February 16
-
April 3
1862
Roe of Shrimp #26
Jan. 23rd

Length. Mr. Joe owes me $16.
Last Pratice 30c.

Capt. Through.

Feb 7th. lent. Nov. $6.

Feb 21st. lent. Nov. $8.

Feb 26th. M.D. mark $3 4c.

The lengths each one, men, dogs for shrimp for knots.
Sargent. Chas. R. Haydon

Sed Oct 16, 1862

Meat 1 1/2 lbs. for tomorrow

Meat 1/2 lb. to be returned.

Cheese 1 oz. to be returned.

Bread 5 No.

Cook 2 lbs. 1/2 lbs.

Drumser were one lb. each.
Feb. 16th, 1862

Sundee

in camp. I am not very deeply impressed with the solemnity of the hour or occasion. They are singing church music at the orderly's tent & there is mingled in their harmony the voice of woman (yes a virtuous & woman a sight praiser to soldiers than ever good men in Sodom) which naturally brings some recollections of past scenes of times when I was very different, no better than I am now. There is nothing like church music & the solemnity of divine service to carry one back to other days. First deserted from the holy bowl except when he heard the
Cathedral bell, though he was so often ready to tablet his soul with the devil. The solemn mysteries of religion are voluntary. The vague terror which they inspire in childhood can never be obliterated. It brings to one thoughts of my mother with whose memory more but thoughts of purity can mingle. It came one back more especially to that best of all villages Kalamazoo, that being nearly the only place where I voluntarily attended church. One never regrets having attended church. One at the thought of it is constantly led to say as did the ruined Margaret how different was it with you then when all innocence thou art before the altar.
It is near a year since I can properly be said to have attended divine worship. I would go to church if I could. I felt reckless when I began to write on the first, but some good spirit changed my tone for the moment. That devil in Mr. Prentice must have meant to relate to me some worthless adventure which he never met with. Thoughts of days well spent are lost in his not over-chaste recital.

Drawing here the curtain between what goes before and what follows, I will say with all candor that he is at the most ineradicable who never knew Anna of good form, figure, and feature. A few weeks of the most peculiar look of any woman I ever saw. He has a very large head, light-yellow hair...
white eye brows, light-blue eyes
very large, at a long &
very red face—more scarlet
ample proportions ears & mouth
very large. The first thought
when you see him is that he has
the most face of any man you
ever saw. I must say for him
that he has naturally a kind
generous & confiding heart.

Notwithstanding his extraordinarily
appearance & manners not least
peculiar he was always a favor-
ite among the ladies. His bleed-
ing at the lungs or more probably from
the stomach has slightly dimmed
the strawberry color line of his nose
but not in the least his desire to
relate his set wonderful adven-
tures.

Renson has during the last three
months played the coolest & most consummate game on the Court.

Billy Mark that I have ever seen. He has taken pains to have all the outlines & most of the details paraded before him all the time & yet he could not or at least did not see it was too late to be of any use. When he finally opened his eyes the work was done. It was too late to secure any proof of its positive proof of it. He has acted as mediator in a lover's quarrel & by skillfully written scenes of letters has settled the whole affair very much as the Monkey did the famous cheese case by taking the girl himself & leaving only Billy only a valuable experience to console him for his loss.
I foresaw long ago that the end would not be otherwise, but concluded it would be more prudent to let Billy find it out himself than to get the ill will of both by letting him to one what he would not believe what the other could easily disprove.

This was the coldest morning of the winter. Snow melted considerably during the days. If I had my journal here I would rewrite it. It is now a most unwatched map of confusion and nonsense.

20. The time has passed off in various and unpleasing ways since last. We had a very fine bayonet drill this afternoon. The most glorious battle drill PM. Col. Poe was in command. He made the
difference. With him the Rev. is all life, vigor, attention within him it is all indifference or deviltry. He complimented me as being very prompt on drill. I have been trying for two or three days to instill into the art of forming hands and feet the art of taming, but have met with only moderate success. On the first day I knocked all the breath out of him by an unconsiderate punch in the ribs. Since that time I have been obliged to be so gentle with him that we make slow progress. I put the gloves on with adapt to say for the first time. He pretty soon gave me a smart blow over the left eye which I returned on his nose. I was afraid of him, only blow
being rather unexpectedly a little harder than I intended he was pretty cautious. After a little while he caught my right arm and gave me a smart punch in the head which I promptly returned in the ribs. After that we were both so careful that there was not hitting on either side. We included Mrs. Goebel 1st of A. to put them on this morning & sent them on with a very black eye after a few preliminary flourishes. It was right story for honest, jolly, free hunting plump, rosy, Augustus but he could hardly expect to be initiated into at least one black eye. I have seen many a one who did exceed it did not do
a great deal better myself when I first tried it. The pain is nothing but to be the butt for all the jokes of all your comrades and the fear of being called before Col. Poe for any purpose is very unpleasant. The men are apt to look with very inquisitive eyes on such things.

21st We had a long bayonet & skirmish drill this forenoon and at half past 13. we were called out for brigade drill. The 2d platoon under my command came near running the 1st platoon through this drill. I had been skirmishing & was coming in at a double quick. The 1st had guns stacked & were standing in line. I put them on the gym master s left ordered change of formation of course that they would
either stop or throw up their guns when they came to them. Instead of that however they made for them on a dead run and roared halt & they stopped with bayonets not more than 2 feet from their breasts. One man did get a bayonet through his coat sleeve. The brigade drill was very severe. Gen. R. put in where the mud was very deep in a corn & potatoe field. We could sometimes hardly move. Our feet looked as though they were muffled. Corp. Southworth in addition to all this got the men out & drilled them more than an hour after supper on bayonet exercises. He looked only such as volunteered. He's proficient, there
is not a Capt. in the Regt. who is a match for him. It is a great mistake that he was not promoted sooner. He should have been a Sgt. long ago. There are only two better Non Line Officers in this Regt. I wish I had the power to advance men who deserve it. To look around & see the miserable worthless pudding heads who hold Com. in many of our own Co. & especially in other Regts. & then look at some of our own Non Line Officers, competent to drill a Co. or a Regt. I lose all patience. I would like it very much if I could by any means get & Com. for all three of them.

2D There was no drilling or exercise of any kind.
day except chiefs parade at which a part of Washington farewell address was read. Salutes were fired at all posts by all batteries.

29th Sunday. Camp mistress Benson has been on the sick list for two days. I am afraid he will have to go to the hospital. There was no need of his being sick if he had done as I told him. I am detailed as officer of the guard to-morrow. Court Martial has sent me a good term for the last two months but it is played out at last. Two months reliefs in mid winter from guard duty is no small thing. I am not over partial to police guard.
does better. If we could once more have a glimpse of fair weather it would be a great consolation. We must it is thought roll in mud for one too month yet at least. If the weather were good we would not long be here.

I am in good bodily health but do not feel very hearty in spirits owing I suppose to the bad weather.

24th. I went on guard as expected. Just before moon came in order to discharge all the Swiss but I was to be ready to march with one day's rations. Had barely time to lay off my sack to seize my haversack overcoat & run. We marched 3 1/2 miles to Windsor hill running a large part of the way tied in mud
from 3 to 10 inches deep. I was on the point of throwing away my overcoat when Col. Poe overtook me and ordered a halt. When he came up the Regt. was scattered out at 30 rods wide, 1/2 mile long through woods & fields trying to find solid ground to travel on. They set up a tremendous cheering when they saw him; all made for their places in line without orders as fast as they could run. The Col. well knowing how he was at one time disliked by the men seemed well pleased at the change. We waited here till near sundown.

Sentryed cannon came up soon after us. We came back to camp soon after dark. The 37th had been attacked on picket: one man killed & 2 wounded but it was feared
from exaggerated reports that they would be driven in or cut off by a heavy force. We went out to be in relieving distance if need. I went back to guard duty as soon as I returned. There was a heavy shower of rain this M'r. & there has been such a wind ever since that one can hardly stand. Agreed many of the tents are blown down.

26th Iap. It is raining steadily. This Division has just received orders to be ready to move at an hours notice. We are to have no baggage except what we carry on our backs—provisions the same. A blanket, overcoat, one shirt, one pair stockings will make my outfit. I am glad to say although the difficulties
attending a move at this time are great. We are to have only 4 wagons for Regt. The mud surpasses anything I ever saw & we have hands as often as every other day. We shall neither at day or night anything but the one blanket to protect us from the mud beneath or the rain above. It is however all important for us to follow up our recent victories. We shall I presume go to Occoquan which place is now occupied by the rebel but will I think be desert at on our approach.

I hope that we may not be called upon to go to white, We could not March more
than one mile an hour. 27th War to turn out for muster at 7 A.M. tomorrow morning, & march for picketing at 7 A.M. We have to take the 5th place again. The 5th has lost 7 men by disease this week. We have to go to Pohick Church now & the line is lengthened so far that it requires 2 Regts., I presume that we shall move before our tour is over. I hoped that we should avoid picketing at this place again it seems otherwise however. To walk 8 miles through the mud & spend 3 nights & 4 days on brush shanties catching your rations as you can find them makes war appear more like a reality than it
Feb 28th

March 1st 1862

On picket 2 miles below Pohick Church. I marched 16 miles yesterday & was somewhat tired when we finally brought up. So I was posted on Reserve at a reasonably comfortable place but this being a blizzard of Major Williams we were ordered after dark to take new posts. The line we were to occupy was 1/2 miles long & ran through a thick jungle forest without road or path. It was all 2 P.M. when we were posted.
The walking yesterday was pretty good, & the ground was frozen hard in the morning & did not thaw very much during the day. Last night was I think the coldest of the season. This winter has been unusually mild. The Potomac has many times been frozen so that teams could cross on the ice. This winter it has not frozen at all. I make my headquar at a house on the line. I slept very little last night. It was too cold. There was an infernal dog under the floor which barked all night not 6 inches from my head. I could not coax him out & I was afraid to go under after him. I lay half dying at one time, thinking myself the unfortunate gentleman we read of who lost his money.
I killed his favourite dog thinking him mad—while in fact he was trying to induce his master to return for his money. Again I was told by Symonds that I must kill Beth. Again I saw myself lying on the floor bathed in blood because of not heed the dog's warning. Again I was very carefully looking around for a crack in the floor where I might spear him with my sword. Last of all I looked to the reality that I was very cold that the dog being beyond my reach would bark till he was ready to stop. The old man who lives here keeps 4 dogs but is so poor that he can sell us nothing to eat. The bonfire carried off all
This day again last fall which
was an I fact but a small and
This man like 9/10 of all the men
& women you see here is ignorant
& simple beyond conception.
He has lived here 5 7 years, never
been in Washington but once
never been over 50 miles from
home, knows the distance is only
3 places Occoquan where he
goes to mill, here where he
goes to trade & Alexandria
where he goes to fish. He wants
to know last night if I had
heard all that murder in
Washington. I asked him
what one? Why all that—what
what his name—Sickles
who shot a man (Keys) the
other day? The ever heard some
of the pickets talking about
I having never heard of it before concluded it must be a new Mile or two. It was warmer last night, I slept in a bush shelter and slept finely. The night was quiet one or two shots were fired but none on our line. Everybody in this country I find drinks. A very pretty girl at a house where we get our meals put a canteen of Whiskey to my fair lips. Took a small drink and offered it to me. Coming from her I could not refuse. I think she is the prettiest girl who makes any pretensions to virtue, whom I have seen in the Secesh army but she is not beyond the reach of consolation. Whipple one of the most remarkable men among the
ladies whom I have seen since.  

Nurse Mower died.  There is an old maid there whom he will insist on calling Auntie. This vexes her very much but his lavish compliments and other respects console her.  Besides, she keeps her half drunk all the time & the old man who owns the house is about the same condition.  

Sgt. Johnston is out on a scout with 4 men. I am a little anxious about him. The Va. women know altogether too little to坦克 with soldiers.

2.  

About 9 AM it began snowing very hard & by 4 PM, it was 3 inches deep. Prof. Brown was up in his balloon at Pohick Church and was shot during all the clear spells.  

Sgt. Johnston returns about 8 PM. He was lost during the storm. Fitzgerald the pilot...
Irishman D. Buck a boy of 18 but one of the best & most reliable members of our Co. became separated from him & I fear well get in trouble. He saw the rebel pickets on the other side the Occoquan. They started to go to a house out in the open field to inquire their way. When within abt. 20 rods of it they saw 5 cavalry come out & mount their horses which were behind a barn. Our men threw themselves down on the ground among the weeds & grass before they were seen. They were in doubt whether to fire on them or not but being near a rebel camp & knowing the way home they wisely concluded not to raise
the alarm. Doubtless more than one home is the happier for that.

Towards dark it became mildly rainy. Our picket line is now on the north bank of Pohick Creek. The line along where we are is mostly through pathless pine woods.

3d. It rained more or less all night & everything was damp, delusky. This morning before daybreak Buck came in at 8 A.M. They wandered around till they came out suddenly at Occoneechee village within 15 rods of 40 n. 50 rebels just on the other side the river. They thought at first that they were at Accolink, but just at that moment one of the rebels called out there comes some more of the old yankees an...
immediately gave them and they, Jolly Jenny escaped without a scratch. One ball glancing from the ground struck Buck on the leg but being nearly spent did not penetrate the flesh but bruised it considerably. Two other 54 balls passed through his coat but did him no harm. The boys made good time out of that saddle after traveling some 3 miles through the woods came to the house of a lady whose husband is in the fresh army. They however made themselves so agreeable that she took them in and cared for them well during their stay which was 21st. We were relieved by the 63 Va. and were ready to start for home at
2 P.M. The roads were exceedingly bad, Col. Poe gave orders to march
me by Co. 8 to keep them together. It was declared by several to be
impossible to bring me Co. 8 along over such a road. Struggling on
the march was always their worst
fault & that of the whole Regt. like
wise. The Co. has never been
brought in more than once or
twice from a long march as it
ought to be. The men were in
heaving order having expected to
advance before instead of returning
to camp. After marching 20 miles
right in front I found them
struggling badly & that several
of the smaller & weaker men
were already badly blown.
I halted picked out these & put
them on the lead & made the large
Strong men march in th' rear.
The little ones soon refreshed, recovered their wind & marched so fast all the way to camp that I was obliged to halt them 3 times to let the rear close up with them. It is incredible to those who have never tried it how much easier it is to march in front than in rear. We came in at 6 P.M., with the top of only Lt. Seward, who lagged, the men in the midst of a drenching rain. All the men whistling Yankee Doodle & marching as if they were at a review. We marched 9 miles an a little, more than 3 hours, at a good gait, 40 lbs. each man carrying an average weight of 40 lbs., on a road where the mud...
was rarely less than 3 inches deep. I believe I can march a Co. further in a day than any other man in the Dept, if they will give me any way. It rains terribly & night glad am to see the men & myself in good quarters, beneath a tight roof, with dry clothes & plenty to eat—ie at home. Not one real home but our soldiers homes. Night dear good ones, they seem to us. The Col. had hot whiskey prepared for them all as fast as they came in. The men have found him out at last & love him far better now than they once hated him. He will do more as much for their comfort & safety despite his severity as Major Williams with all
his milk & water ill time
madrep. I do like ourBo,
as I never liked a lot of men
before. They like me as well,
cnow, though they disliked me
exceedingly at one time since
my first promotion. I know
the change in my conduct
as Least Sargent, & Sargent, was
great. Capt. May's departure
made it still greater. I was
very little surprised at the wish
which I knew was more than
once expressed that the next
battle might be the cause of my
exit. I also well knew that in
our own best for more often
among the men of other Co's who
from time to time fell under
my command the determination
was expressed to help me.
off the stage if the speech did not do it? It is unpleasant to know that such a feeling exists. It came near driving Col. Poe out of the Regt. at one time. I never had any fear for myself but I was really at one time afraid they would shoot him. The fact is when the hour of danger came the men are glad to cling to any one who acts as though he is competent to carry them through. They think far more about their own welfare than all shooting some one who sent them to the guard house a court martialled them a month before. There is only one way in which an officer is sure of being liked by his men. Live right up to the rigid severity of military law.
without fear of favor or affection, be careful only that you exercise just so man who does not
deserve it & that you let no one escape who deserves punishment. Keep partiality & mercy
out of sight at each time. Book well to the events & measures of your men, be careful
of their health & welfare on every occasion when you come. You will be abundantly
cursed at first but be certain that no one will succeed so high a degree of favor or retain
it so long. Never allow men to take liberties with you. It is well to laugh & joke with them
at times but always command it yourself & know how to
shut them off when they have
gone far enough. Some think it a fine thing to be familiar with their men. I could never see it in that light. Always be attentive to all their questions and inquiries but be careful to be so polite to them that they will never presume to be otherwise to you. Some of the 31st were buried yesterday. 14 died last night of Measles: as it is said. They have the surgeon under arrest are investigating the matter to-day. It is true, then ought not to be allowed to die in that way. I got quite a proper kiss from a couple of sweet girls to-day. I also learned some interesting facts from the 'father of one of them at social affairs'.
down south. First I learned that a large number of people are living together as husband and wife who are not married. He cited three cases among his neighbors. I further learned the important fact that it is considered no very serious thing for a young lady to have a baby or two before she has a husband. One of his sons had married a girl with a child in life. He was himself coining for his second wife—a girl of 21 who possessed a fine boy of two years. He called a very upright, young woman notwithstanding. He said there was no use of talking, women are all liable to make mistakes. He is a remarkably honest
candid old gentleman & I have no doubt expressed correctly the feelings of the community in these particulars. I thought such being his opinion it would certainly be no harm to keep his daughter as soon as he stepped if I had never seen her before.

The old man did not seem to understand the idea of making such things a profession. It was several times very broadly suggested to him but he did not understand. When told by those Whipple how great would be the profits if anyone cared to engage at the out posts he the only understood that the money was to be made by selling tires, cakes & sick like. This will be a different state after the war. The people
are learning very fast,

4th. The Col. has been around
his day. He arrested a Sergt. &
Corpl. of the guard & 2 sentinel.
The latter for going for relieving the
other for allowing himself to be
relieved when no 2nd Corpl. of
the guard was present.
The Sergt. & Corpl. for allowing it
to become.

5th. Affair day. Co. drill in
the yard. There are to be some
promotions soon I hear.
Our Orderly is to B'th Sergt. John
Orderly. Prentice Sergt. & some-
body Corpl. I am glad of this.
Prentice does not very well
deserve this advancement but
it is the Capt's. will & that is
conclusive or at least so
mean it that I shall not try
to change the programme. I do like to choose Stevenson but I still am glad to see him rewarded for his faithful services and competency for the place. P. Johnston richly merits his promotion. It will also add 400 to his pay which will help his wife's needs. They will both have commissions before many months. When that comes, he will have two as good drinks as have often been promiscuous from volunteer ranks. P. wish boys Southworth could be the next kept instead of P. All the sick men were sent to Alexa today. We may move tomorrow. I am quite ready. I have on the whole passed a very pleasant winter. I am now entering on the last one.
Spring full of adventure. I doubt not there are many stirring scenes before one & it is very uncertain where my next winter may be spent. No one knows what a day may bring forth still I have high hopes. We are going to leave a bad hole behind near Alexandria. There is not a hotter nest of treason in all the South. Our men are very anxious to burn it & it is quite possible they will do so. If it were not for the God-forsaken stores there it would have been done long ago. The inhabitants say openly that they will burn it if we whip the rebels at Manassas so as to destroy our depot for supplies. I think it ought to come down.

6th. Everything is rapidly
preparing for the advance. The
detail of 3 men per Co. for pioneers
came to night. Fatigue parties
are at work constantly on the
roads. I bought 1 doz. cartridges
combustible paper cartridges to
day (expense $2.25) for rapid
loading. I have a good supply
of the most approved ammunition
I have any sword well ground.

A Capt., the 2nd. Master, & a private
of the 63d. Pa. were killed on picket
yesterday & one man was wounded.
This was all owing to the cold
milk & water idea of taking men
prisoners instead of shooting them.

A scouting party of 50 of our
almost men ahead enough to 30. Confed. to touch them with their bayonets
must needs jump out of the
brushes & try to take them prisoners.
Consequence 3 or 4 men one of them the best Capt. in the Regt. were killed on the spot
and 3 others badly wounded & the rebels all escape unhurt.

9/10 of them might have been brought down at the first volley. This idea of taking 20
men prisoners is often a very poor one. Men whose minds it is always supposed
are ready to shot at unless they make demonstrations to the contrary. I shall never ask
such whether they want to surrendor or not. If they don't want to fight let them say so.

The report is might show every little prospect of moving. Prof. bore from balloon observa-

ions reports that 80,000 men
have moved up & encamped at Occoquan within 3 days. I doubt whether McClellan will move from here at present if there's a prospect of a heavy battle at Manassas or Occoquan, I think he will reinforce Burnside, take Norfolk & make a demonstration in the neighborhood of Winchester before he makes any general move from this point, unless the enemy should fall back. Such a course would be full as sure of success & be attended with far less loss. If it be true that the enemy have 80,000 men at Occoquan, they will give us a very warm picket line on the Potomac. It is the place where their line ought to be in such a case.
I would not be surprised if our line was withdrawn inside the Accotink a at 3 miles inside of the Potomac. I think this will be necessary unless our line is strengthened.

8th. I have been out with a fatigue party of 50 men today bridging the Accotink. I am very tired.

9th. The Co's of this Regt. have been rearranged to day according to rank of Capt's. They all retain their original letters but the place in line is changed viz.

1st K 2d H 3d E 4th F 5th A 6th B 7th C 8th D 9th O 10th

Hereafter every promotion of a new Capt will change our places in line. The promotions in our Co's please one.
although I dislike to see so much of the fruits of our labor going into other lie. They infuse new life into them & make it much harder for us to keep in advance of them. They know all our ways are jealous imitators. Stevenson went up to a landing than I expected. I did a Providence in sending Johnston scouting when we were on picket. He made a good report & acquired much from account of it. He is a tempter, now & is sure of a Commission.

10th Weather warm with occasional showers. Although no orders have as yet been 0C we expect to march to night or in the morning. All is twitter din. Our men are reported in Manass.
Hooker has pretty certainly crossed below us. The centre is in motion. We cannot stay much longer.

I eagerly await the hour when we shall once more set our face in earnest toward Richmond.

11th. A beautiful stand of colors came to us this day from the War Dept. Chaplain. They made as usual a woefully dull speech. Battalion drill A.M. & P.M. under Col. Roe. Very interesting & instructive. It seems as if all the devils in hell were conspiring against us. This Div. is to be held in reserve. It is true the best & most reliable troops are always taken for reserve—still who wants to lie here idle or to go lagging along three of four days behind the
rest of the army. I would like far better to be as we were before the leading Regt. 12. The past 14 days have been the most lovely that camp ever
agreed. We had a long battalion drill this AM & Co! Drill Mr. I never saw such a change as there has been in the Regt. in the last few days, Lt. Poë has been here. I never did such drilling before, Lt. Lt. Col. Williams will mix it in half an hour so that he cannot tell whether the men are standing on their heads or feet. The prospect of anything worthy of effort seems to grow dimmer every hour. This is all that Gen. H.B. has got by quar
suling with Gen. M. D. Dowell.
If we had stayed in his Div. we should have been in Manassas now & should have done far less labor. Things look gloomy. The war cannot last much longer & we are already 30 miles on the march. I begin to doubt whether we shall ever get out of sight of the Potomac till we turn our faces homeward. It may be that the rebels will make a stand in the Cotton States. It would seem that they could not hold out much longer. Still they seem pretty desperate & determined to do all the mischief they can. The country is suffering terribly as is always the case from the retreating army. It is the dooms of the coun
I try to be plundered, burned, and
damaged. It may as well be thoroughly
done. The country is worth more
to us in a state of nature than
when plundered by a rebellious popu-
lation. They need to say "let the
curse of slavery be upon us," and
say let it fall to long as it
comes from their own hands.

Benson has come not very un-
pleasant news from home.
The man who married his lady
love is dead, she has gone back
to her father. His will at once
will renew correspondence.

I suppose we must submit to our
damnable fate with soldiers-like
indifference. If I was in the
army for life I would care less
about it. I should then be passive
and ask where I went, caring for
Except the wants of the day & a creditable discharge of such duties as were assigned me.

Our Col. is trying to bring us to this as fast as possible. He does not allow us to drill with our own Col. but shifts us around from one to another everyday. This is the case in Battalion drill but not in Co. 

He intends to keep changing around till we loose all like for one Co. more than any other—to break up all friendship or intimacy which now exists between officers & men. It comes pretty hard on me still it is right.

If I were to enter a strange Co. I would never speak to one of the men except in a business way.

One must bring himself to
see all soldiers alike in point of personal feelings. Our white tents are conspicuous in this bright moonshine, but all seems a reproach to us so long as we lie idle here. Our camp looks very neat now. The streets, or at least ours, are swept very clean every day, everything is as tidy as a good housewife's kitchen.

14th. At 10 last night came orders to move—nothing was said as to destination. We expect to go down the river on transports. The camp was noisy all night. Everyone was up by 4 A.M. I had a wretched night with aches all night but it is not quite so bad now. The air is very damp & cold. We have accumulated a vast amount of baggage but a very small
portion of which goes with us. All are pigeons. We reached our old camping ground near Ft. Lyトン at 10 a.m. Here we learned greatly to our dislike that the boats were not ready & that we should be obliged to lie there on a bleak cold sand bluff for the next 24 hours. This gives promise of an unpleasant journey. Our shelters tents are pitched for the first time. They consist of illness cloth blankets with pegs & holes to fasten them together with a strip. The edges are pinned down. Thousands are ends but they are serve all purposes for this week or at least a dozen remain for Regt. The troops are rapidly congregating at Alex. The hills as far as you can see are con
ied with two men. It may be three days before all ar
embarked with all our baggage, except what we carried in our backs or
satchel for each officer, was left at camp under charge of a guard. It has
since been sent for & taken away.
4. Few men from each company sent back I have burned nearly every
thing which could not be carried.
Our good old board shanty was by
our orders together with a large
and of furniture destroyed.
The waste in breaking up such a
camp is very considerable even
when it is done deliberately.
15. Passed the night tolerably
well though there was consid-
The rig was very damp & mucky.
Rain commenced to fall at 8
a.m. & continued all late in the
night. The shelter tents stood it very well till 11 P.M., when the rain came down in torrents, the wind blew hard and soon filled the tents with mud and water. The tents were useless. The men began to scatter in every direction; by night there were not over 400 of the whole brigade in camp. At 3 P.M. they sent Capt. Whipple & Brownell, Lt. Hodkinson & 3 to Alex to land the stragglers back to camp. It rained terribly. But I came that did not delay the mail. We went down taking especial care to go on streams where there would be very little probability of finding any of our sold. Our first labor was to get enough sundries as much
brandy as we could stand upon them. Then went out a found 9 of our men—ordered them to return to camp, which I well knew they would not do. I returned at 9 P.M. The tide was up the water on the bridge was at 2 ft. deep. I got into the house at head quarters and dried myself partially. I kept pretty warm but so many were crowded into the room that there was very little chance of sleeping. I slept last 2 hours—Only as a whole I think it was as hard if not the hardest time I ever saw. I believe I never saw the time when I would have, given so much for a good night rest. I feel better this morning than I expected. I am somewhat house but otherwise am
quite well. The weather is bet-
ner the Big very little rain. -
The men are slowly returning.
The Four Regts. came into town after-
dark which had marched that day
from Centreville (20 miles) in
heavy order. The streets were full
of men who had lost their boy-
sons wandering around in the
semi-darkness looking for shells.
Many of them were scarcely able
to stand. They often a while col-
lected in squads forced marching
at the point of the bayonet to good
quarters. They became so desperate
that it was impossible for the par-
lotis to do anything with them.

How is to stay somewhere among the
officers. Gen. R. leaves us & takes
command of Sumner's Div. Gen Ham-
ilton takes this Div. & Perry is
...Brigadier Gen. Poe & Hauptman of the 87th in that event it is said will resign. It would be nearly the destruction of this Regt. if Poe were to leave it. With him they it is one of the best Regts in the army, but it is rather too talented for anyone else.

16th - The weather has been cold to day, but not rainy. On the 14th Capt. R. H. Eldred of Co. K, Signal Officer of the Brigade died at George Town Hospital of brain fever. He was a young man of great promise both in a military and civil point of view. One of my most intimate friends. No one need grieve death on the battle-field when such...
as he young full of strength

17th Ordered came last night to

move at 10 AM. This Morn. We at once
commenced to collect our scattered Regt. & when we started I think
there were not more than 6 absent.

I have a severe cold & am so

swollen I can scarce speak a

word. We marched in excel-

lent order to the city the 24th

as usual & were the first to em-

bark on the great expeditions

bound for parts to my unknown.

The 24th the 37th are well dis-

patched away on board the Hermann Van-

derbilt. The wharves are crowded

with barks & the troops rapidly embark-

ing. We unexpectedly lost the best of

Oldenburg's last night by promotion.

I am sorry to have grieve yet am...
glad - He is now sure of a com-
mmission very soon - Col. Poe has
things to suit him now, so he
makes his own promotions. The
Governor confers them far more
the Com. 9th at his leisure.
This removes political influence
from the affairs of the Regt. as Poe
cannot & would not promote any
anyone outside the Regt. as the
Gov. does nothing in the
matter except fill but margin
the papers as directed by our Col.
I believe ours is the only Regt
from the State which controls
wholly its own promotions.
7th Abt. 9th 18__ our boat full of
others which were loaded ending
out onto the stream & ashore
The 87th stole a barrel of whiskey
ball got very drunk & noisy there
fighting all night—Gen. McClellan was down yesterday overseening the movement. He talked with me until an hour or two was heard to promise him good active times for the B——

The Gen. looks thinner than when I last saw him. He was very plainly dressed; but for a yellow sack which occasionally was visible from underneath his overcoat no one would have guessed his rank.

Our Col. is much the best looking man of the two in ability, may be very far behind him. I got up to a room last night—slept well and am much better this A.M. Big boys got in a quarrel with a lot of the 87th this A.M. broke his gun all to pieces on their heads & then went for them with an ax. He was however stopped before he did any further damage——
The men now they are so crowded together are fighting continually. Some of the Yanks were foolish enough to go for gold. For last night but he quickly ended the performance by knocking 3 of them down the hatchway & kicking 2 others after them. We are now anchored about 2 miles above Mathias Point where we are to remain I think for the night. We left the 2nd Moon a pleasant ride I never had. The weather is bright & fine. The scenery beautiful. The river has gradually widened from 1 mile to about 8 miles. The banks are high, steep & thickly settled. We saw several Rebel batteries, all deserted, and saw
small bodies of men. They expected we would land at Agora Creek and accordingly burned a long railroad bridge and wharf at that place together with all the buildings. Only about 2 lots were to be seen.

The boats of this part of the expedition are mostly North River steamers. I am as far as I can remember the Elm City, Vanderbilt, John A. Warner, John Brooks, West Kent, J. V. Arrowsmith, Champion, Canonicus, Pioneer, Gateskill, Naushon, Wissahicon, &c.

Is a large lot of long boats &c. The boats keep near each other & there are frequently 4 or 5 abreast. The gun boats are
We moved down the river during the night & entered the bay soon after sunrise. I saw as soon as I looked out this morning that we were on salt water. The boats rock higher & there was a much broader sheet of creamy, snow white foam on our wake such as I have never seen on fresh water. The bay is also covered with vessels. The shore can just be seen on each side.

At 8 P.M. we are in Hampton Roads. There are some 20 of our war steamers & gun boats anchored here. There is one English war steamer & one French. The Grassande is for some benefit on board.
played the Marseilles Hymn as we passed. There are all-rooms, self advantage in the Roads. The Monitor is here & a most ridiculous looking craft she is. She has a flat open deck, perhaps 2 feet above water, but over which the waves wash continually if there is any sea at all. At the middle of this there is a round cylinder perhaps 10 ft. high & 20 to 25 ft. in diameter. Add a flagstaff & a small anchor pulley & if you have all that is visible of the famous Monitor, make a raft 12 ft. long in all the shape of a pumpkin seed & just a cheese box in the middle of it & you will have a good picture of this novel invention. General Monroe looks all as I expected, there's considerable...
sea running, a good many of
the men are sick.

20th. It rained most of the night
and nearly all day. We landed at 11
P.M. marched 6 a.m. a mile & half
out into an open field where we
arrived at 3 P.M. Our shelter tents
were put up in the midst of a heavy
rain & on the whole the prospect
was dismal. There was a pretty
heavy growth of dry weed &
when an hour they were all
picked & piled into the tents. The
usual quiet of the place was soon
troubled by the characteristic
precipices of the D. There was no timber or
wood within a mile but a man with
1 horse team & large load of wood, not
knowing what he was coming to
attempted to pass on his way to the
D. As soon as the men saw him
They ran & seized harnessed horses by the bit, helped him down from the wagon in a very quick & dexterous manner unloaded the wood of which they soon disposed while the man put his horses to the gallop till he was out of sight. Their next move was to seize 80 oyster boats which had just landed, throw the darkies out of them & carry off the oysters. Next they drove a lot of drakies out of their shanties & took possession. Next they nearly drove some regular crazy who were trying to guard the Hampton bridge! The boys were in 20 minutes across the river to the number of 50 & in short the fame of the De had spread through all the country round about & before dark to such an extent that early
Mar 21st

The Maj. Gen. Wool honored us with a visit. He gave out the news that any man who was again caught at any such performance would be quartered at hard labor for 3 months on the Rפילフィノ．

The day is warm. The trees are around in their shirt sleeves, some are bare footed. Peach trees are in bloom. All are very lazy. This is a very pleasant place. The country has a far more prosperous look than we have before seen. The distance of 100 s is visible in the changed appearance of vegetation. We have seen the live oak for the first time. Pine is the most conspicuous. The leaves are full and shiny. The leaves are full and shiny. The leaves are full and shiny. We find the soldiers here the people generally a good deal frightened.
since the affair with the Merrimac. This pleased our men immensely, they not believing any such thing. The stories they have told to the Regulars are truly astonishing. The Regulars were disposed to put in airs at first but when they heard these wilder able lies, marveled at the assurance with which they were told they were quite overcome. The ruins of Hampden are just across the river. I have not been there but judging from appearance it must have been a place of great beauty. It was one of the oldest villages in the country and was rich in historic associations. The romantic romance which always clusters around old places. The burning of it was one of the most wanton and unnecessary acts which has disgraced the Rebel cause.
I must, although at a late day, mention the kindness generously of the S. Y. 26th. to our Regt. when we were lying on the bare sand at St. Lyn. in that long cold storm of winds and rain. They took in all their tents without, would even have slept out doors themselves to give our men a place. If they would have allowed it.

Their kindness knew no bounds & will long be remembered. I also pay the same tribute to the kindness of the Mack. 1st last night. It is a satisfaction to know that we have done what we could for others on the same line or various occasions.

22. The warm weather of yester brought a heavy thunder shower last night & a cold wind ensuing. The troops coming on rapidly but we shall not move it is said till
the force is increased to 80,000. I hardly understand why an advance was not made direct for Centreville instead of from this point but have no doubt it is all right. It is however known to be a dangerous business to advance from so many different directions on an enemy's post at a central point. Our forces are so numerous that it is now life dangerous. The Monitor is a small unseemly looking craft but without its presence no vessel would feel safe & Hampton Roads. The towering Y4 has to look to her for protection. She is a hard customer. There is not a man to be seen & there is no opening visible except when the guns are to be fired. The fort gets just long enough to allow the gun
to be fired at then clos of ship.

There is nothing to be gained by
getting on to the deck for it can be
swept all over by steam & scalding
water. If they should escape this
there’s only one place where she can
be entered & that only by one man
at a time. They can let steam
enough on to him to scald him
to death in a second.

B2. Land inspection as usual.

The weather is cold & unpleasant.

Portee’s Div. is landing at the wharf.
The living is very rough. Among the new boats
which I have seen are B & pref. Hanny
both very pretty especially the latter.

The men are mostly engaged in
ball & pitching quoits or
are shown at the shore wading after
syst. clams of which they find an
abundance. The enemy are in
gone at Big Bethel abt. 8 miles from here, where we were once defeated, where Major Winthrop & 7 or 8 more very valialbe young officers, were killed. Their pickets are abt 4 miles out. Phe have been down to the shore had a good view up the Elizabeth River to Norfolk & also some 15 miles I should think up James River, Sewells Point, Craney Island & other familiar points are plainly visible as are also several Rebel camps.

24th. It rained moderately last night. At 9 pm, we think up on our left and moved across the neck into what used to be Hampton this on till we made 8 1/2 miles where we halted & took arms No. We are on the road to Rich mon via Big Bethel & Yorktown.
Hampton is said to have been one of the richest, largest, handomest villages of its size in the Union. The houses were all brick and surrounded with trees and very neat yards. The chimneys & corners are all that is left standing. All the farm houses out this for the burned. Edward declared with great sincerity & emphasis to day that he thought soldiering was played out and that he wished he was at home. It does not agree with him. He says "the rain will get through the intiret of the shelter tents." He would slave to death if the boys did not take care of him. He never has anything in his haversack - has no cup - no canteen - no blanket - no shelter tent - no anything which he needs. I am on guard to morrow - loot & I have a small tent - dining is good.
biscuit, salt meat, & coffee are the principal articles. The troops are coming pretty rapidly & I hope we shall move on soon—at least, Poe says if we lie here 10 days longer we shall get whipped. I think it pretty certain that we shall see considerable fighting—Seward's remark about the rain coming through the interstices reminds me of Lt. Telson. C. Bardens remark to his boys on drill, 'That if the cadence of the step was not more accurately observed the drill would be indefinitely prolonged.' Major Underwood has always been very bitter on the abolitionists but he might, he worked more than 3 hours in water up to his waist to help 20 contrabands across the river.
Their way to their Parachute at Forts Monroe. He said they looked so frightened that he had to help them.

25th. There was a hard frost last night. Several Regts. have moved forward this Mqg. for the purpose of driving in the enemy's pickets, giving more room for new Regts. which are constantly arriving. One learns much about soldiering by morning at 4, place to place.

I have seen some very fine looking troops here. Max Weber's German Zouave Rifles (20th N.Y.) a Regt. from Phila. Zouaves quartered in St. Monroe & the other 1st are all richly dressed, much better than we, and are well drilled. They are better in the military than any Regt. I have before seen.
They have always been quartered in nice clean barracks and nothing to do but drill. We can kill them in the field in a month or more work of any kind from a line of battle as quick as all they can do it quickly but not so perfectly. We ask little odds in drilling save on small points which make a Regiment look very pretty and so to be declared but which are unattainable by one which is constantly on active and arduous duty in the field. They will cut short on all that is not absolutely necessary.

The 1st, 2d, 3d, 4th, 5th Regts. Mich. Electric's Independent Regts. are all here together. Michigan is well represented in this part of army. The Ellsworth Avengers are
quartermaster regiment. This regiment is probably composed of the best material of any in the army. There is one man from every town in the State of NY. He is the best one the town afforded. All are picked men.

This stone was given by his Excellency Francis Nicholson Esq., Lieutenant and Governor General of Virginia in memory of Peter Heyman Esq., grandson to St. Peter Heyman of Summerfield in the County of Kent. He was Collector of ye Customs in the Lower District of James River and went voluntarily on board ye King's shipp Shoreham in command of a private ship which greatly infested this coast. After he had behaved himself....
With undaunted courage was killed with a small shot-pie 29 day of April 1700 in a general engagement as he stood next the Governor upon ye Quarter Deck and was here honorably at interred by his Order.

The above was copied literally from a tombstone near Hampton.

The following is the substance of the inscription on another. The stone is a dark hard kind of slate. There is a beautiful coat of arms carved on it.
Vice Admiral John Neville, Beg of his Majesty's Fleet, and Commander of the 29th Squadron cruising in the West Indies — Died 1697.

One of Majoris contrabands died last night; Twenty-two of them started from Richmond; Eleven were shot by the Rebels; one died last night — 11 remain. 26th. An idle day for us. A heavy storm is evidently coming on — I took a stroll through the ruins of Hampton this morning. I visited the ruins of one of the first churches built in this country — Nothing reminds one more forcibly of the utter desolation than the ruins of this venerable building, the tombstones overthrown.
walls broken down the place
where the dead have quietly
rested for 180 years laid open to
common. Gen. McClellan
will be down to-night also
Gen. Richardson & his Dist.

They are unloading Art. & Stores
as fast as possible at the Wharf.

We have not many days more to wait.

27th. There was a light flurry
of snow last night but the day
has been very fine. Smith's & Porter's
Owens advanced this M. & are reported
in possession of Big Bethel. We had to
drill this A.M. & Bat. P.M. I met
a number of the men are sick
with bowel complaints. All are
very anxious to advance.

28th. Drilling same as
yesterday weather warm for
living hard crackers & coffee.
This is a very good diet but there is a great deal of sameness about it. They will take nothing but gold or silver down here, that is something we don't get. Furthermore, they will not let us out of camp to buy anything. Military law has closed it too dangerous to get provisions on ordinary occasion without pay. I have indeed no great and of money & the least have none at all. There is a frequent report of straggling a day or two. Our troops were 5 miles 'round Big Bethel yesterday killing 3 men & 1 officer. Troops are still rapidly coming in. The land is almost perfectly level country.
around here offers a strange contrast to what it was around
New & Washington.

29th Jam on Brigade

guard. There was a shower of
rain & high wind last night
& the Maj was very cold & raw.
It commenced raining still more
in a very cold during same with
occasional hail began at
noon & has fallen with slight
intervals till now 8 PM when
it is raining hard. Had the
ghastly prospect of lying out
all night without shelter.

Col. Terry 69 Condo? Brigade
sent orders to dismiss the guard
I thank him for that. There was
no use of keeping them out.
The outlying parties will pro-
ceed from the enemy & no one
will leave camp in much wetter weather. We'll reach the mouth of the river by noon, and at 3 P.M., I'll have a song time. Our men have learned to keep fairly comfortable shelter tents.

7 1/2 ft. long
3 1/2 ft. high
6 ft. wide.

They are made open at both ends but they close up one end with sods. In this way they are expected to hold 4 men with a little crowding. At 10 o'clock I came off guard and went to bed. I have been shivering around wet and cold till about 3 a.m. when we succeeded in building a small fire in our tent. We soon dried out.
feet & the feet became warm.  

The damp ground was in a 

creased shade wholesome & 
our personal comfort was 
soon greatly increased – 

31st. The weather was 

fair. My bowels are turned 

upside down & the contents are 

running out at a double quick.

Benson is on the sick list 

but I will not join in as yet. 

In fact I am better to night. 

I had too, drill this morn, but am 

now detailed on general com-

mardial.

April 1st 1862.

If I had not been on board 

Martial this to day I fear I 

should have been obliged to 

go on the sick list – I got 

some medicine this morn.
which stopped the diarrhea but I have vomited more less than eleven times today. I have nevertheless discharged my duty at the Court Martial thus saving myself from a list which I have never yet been on. The wind is cold there is another storm coming one can never believe reports in these quarters I supposed McClellan was here long ago but I doubt whether he has yet come. The 2nd Provost Marshal & Court Martial will make hot work with the "brainfever". The 2 will have to restrain its propensities.
I think Gen. McClellan is surely here at last in as much as an order came from him at noon countermanding a review ordered by Gen. Halleck. Afternoon I say that he had other business for us. I am still as well but not so bad as yesterday. I am determined to get well before the advance which I think will soon be made. I am going with the 1st to start with the Regt. If I die by the roadside the first day I attended court martial as usual. The weather is cold snow but the expected storm has not yet come.

I am better today but not entirely well. Some four or five men were sent to the Gen. Took this Orig. This lying on the ground.
all the time is similar in its effects & the diseases it produces to those caused by moving into a new country. In the other case the air is more impregnated with disease but the exposure is less. I was on Court Martial as usual. The Dr. Mr. is sick & Leward is acting. He will do as well in that place & wish he might remain. I suspect we shall advance tomorrow. I know nothing positively but have good reason to believe such is the case. I sincerely hope it is. I think numerous things. Mr. the Conducting of the war which I will not speak of just as I write this the Adjutant comes to inform me that we move at 7 A.M. tomorrow.
Apr. 4 1862

Dear Brother,

We are off as you see this Aug. The weather is beautiful. We go joyfully and with high hopes. I am quite well again. I knew I should be before we left. If I should meet with any mishaps Capt. Benson will present to you my note for $100.00 for payment. I have lent him $14.00 which is not included and $36.00 are owing to me here which he will try to do as quickly as he can. I desire you in this case to pay the balance from my money. The balance of which you will appropriate.
to your own use in such manner as you deem best.
If I should fall, which I have little expectation I pray that you will at an early period have any remains removed to Michigan or any loyal State for burial.

In the mean time feel no concern. Please write often. I will write as often as circumstances will permit.

My very sincere love to Father, Eliza, Yourself and all.

Char. B. Kegdon.
March 16th, 1865.

John W. Sheare, Capt.

Promoted 1st of K. New York

William Noble, Capt. May 20th.

To be 2nd Lt. C. G.

1st Lt. R. D. Johnston, 60th Col. to be 1st Lt. Major.

2nd Lt. T. M. Whiting to be 1st Lt. Col. 1st.

Corp. Geo. A. Turnbow to be 1st Lt. Col. 2nd.

Prof. Silas M. Daken to be Corp. 2nd.
This Regt has not received as follows per Capt. Bunker Schneider in dept.

for Capt. May in Dec.

one Capt. Rand, the 3d of June, burnt Brodrick in March.

by adjutant Col. O.M. Poe

" " Lieut. Col. Bevan

" " Lt. Col. Whiting

Left

Left Detroit with

Rec. 1st Recruits

Mech. 2nd John S. Wines died of cause consumption.

Mech. 3rd Perry 2d M. Sept 24th

Lest, of 99.

Mech. 14th Capt. R. H. Eldred

Lt. K. died of brain fever, Georgetown hospital.
Meh 7th. Reigned St. col. Sg.

Meh 8th. Col. Sg.

Meh 8th. Maj. W. Williams to

Meh 8th. Capt. Louis Dillman of Co. B.

to be Maj.

Adjt. Enos Morse of Co. D.

2d Lt. R. C. Mahon of Co. K.

Adjt. of 1st Lt.

2d Lt. F. Barnard of Co. F of the

1st Lt. of Co. G.

C. W. Stevenson of Co. K.

g to be 2d Lt. of Co. K.

K. O. Johnson of 5th Lt.

de. D., to be 1st Lt., of Co. A.

c. D., to be 5th Lt., same Co.

Capt. Ed. R. Prentice of Co. B.

to be 5th Lt., same Co.

 Pvt. Maurice Olive of Co. D., to be Corp.
Watson Ready E
Up Park
Bluff, IL
W. Paris