and strike our tents and fall in and be ready to march off. P. M. Order countermanded and we pitched our Tents again and unpacked our things. Evening it commenced raining. Wrote two letters one to Sister Alice and one to Ett.

Sunday, March 26, 1865.

Cold windy day. When out on review. We were reviewed by Abraham Lincoln & Wife and several Generals and some distinguished men and women. Evening retired very early as I considered we might go off on a march.

Monday, March 27, 1865.

Packed up our things and lay around all day. Struck Tents just at night and fell in and marched all night.

Tuesday, March 28, 1865.

Arrived the south side of the Appomattox River this morning. Stopped a few minutes and ate breakfast, then marched until night, settled at Hatcher's Run, making 50 miles march in 24 hours. I was entirely played out but managed to keep with the Reg't. Made our coffee and lay down for the night with sore feet and shoulders. Although we took everything we could bear out of our Knapsacks they were very heavy.

Wednesday, March 29, 1865.

Turned out three o'clock in the morning and marched down to the extreme left of the lines and relieved a New York Regiment. Pitched our tents and had a good rest. Received a letter from Sister Vie.

Thursday, March 30, 1865.

Went out on Picket, rained very hard all day and - out about noon with the rest of the Corps. Fought the Reb's. all the afternoon. Held our own all night.

Friday, March 31, 1865.

Advanced out still further and captured their Rifle Pits and over 300 Prisoners. Went out on the Skirmish Line in the afternoon and remained until very late in the evening, we were under a very hot fire. Adjutant Brown was shot through the head today by the Provost Marshall. Lieut. Bedhart wounded severely while on the skirmish line.

---

Here ends the diary of John Henry Palmer for 1865 but it does not end the story. On April 2, 1865, John Henry Palmer was shot in the head while in the trenches before Petersburg, Va. He was taken to Hampton Hospital, Fort Monroe Va. On April 6, 1865 he wrote the following letter to his father in North Branford.

Ward 2  
Hampton Hospital  
Fort Monroe Va.  
April 6, 1865

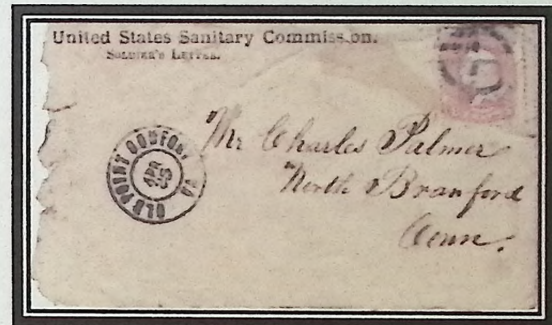
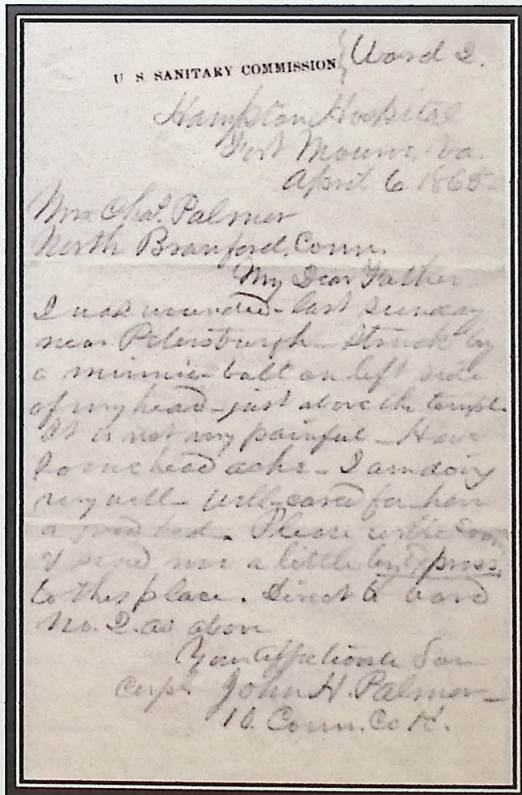
Mr. Charles Palmer  
North Branford Conn.

My Dear Father

I was wounded last Sunday near Petersburg. Struck by a minnie ball on the left side of my head – just above the temple. It is not very painful. Have some headache – I am doing very well – well cared for – have a good bed. Please write soon and send me a little by Express to this place. Direct to ward No. 2 as above.

Your affectionate son  
Cpl. John H Palmer  
10 Conn. Co K.

The actual letter and its envelope is shown below:



Unfortunately John Henry Palmer died of his wounds on April 11, 1865. The cause of death was listed as “concussion of the brain, GSW (gun shot wound), in action.”<sup>1</sup> Note that John Henry Palmer died two days *after* Gen. Robert E. Lee surrendered to Gen. Ulysses S. Grant at Appomattox Court House, Virginia, on April 9, 1865.

<sup>1</sup> Ancestry.com U.S. Registers of Deaths of Volunteers, 1861-1865

On the 30<sup>th</sup> of April 1865, Captain H. L. Parker, John Henry Palmer's commanding officer wrote a letter to Mr. Charles Palmer in North Branford. A transcription of that letter and a copy of the original letter and its envelope is also shown below. Several other letters related to the death are also included.

Camp 10<sup>th</sup> Conn Vol  
Richmond Virginia  
April 30, 1865

Charles Palmer Esq.

Dear Sir

Sorrowfully in this you have heard of the death of your son Corp. John H. Palmer who died on the 11<sup>th</sup> instant of wounds received the 2<sup>nd</sup> in a charge on the enemy's line at Petersburg. I should have written before but have been unable to on account of the long march our Corps has had to perform. But I say that yourself and all of his friends have my bountiful sympathy. He was beloved by the whole company, and his loss is very much felt, but little is our loss compared with that of his parents and friends in Conn. I myself had a peculiar interest in him, he being my camp clerk, therefore being with me a good deal I had learned to love and respect him as a friend and brother. I did not see him after he was wounded he being carried to the rear before the fighting was over, and having to leave immediately after did not get an opportunity to visit the hospital. Lieut. H. K. Parsons, saw him and talked with him considerable. He left his money with the Lieut. to send to you if he died, I have informed Lieut. Parsons on his death, and tomorrow he will express his money and Watch to you.

I would I could express some words of consolation to his bereaved friends but I cannot express my feelings. Words are not adequate to express the loss of those that we love and respect, but my dear Sir believe me when I say that we are all feel that we have lost a brother just at the close of this long and wounding war but it is may be that what is our loss is his gain. I enclose some letters that have come to the company for him. He died at Point of Rocks Hospital Va, Perhaps if you have not already had information from them you might process it by writing to the surgeon in charge.

Very Respectfully  
H. L. Parker  
Capt. Co. K 10<sup>th</sup> C V

Camp 10<sup>th</sup> Conn Vol  
Regiment Pa  
April 30<sup>th</sup> 1865

Charles Palmer Esq

Dear Sir

Sadly we the  
you have heard of the death of your son  
Coop John C Palmer, who died on the 11<sup>th</sup> and  
I wounds received the 2<sup>nd</sup> on a charge  
on the famous line at Gettysburg. I should  
have written before, but had been unable  
to on account of the long march our  
Coop has had to perform. but I say  
that you and all of his friends have  
my heartest sympathy. He was beloved  
of his whole Company, and his loss is  
very much felt, but little is our loss  
compared with that of his parents and friends  
in Home. I myself had a peculiar interest  
in him, he being my Camp Clerk, then  
you being with me a good deal I had  
learned to love & respect him as  
a friend and brother. I had not see  
him after he was wounded, he being  
carried to the rear before the fighting

was over, and having to leave immediately  
after did not get an opportunity to visit  
the Hospital. Lieut H. H. Brown, saw  
him and talked with him considerably.  
He left his money with the Lt. to send  
to you if he died. I have informed Lt  
Brown of his death, and tomorrow  
he will express his money & write  
to you.

I would I could express some words  
of consolation to his bereaved friends  
but I cannot express my feelings  
words are not adequate to express the  
loss of those we love and regret, but my  
Dear Sir believe me when I say, that  
we all feel that we have lost a brother,  
lost to just at the close of this long  
and weary war, but so may be, that  
what is our loss is his gain. I enclose  
some letters that have come to the Camp  
for him. He died at Point of Rocks Hospital  
Pa. Perhaps if you have not already had  
information from them, you might prefer  
it by writing to the Surgeon on their

Very Respectfully  
H. H. Brown  
Capt Co. R. 10<sup>th</sup> CP



U.S. General Hospital  
Fort Monroe Virginia.  
May 1, 1865

Mr.  
Chas. Palmer

Bereaved friend,

Man being born into trouble "this life is full of trials yet in all the Savior says 'be of good cheer' let not your hearts be troubled." Only trust in God and he will make all things all these trials afflictions and losses work together for your good. Romans 8: 28.

Your son John H. Palmer Cpl. Company K 10th Conn Vols died very recently in this hospital of the effects of a wound. He was well cared for neatly laid out and interred in this hospital burying ground with Christian ceremony and Military Honors.

A headboard with his name, date of death, company, regiment inscribed upon it marks the spot where his remains now repose.

These remains may be procured if desired by leaving an order where the nearest Express Office whose agent here will forward the body to your address if you wish it. The expense may be ascertained at the Express Office as they have the entire charge of this business.

By writing to Dr. E McClellan, Surgeon in Charge of the Hospital you may obtain receipts to sign and return after which you will receive the effects of deceased if any there be.

The exact date of death we are not at liberty to give but it may be had by addressing the Adjutant General at his office Washington DC. With sincere and Christian sympathy

E. P. Roe  
Chaplain.



U.S. Gen. Hospital  
Fort Monroe Va  
May 1<sup>st</sup> 1861

Mr  
Chas Palmer

Dear friend,

Your being  
born into trouble, his life is full  
of trials, yet in all the Christian  
sage, "Be of good cheer" "I must  
your heart be troubled" - Only  
trust in God and he will make  
all things all these trials, afflictions  
and labors work together  
for your good" Rom 8:28.

Your son John St  
Palmer (capt Co No 1<sup>st</sup> Iowa  
Vols) died very recently in this  
Hospital of the effects of a wound

He was well cared for, mostly  
and all and interest in that

Hospital having ground with  
Christian ceremony and Military  
Honors

A head band with his name  
lots of medals, company Regiment  
inscribed upon it marked the spot  
where his remains now repose.

Such remains may be procured  
if desired by leaving an order with  
the nearest Express Office where  
wanted here will forward the body  
to your address if you wish it.

The expense may be ascertained  
at the Express Office if they have  
the entire charge of his business.

By writing to Dr C Mc Miller  
Surgeon in Charge of the Hospital  
you may obtain receipt to sign  
and return, after which you will  
receive the effects of burial if  
any there be.

The exact date of death we  
are not at liberty to give, but it

may be had by addressing  
the Express Office  
Washington D.C.

With sincere & Christian  
sympathy

C. P. Rose  
Chaplain

Mr Chas Palmer  
Northampton  
Mass

Richmond  
Va  
May 3, 1865

Mr. Charles Palmer

Dear Sir

I forwarded yesterday by Adams express one package valued \$60 containing watch and jacket book placed in my charge by your son after he was wounded with the request that I should forward them to you

I had no opportunity to do so until we returned from our march to near Lynchburg I was with your home boy the afternoon after he was wounded and again the next morning I found him very comfortable he hoped then to recover and talked much with me about you. He was very anxious to see his father and asked me if it was not possible for you to come to see him I promised to call at the hospital and under any and on my power but our sudden move one hour later prevented the fulfillment of my promise. Your son has a good record in the regiment and his loss with many others of our best men is deeply felt with us

If I can render you any assistance in processing events in the settlement of his account it will be freely and gladly given.

Very respectfully

H A. Parsons

Lieut Quartermaster  
10th Conn Vol

Copy of the letter transcribed above

Richmond Va  
May 3<sup>rd</sup> 1865

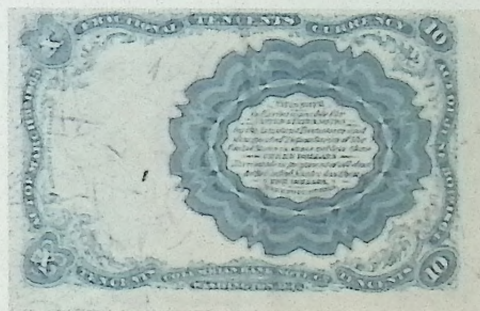
Mr Charles Palmer  
Dear Sir

I forwarded  
yesterday by Adams Express one package  
Parcel 66 - containing several small books  
books placed in my charge by you on  
after he was wounded with the report  
that I should forward them to you  
I had no opportunity to do so until  
we returned from our march to near  
Spotsylvania - I was with you here by  
the afternoon after he was wounded  
and again the next morning I found  
him very comfortable - he hoped then  
to recover and talked much with  
me about you he was very anxious  
to see the father and asked me if  
it was not possible for you to come  
to see him - I promised to call at the  
hospital and under my own name

to have had some such a  
letter forwarded the following day  
provision - You have been a good man  
in the regiment and he has with  
many others if our lot must be duty  
for each of us.

If I can render you any  
assistance in procuring wants in the  
afterment of the regiment it will be my  
pleasure to give

Very Respectfully  
A. C. Williams  
Sergeant



enclosed find money  
for father take please tell on  
to former Deb

Mr Charles Palmer  
North Brandon  
Cross

Above right: The front and back of currency found within the letter.