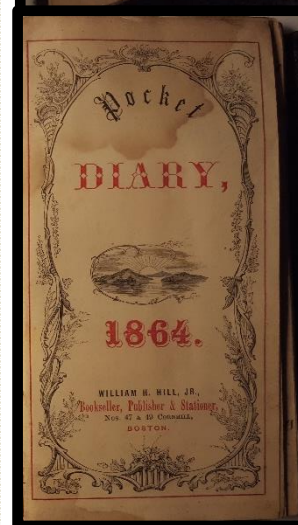


Inside inscription:

Notice to whom it
may concern:

Should this simple
record fall into
the hands of a
stranger, be he
friend or foe
please return the
same to me, or
forward it to my
address for the
benefit of my
friends in case
of my death,
which is
George R. Comey
Hopkinton Mass.



Notice to whom it may concern
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***George Royal Comey – Hopkinton, Massachusetts
1864 Pocket Diary – 15th Mass Battery Light Artillery
As transcribed by Jane Hallett © 2018***

ABOUT THE DIARY

The following is a transcript of my great, great grandfather, George Royal Comey's 1864 Civil War Diary. It chronicles a complete year in service.

Because George and his wife, Celinda, both died by the time their children were only 4 and 6, it is remarkable that this diary survived and was eventually passed down to through the family. My grandfather, Harvey Dyer Comey, passed away when my mother was young, so we have relied mostly on information found in Allen H. Bent's "[Comey-Comee Family in America](#)"¹ genealogy register to piece together the family history. As mentioned in [Bent's register](#), nearly all of the information about George's branch of the family was furnished by George's brother, Albert.

I have opted to insert punctuation and my best guess at some of the more illegible text. My apologies for any misinterpretations, errors and omissions. My goal is to make this diary available to the Comey family and other interested parties to better understand the sacrifices made during the American Civil War. The language, references to others and opinions expressed in the diary itself, belong solely to George Royal Comey, and no one else. This version is being shared for educational use only.

The following books have also been written about other Comey patriots.

Canavan, M.J., [Ben Comee: A Tale of Rogers's Rangers, 1758-59](#). NY: The MacMillan Company, 1922²

Comey, Lyman Richard, [A Legacy of Valor: The Memoirs and Letters of Captain Henry Newton Comey](#) The University of Tennessee Press, 2004³

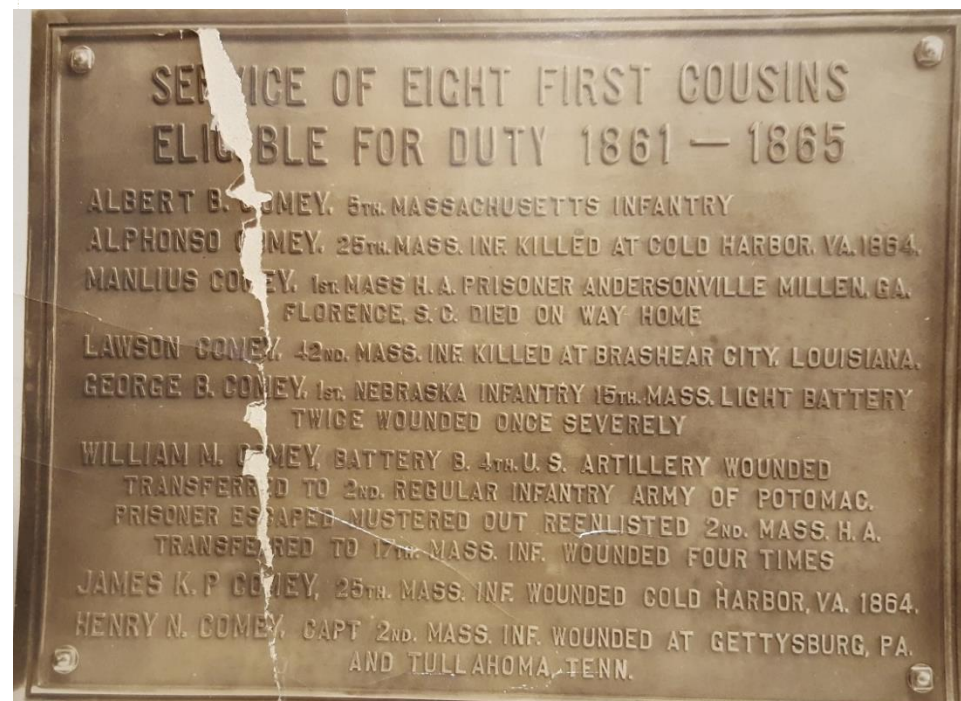


Photo courtesy of Comey family,

The plaque (pictured above) is installed at the Comey Chapel at Evergreen Cemetery, and an identical copy was erected at Phillips Exeter Academy in New Hampshire.

Special acknowledgement to Claire Wright and Ronald and Katherine Yankee of the Hopkinton Historical Society, for sharing information about the Comey family homestead and the Comey Chapel in the Woodville village of Hopkinton.

INTRODUCTION TO THE DIARY

On New Year's Day in 1864, George Royal Comey enlisted into the United States Service for three years. Within a few weeks, about a dozen other men from Hopkinton also mustered into two regiments destined for service in New Orleans. George and two other local men were assigned to the [15th Massachusetts Volunteer Light Artillery Battery](#) (often referred in the diary as "the 15th"). The others were assigned to the [26th Regiment Massachusetts Volunteer Infantry](#)⁴ ("the 26th" is also mentioned frequently throughout the diary).

After nearly a month of preparation at the [Camp Wightman](#) in Long Island, Boston Harbor, these men boarded the vessel, "Ashland," for their trip south. General Banks had recently assumed command of the Defenses of New Orleans to protect this important economic and strategic port city.⁵ At the beginning of 1864, New Orleans was under Union control since it's capture nearly 2 years before. At this time, companies of the 15th and 26th Regiments were quartered at different cotton presses within the city.

Seven months after George's arrival in New Orleans, the men of the 15th Regiment were then ordered to travel up the Mississippi by steamboat to White River, Ark., then Devall's Bluff, Ark., and eventually spent December in Memphis.⁶

During 1864, the 15th Regiment saw little battle, but endured the daily rigors of living in close quarters under damp conditions accompanied by mosquitos and rats. George's entries include his own bouts with illness and the death and disease of fellow servicemen throughout the year. During their years of service, the 15th lost 28 men. 27 of the men were killed by disease.⁷ In 1865, George's company travelled to Kennersville, LA, Greenville, LA, Pensacola, FL and Blakely, Alabama.⁴ "A wound caused by the bursting of a shell at the siege of Blakely, Ala., in April 1865, eventually caused his death."¹

ABOUT GEORGE COMEY'S FAMILY

According to [Bent's register](#), George Comey's great grandparents settled in Hopkinton about the time of the Revolutionary War. For the next 50 years the Comey family grew, and in the generation leading up to the Civil War, 23 first Comey cousins were born. 18 of them, in Hopkinton. Though George's three uncles remained in Hopkinton to farm and work in the local factories, George's father, Albert, started his family in a neighboring town.

In 1839, George's father left his wife and their young children, to travel to the independent territory of Texas. At the time, George was five years old and his siblings were: Albert Jr. (age 7), Ann (age 3) and Marietta (age 1). While in the unsettled territory of Texas, the accounts indicated that "the Indians at this time were particularly uneasy, so that he not only lost everything, but was forced to flee to the wilderness, and for two years he endured all sorts of hardships." Months after George's father left, George's mother gave birth to her fifth child, and then sadly passed away two months later. When George's father returned to New England, "he found that his wife had died and that his family had been broken up."¹

The record does not indicate if George remained in contact with his father after Albert returned to New England. George's father remarried in 1843, and had two more children with his second wife in Pawtucket, Rhode Island. Then in 1850, George's father headed West for the California Gold Rush. His father eventually returned to Rhode Island, and lived to be 77 years old.

Since George and his siblings eventually married Hopkinton residents, it is likely that George and his siblings were raised by other local family members after his mother's death, and did not live with father or their stepmother in Rhode Island.

ABOUT GEORGE ROYAL COMEY

Absent of information about George's childhood, [Bent's register](#) picks up when George was 23. The register indicates that George was "with Gen. Albert Sidney Johnston's expedition to Utah in 1857 and 1858 to restore order among the Mormons who were in open revolt against the American government."

A timeline of the war reflects that on November 3, 1857, Col. Albert Sidney Johnston ordered his regiment to spend the winter in Fort Bridget in Wyoming. In June 1858, as the majority of Johnston's Army set off for Salt Lake City, two companies of troops remained behind and established Fort Bridger as an official Army post. The other troops continued on and eventually established Camp Floyd south of Salt Lake City.⁸

[Bent's register](#) states "Later he was with a surveying party with a "wilder" part of the West. "Without supporting evidence, it is estimated that George was between the ages of 25-26 at that time. An 1860 map shows Both Fort Bridger and Camp Floyd as [Pony Express](#) stations.

When George was 27, President Lincoln took office and the territory of Nebraska organized the First Nebraska Infantry. This infantry combined companies from the Nebraska Territory counties and Iowa. [George's record from](#) the Adjutant General's Office shows George enlisted in the First Nebraska Infantry at Omaha City on June 18, 1861. The card lists his name as George "B." Comey and describes him as 5'9" with gray eyes, brown hair and dark complexion. He was in service with the E company through August 18, 1862, when he was honorably discharged due to ill health.⁹

The 1st Nebraska, served in the forces under Ulysses S. Grant and participated in the successful attack on Fort Donelson in Tennessee and then fought at the Battle of Shiloh in April 1862. It then participated in several minor engagements in Missouri and Arkansas. The regiment was redesignated the 1st Regiment Nebraska Volunteer Cavalry on November 6, 1863.¹⁰

ABOUT GEORGE R. COMEY (continued)

After his service with the 1st Nebraska, George then came back "East." In 1863, the genealogy shows that George married his first cousin, Celinda. He was 29 and she was 21. On January 1, 1864, George enlisted in the 15th Massachusetts Light Artillery Battery.

His wife Celinda remained in Hopkinton and gave birth to their daughter Achsah, in September of 1864, when George was still in New Orleans. In 1866, Celinda gave birth to her son, Walter. Celinda died in 1868, when their children were just 2 and 4.

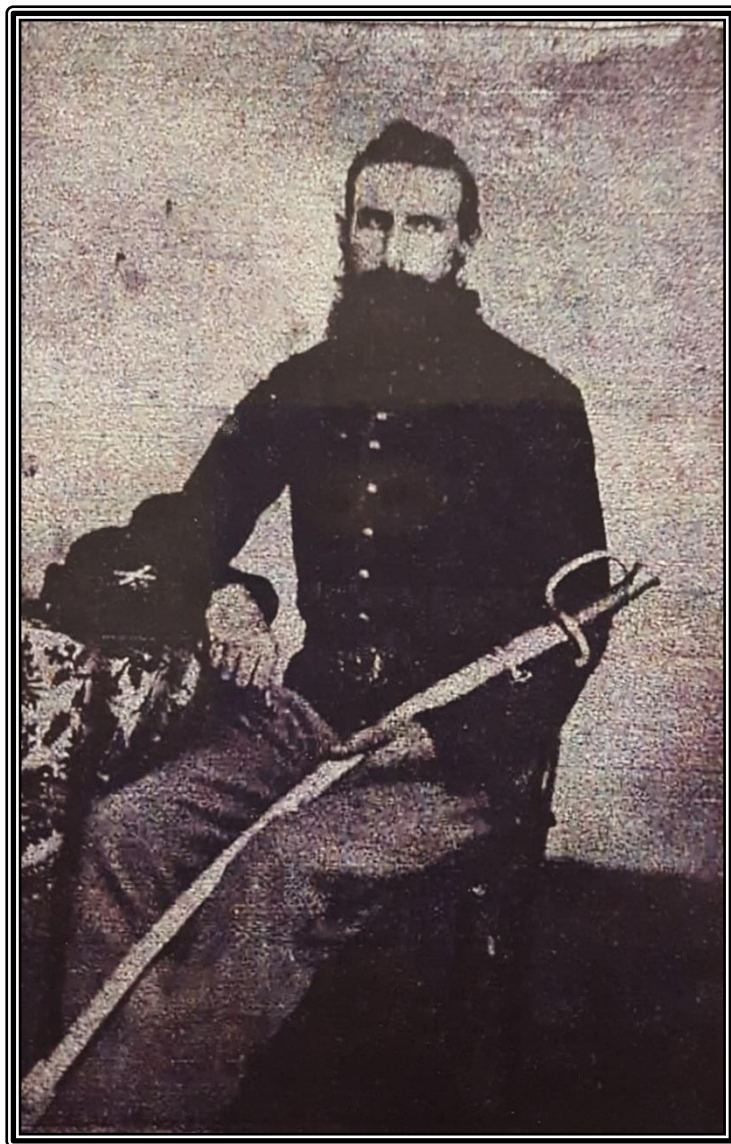
George died a few years after his injuries from the Siege of Blakely. The children were 4 and 6 at this time. It appears guardianship was given to James and Sabrina Palmer of Hopkinton. A Massachusetts record of name changes indicate that Acsah's name was changed from Axie L. to Axie Comey Palmer,¹¹ and the 1880 census shows both Acsah and Walter living with Palmers in Hopkinton. Sabrina Palmer's maiden name was Adams, and her mother maiden name was Joanna Rockwood. Sabrina may have been related to George's comrade in the 15th, George Rockwood.

Context for diary references:

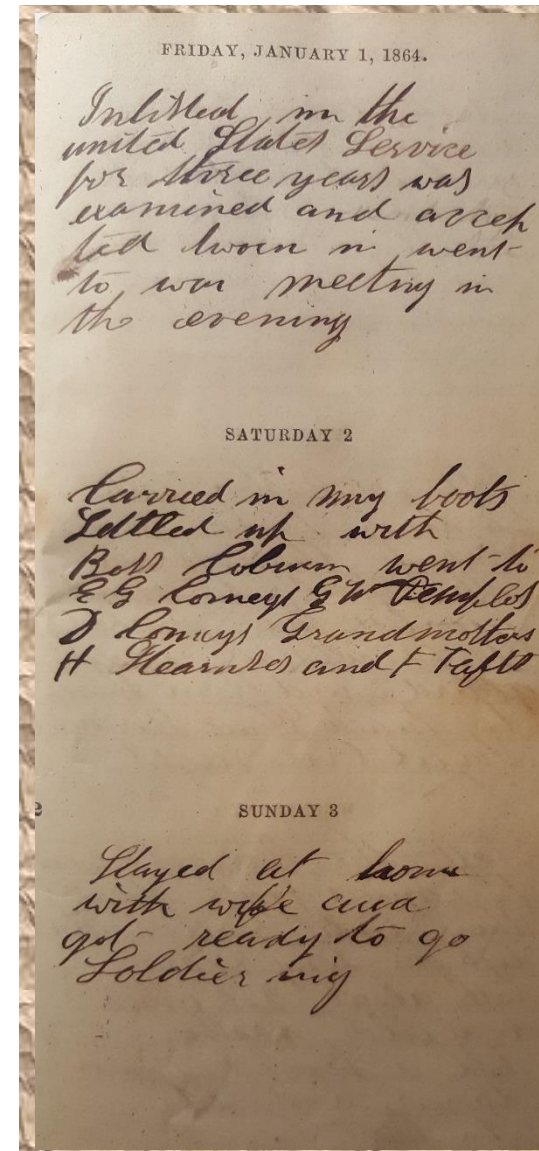
The "Woodville Boys" is a reference to the men from the Woodville village of Hopkinton. George Rockwood, Amos Bates, and then later, Jack Young were the few Hopkinton men assigned to the 15th. During their time in New Orleans, they visit members of the 26th Regiment from Hopkinton and Lieut. Russell O. Houghton from Lunenburg.

The names in the diary that can be found in the Massachusetts Soldiers, Sailors and Marines in the Civil War Compiled and Published by The Adjutant General are highlighted in green and red. See an excerpted listing in Appendices B and C.

Key: **Green = 15th Regiment, Red = 26th Regiment.**
Please excuse any errors or omissions.



Unidentified family photo, believed to be George R. Comey



FRIDAY, JANUARY 1, 1864.

Enlisted in the
United States Service
for three years was
examined and accep-
ted sworn in went
to war meeting in
the evening

SATURDAY 2

Carried in my boots
settled up with
Boss Coburn went to
E.G. Comey G.W.
J. Comey's Grandmothers
H. Stearnes and F. Tafts

SUNDAY 3

Stayed at home
with wife and
got ready to go
Soldiering

Friday, January 1

Enlisted in the United States Service for three years. Was examined and accepted. Sworn in. Went to war meeting in the evening.

Saturday January 2

Carried in my boots. Settled up with Boss Coburn.* Went to E.G. Comey. G.W. [illegible] [?] Comey's Grandmothers H [Stearns] and F Tafts.*

- * Boss Coburn is likely a reference to one of the main shoe manufacturers in Hopkinton during this time period.
- * Elbridge G. Comey was George's uncle.
- * Celinda's sisters married into the Stearns and Taft families.

Sunday January 3

Stayed at home with wife and got ready to go soldiering.

Monday, January 4

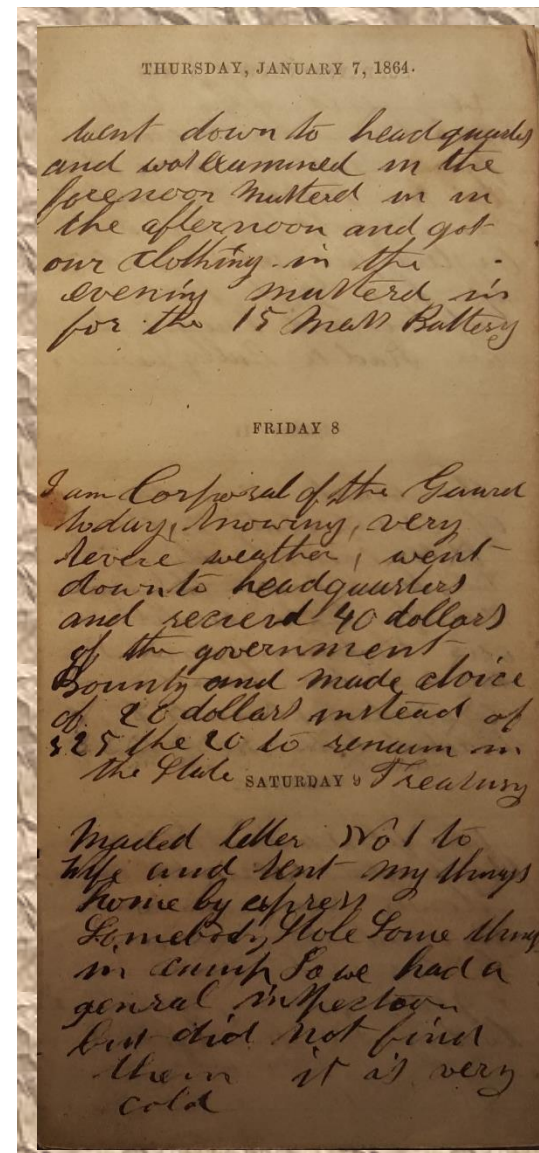
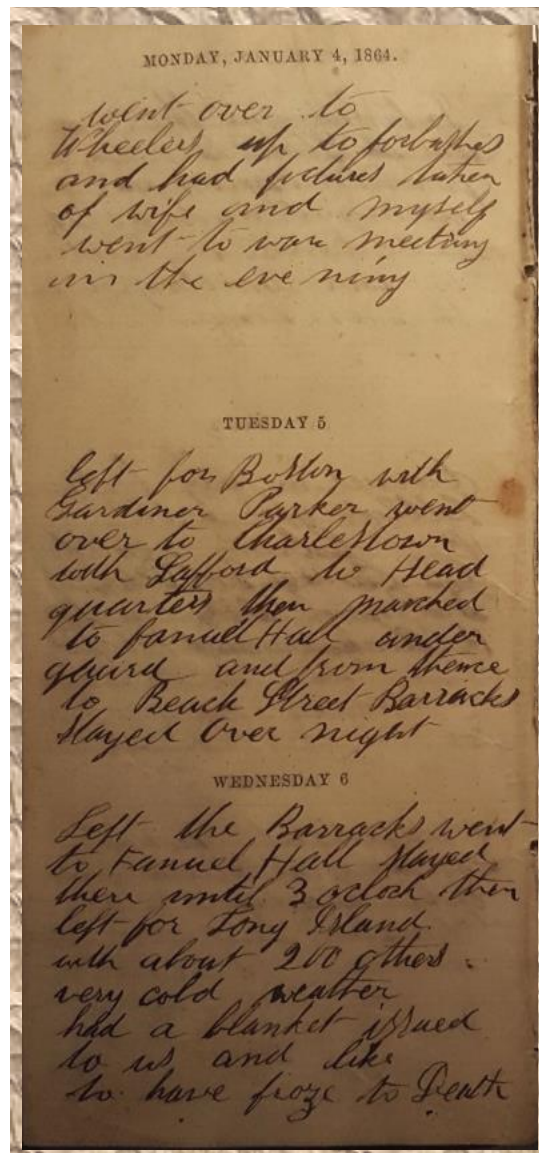
Went over to Wheelers up to [forbashes?] and had pictures taken of wife and myself.
Went to war meeting in the evening.

Tuesday, January 5

Left for Boston with Gardiner Parker. Went over to Charlestown with [Lafford] to headquarters then marched to Faneuil Hall under guard and from thence to Beach Street Barracks. Stayed over night.

Wednesday January, 6

Left the Barracks. Went to Faneuil Hall. Stayed there until 3 o'clock then left for [Long Island](#) with about 200 others. Very cold weather. Had a blanket issued to us and like to have froze to death.

**Thursday, January 7**

Went down to headquarters and was examined in the forenoon. Mustered in, in the afternoon and got our clothing in the evening. Mustered in for the 15 Mass Battery.

Friday, January 8

I am Corporal of the Guard today. Snowing. Very severe weather. Went down to headquarters and received 40 dollars of the government Bounty and made choice of \$20 dollars instead of \$25. The 20 to remain in the State Treasury.

Saturday, January 9

Mailed letter No 1 to wife and sent my things home by express. Somebody stole some things in camp, so we had a general inspection but did not find them. It is very cold.

Left the Barracks. Went to Faneuil Hall. Stayed there until 3 o'clock then left for Long Island with about 200 others.

Sunday, January 10

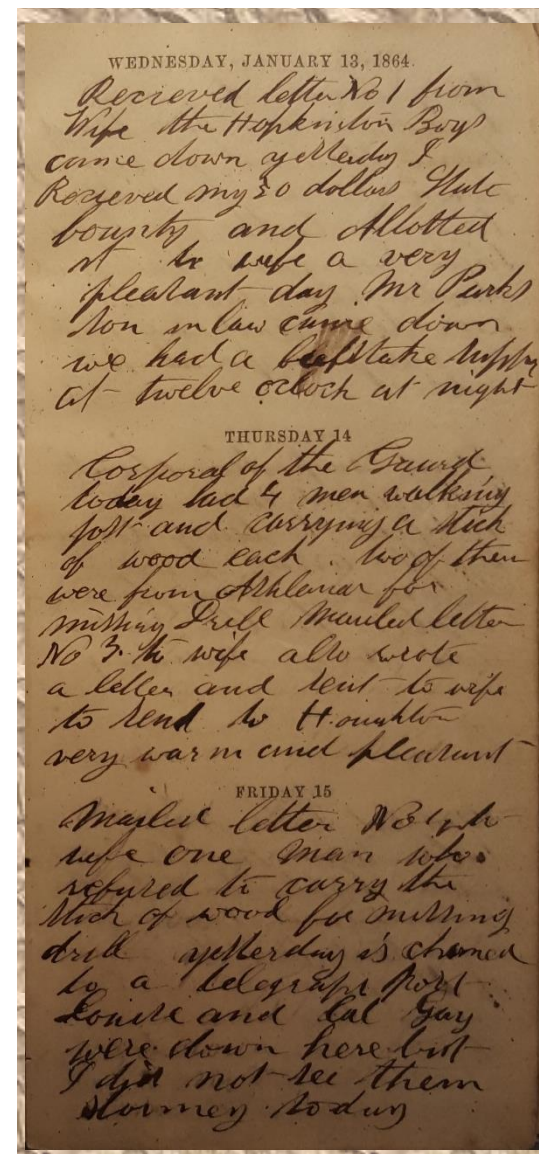
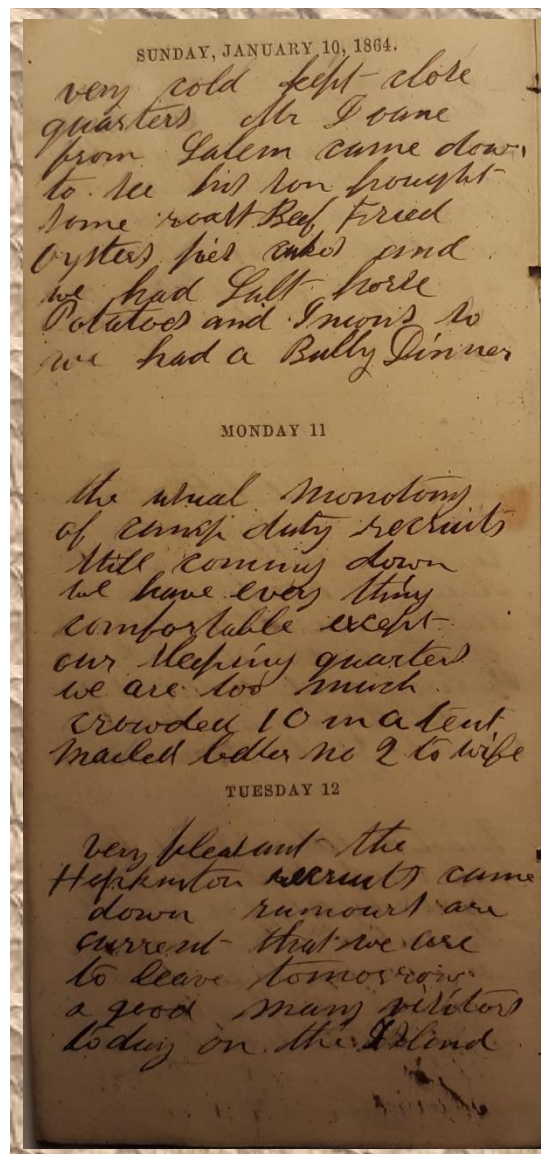
Very cold kept close quarters. Mr. Doane came from Salem. Came down to see his son. Brought some roast beef, fried oysters, pies, cakes and we had salt pork, potatoes and onions so we had a bully dinner.

Monday, January 11

The usual monotony of camp duty. Recruits still coming down. We have everything comfortable except asleep in quarters we are too much crowded. 10 in a tent. Mailed letter No 2 to wife.

Tuesday, January 12

Very pleasant. The Hopkinton recruits came down. Rumours are current that we are to leave tomorrow. A good many visitors today on the island.

**Wednesday, January 13**

Received letter No 1 from wife. The Hopkinton boys came down yesterday. I received my 20 state bounty and allotted it to wife. A very pleasant day. Mr. Parks' son-in-law came down. We had beefsteak supper at 12 o'clock at night.

Thursday, January 14

Corporal of the Guard today. Had 4 men walking post and carrying a stick of wood each. Two of them were from Ashland*, for missing drill. Mailed letter No 3 to wife. Also wrote a letter and sent to wife to send to **Houghton**. Very warm and pleasant.

*Town of Ashland, MA

Friday, January 15

Mailed letter No 4 to wife. One man who refused to carry the stick of wood for missing drill yesterday is chained to a telegraph post. [Conise?] and [Cal Gay?] were down here, but I did not see them today. Stormy today.

Saturday, January 16

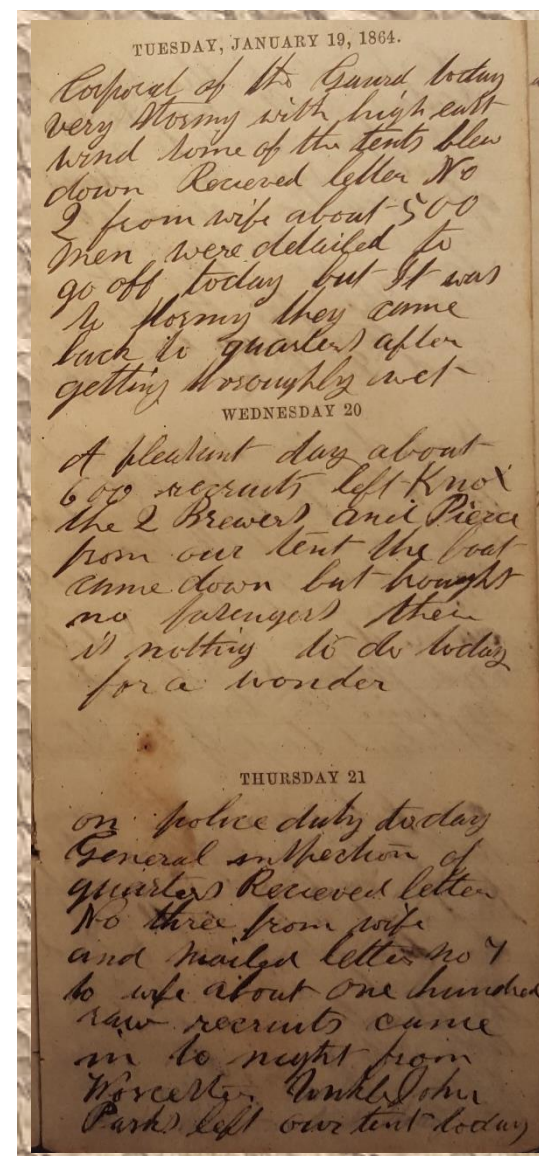
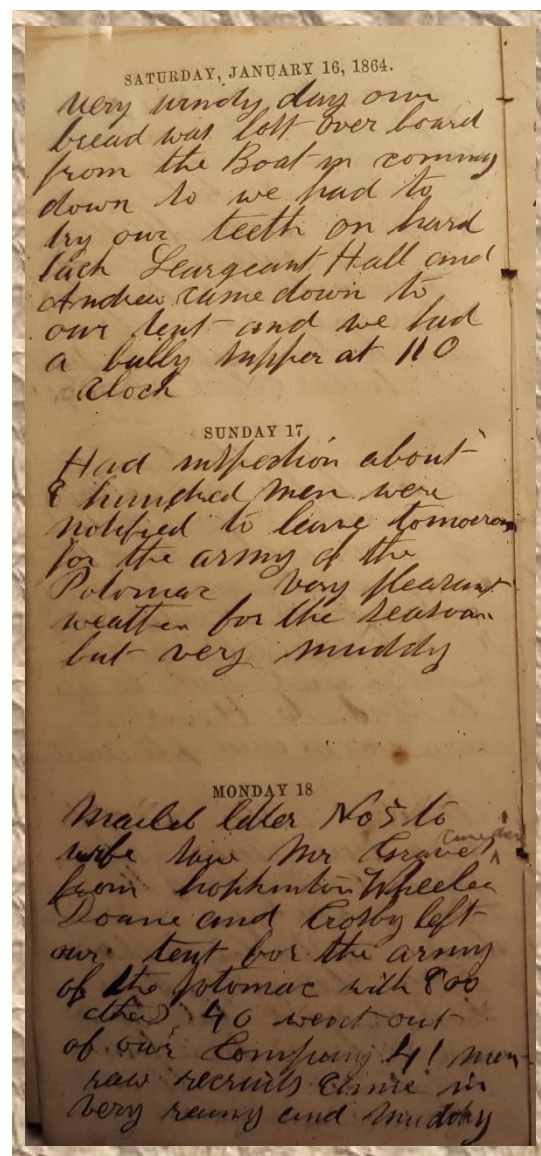
Very windy day. Our bread was lost over board from the boat in coming down, so we had to try our teeth on hard tack. Sergeant Hall and Andrew came down to our tent and we had a bully supper at 11 o'clock.

Sunday, January 17

Had inspection about 8 hundred men were notified to leave tomorrow for the Army of the Potomac. Very pleasant weather for the season but very muddy.

Monday, January 18

Mailed letter No 5 to wife. Saw Mr. Graves from Hopkinton. Wheeler, Doane and Crosby left our tent for the army of the Potomac with 800 others. 40 went out of our company. 41 men. Raw recruits came in. Very rainy and muddy.



Tuesday, January 19

Corporal of the Guard today. Very stormy with high east wind. Some of the tents blew down. Received letter No 2 from wife. About 500 men were detailed to go off today, but it was so stormy they came back to quarters after getting thoroughly wet.

Wednesday, January 20

A pleasant day. About 600 recruits left Knox. The 2 Brewers and Pieza from our tent. The boat came down but brought no passengers. There is nothing to do today for a wonder.

Thursday, January 21

On police duty today. General inspection of the quarters. Received letter No 3 from wife and mailed letter No 7 to wife. About 100 raw recruits came in tonight from Worcester. [illegible] John Parks left our tent today.

Friday, January 22

Corporal of the Guard today. Called out to have everything ready to go south. Saw [Geo Adams?] of Marlboro. About 40 recruits came in today. Very pleasant weather for the season. Our tent flaps took fire and [illegible].

Saturday, January 23

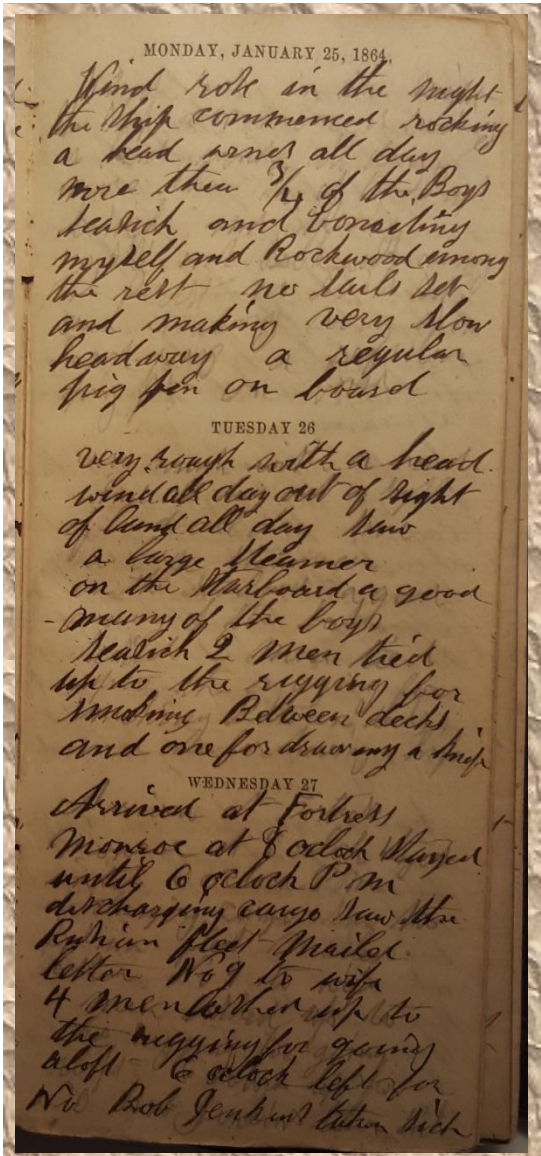
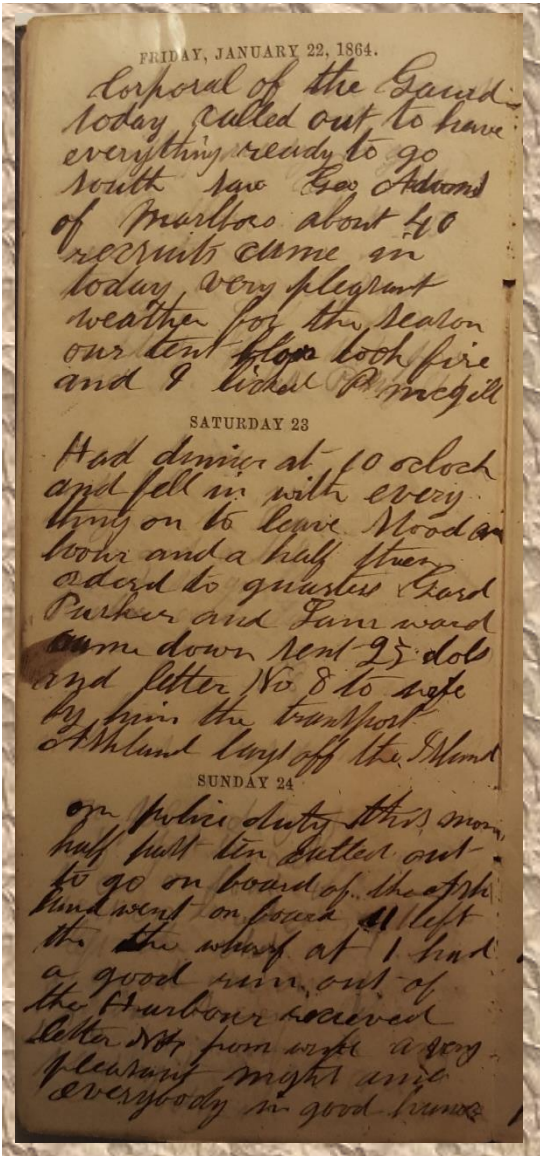
Had dinner at 10 o'clock and fell in with everything on to leave [illegible] hour and a half then ordered to quarters. [Gardner] Parker and [Lanward?] came down. Sent 25 dols and letter No 8 to wife by him. [illegible to transport?] Ashland* boys off the island.

*Town of Ashland, MA

Sunday, January 24

On police duty this morning. Half past ten [ordered?] out to go on board of the Ashland** and went on board. We left the wharf at 1. Had a good run out of the harbour. Received letter No 4 from wife. A very pleasant night and everybody in good humor.

** Sea vessel, Ashland



Monday, January 25

Wind rolled in the night. The ship commenced rocking. A head wind all day. More than 3/4 of the boys seasick and [vomiting]. Myself and Rockwood among the rest. No tails set and making very slow headway. A regular pig pen on board.

Tuesday, January 26

Very rough with a head wind all day. Out of sight of land all day. Saw a large steamer on the starboard. A good many of the boys seasick. 2 men tied to the rigging for [smoking] between decks and one for drawing a knife.

Wednesday, January 27

Arrived at Fortress Munroe at 6 o'clock PM. Discharging cargo. Saw the [R_illegible] fleet. Mailed letter No 9 to wife. 4 men lashed up to the rigging for going aloft. 6 o'clock left for New Orleans. Bob Jenkins taken sick.

Thursday, January 28

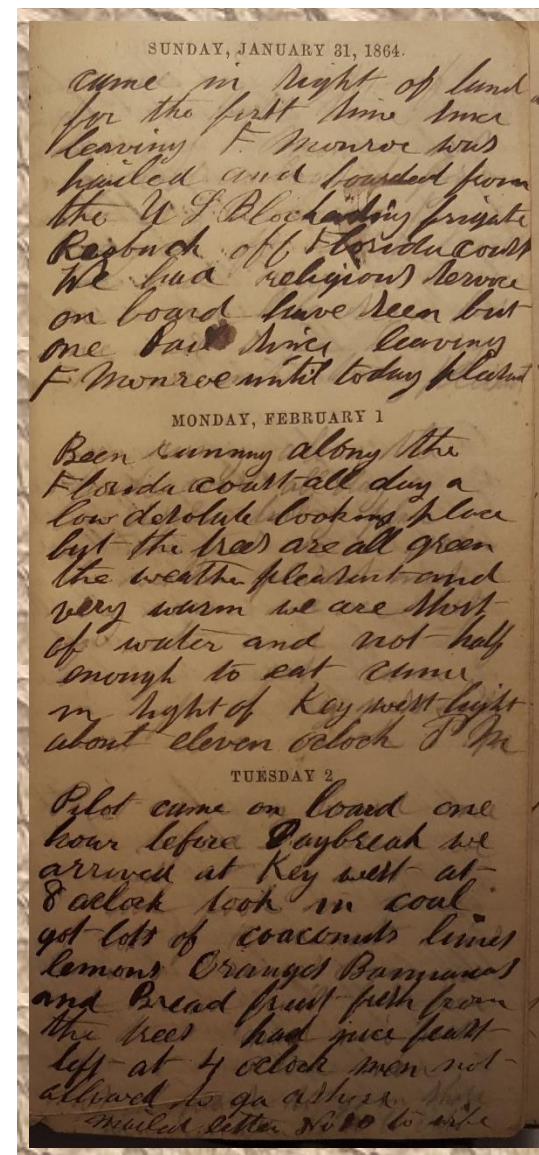
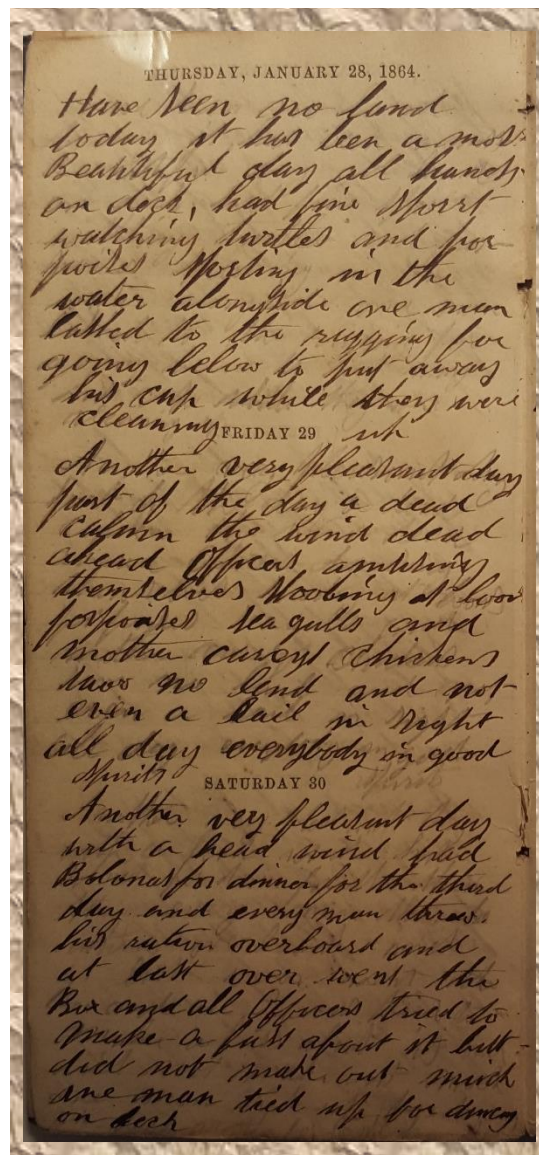
Have seen no land today. it has been a most beautiful day. All hands on deck. Had fine [illegible] watching turtles and porpoises [illegible] in the water. Alongside one man lashed to the rigging for going below to put away his [cup?] while they were cleaning up.

Friday, January 29

Another very pleasant day. First of the day a dead calm. The wind dead ahead. Officers amusing themselves looking at loons, porpoises, seagulls and another [carrying] chickens. Saw no land and not even a sail in sight all day. Everybody in good spirits.

Saturday, January 30

Another very pleasant day with a head wind. Had bolonas for dinner for the third day and every man threw his ration overboard and at last, over went the box and all officers tried to make a fuss about it but did not make out much. One man tied up for [illegible] on deck.

**Sunday, January 31**

Came in sight of land for the first time since leaving Fort Munroe. Was hailed over and boarded from the US Blockading frigate [Resbuck?] off Florida coast. We had a religious service on board. Have seen but one since leaving Fort Munroe until today. Pleasant.

Monday, February 1

Have been running along the Florida coast all day a low desolate looking place, but the trees are all green. The weather pleasant and very warm. We are short of water and not half enough to eat. Came in sight of Key West light about eleven o'clock PM.

Tuesday, February 2

Pilot came on board one hour before daybreak. We arrived at Key West at 8 o'clock. Took in coal. Got lots of coconuts limes, lemons, oranges, bananas and bread fruit, fresh from the trees. Had nice feast. Left at 4 o'clock men not allowed to go to ashore. Mailed letter number 10 to wife.

Wednesday, February 3

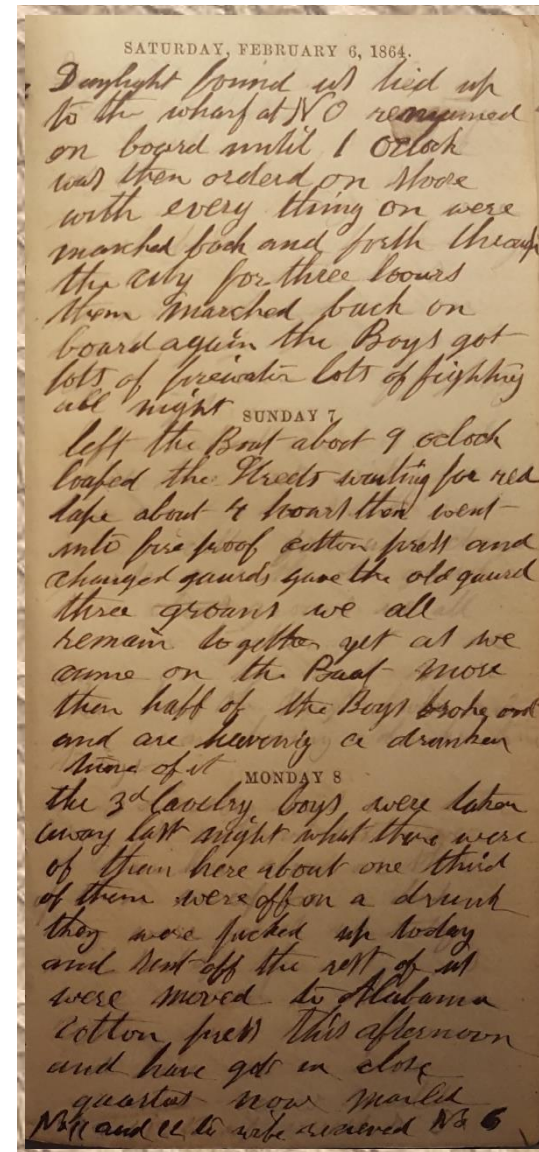
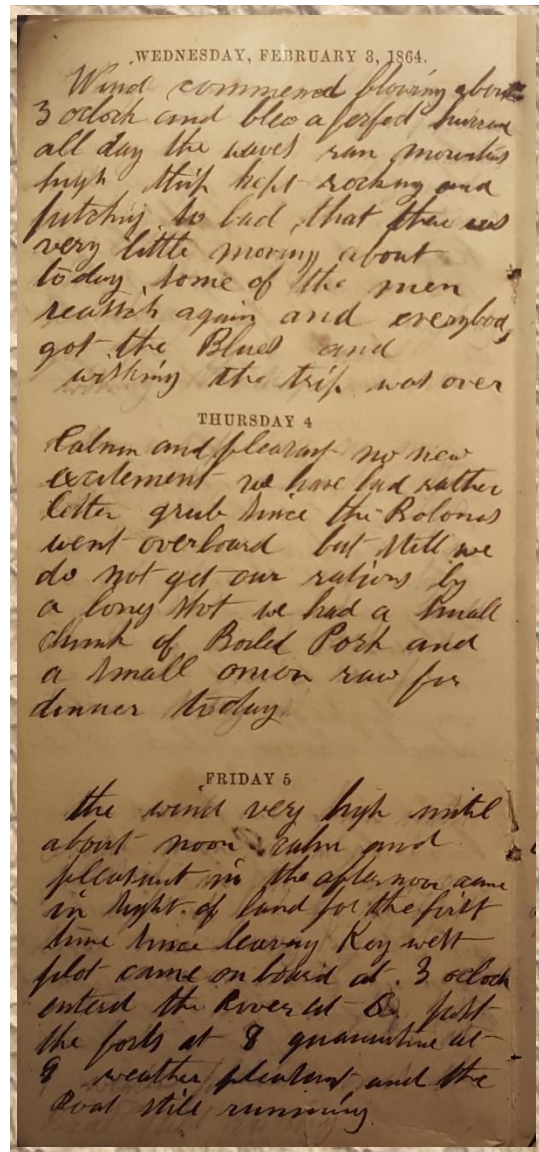
Wind commenced blowing about 3 o'clock and blew a [illegible] hurricane all day. The waves ran [mountains] high. Ship kept rocking and pitching so bad that there was very little moving about today. Some of the men seasick again and everyone got the blues and wishing the trip was over.

Thursday February 4

Calm and pleasant. No new excitement. We had had rather little grub since the Bolonas went overboard, but still we do not get our rations by a long shot. We had a small chunk of boiled pork and a small onion, raw, for dinner today.

Friday, February 5

The wind very high until about noon. Calm and pleasant in the afternoon. Came in sight of land for the first time since leaving Key West. Pilot came on board at 3 o'clock. Entered the river at 6. Past the forts at 8 [quarantine?] at 9. Weather pleasant and the boat still running.

**Saturday, February 6**

Daylight found us tied up to the wharf at New Orleans. Remained on board until 1 o'clock. Was then ordered on [move] with everything on. Were marched back and forth through the city for three hours. Then marched back on board again. The boys got lots of firewater. Lots of fighting all night.

Sunday, February 7

Left the boat about 9 o'clock. Loafed the streets waiting for red tape. About 4 hours then went onto [Fire Proof Cotton Press](#) and changed guards. Gave the old guard three groans. We all remain together, yet as we came on the boat more than half of the boys broke out and are having a drunken time of it.

Monday, February 8

The 3rd Cavalry boys were taken away last night. What there were of them. Here about one third of them were on a drunk. They were [fd] up today and sent off. The rest of us were moved to [Alabama Cotton Press](#) this afternoon and have got in close quarters now. Mailed No 11 and 12 to wife and received No 6.

Were marched back and forth through the city for three hours. Then marched back on board again.

Tuesday, February 9

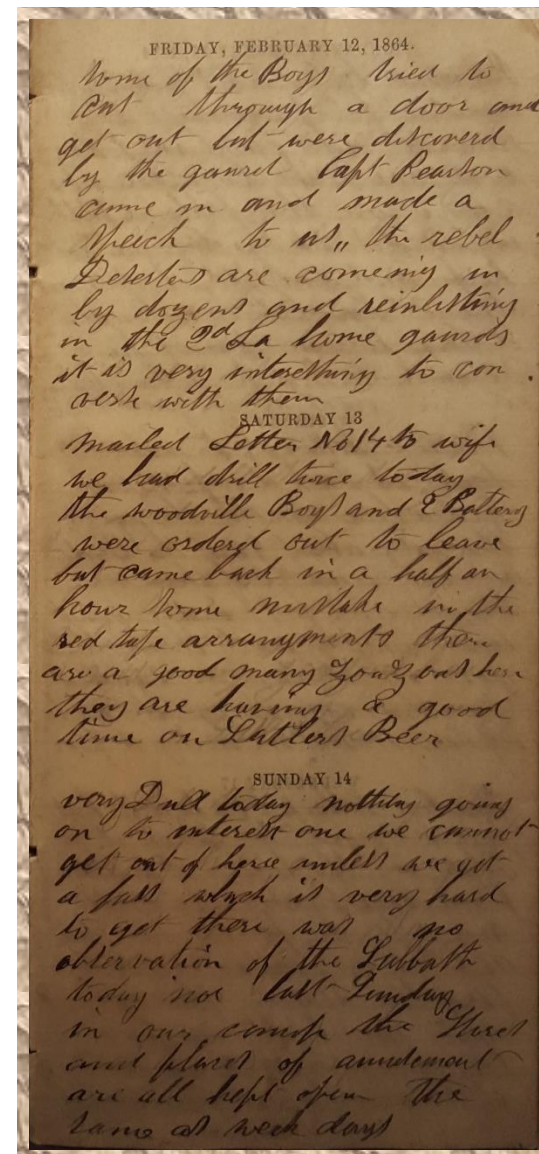
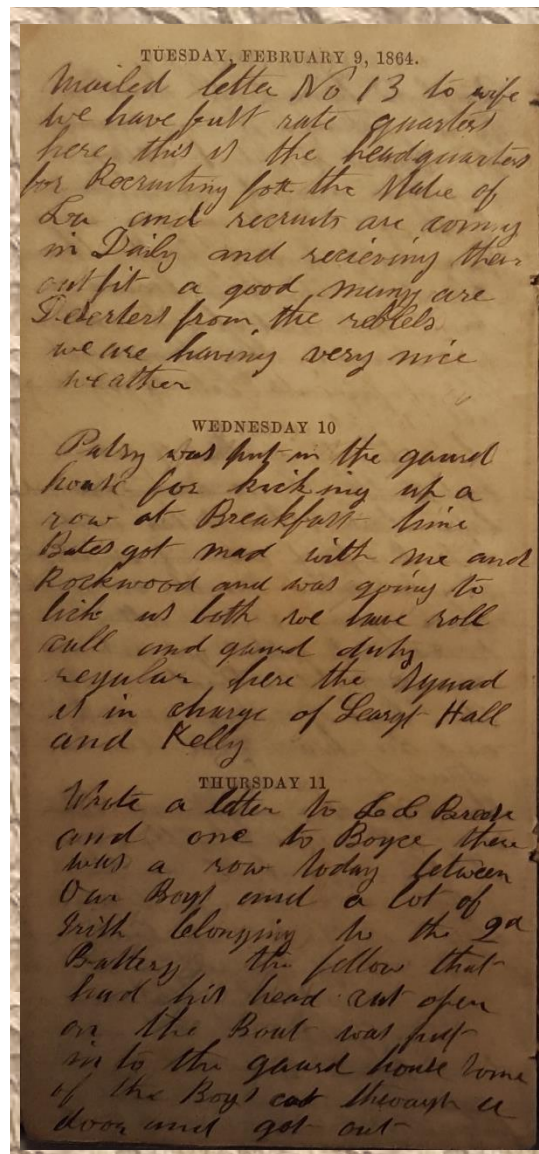
Mailed letter No 13 to wife. We have first rate quarters here. This is the headquarters for recruiting for the state of Louisiana, and recruits are coming in daily and receiving their outfit. A good many are deserted from the rebels. We are having very nice weather.

Wednesday, February 10

[Patsy] was put in guard house for kicking up a row at breakfast time. **Bates** got mad with me and **Rockwood**, and was going to lick us both. We have roll call and guard duty regular here. The squad is in charge of **Seargt. Hall** and **Kelly**.

Thursday, February 11

Wrote a letter to [L___] [Breese] and one to Boyce. There was a row today between our boys and a lot of the Irish belonging to the 2nd Battery. The fellow that had his head cut open on the boat was put into the guard house. Some of the boys cut through a door and got out.

**Friday, February 12**

Some other boys tried to cut through the door and get out but were discovered by the guard. **Captain Pearson** came out and made a speech to us. The rebel deserters are coming in by the dozens and reenlisting in the second Louisiana home guards. It is very interesting to converse with them

Saturday, February 13

Mail letter No 14 to wife. We had drill twice today. **The Woodville Boys** and E Battery boarded out to leave, but came back in a half an hour. Some mistake in the red tape arrangements. There are a good many of **Zouave** here. They are having a good time on [Settlers?] Beer.

Sunday, February 14

Very dull today. Nothing going on to interest one. We cannot get out of here unless we get a pass, which is very hard to get. There was no observation of the Sabbath today nor last Sunday in our camp. The [stores?] and places of [amendment?] are all kept open the same as week days.

Very dull today. Nothing going on to interest one. We cannot get out of here unless we get a pass, which is very hard to get.

Monday, February 15

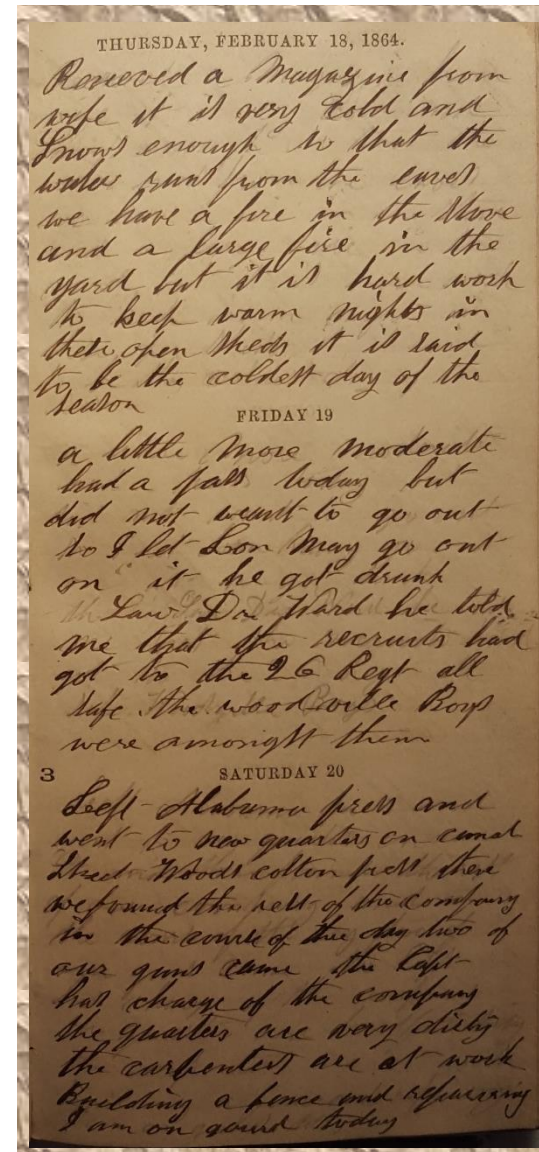
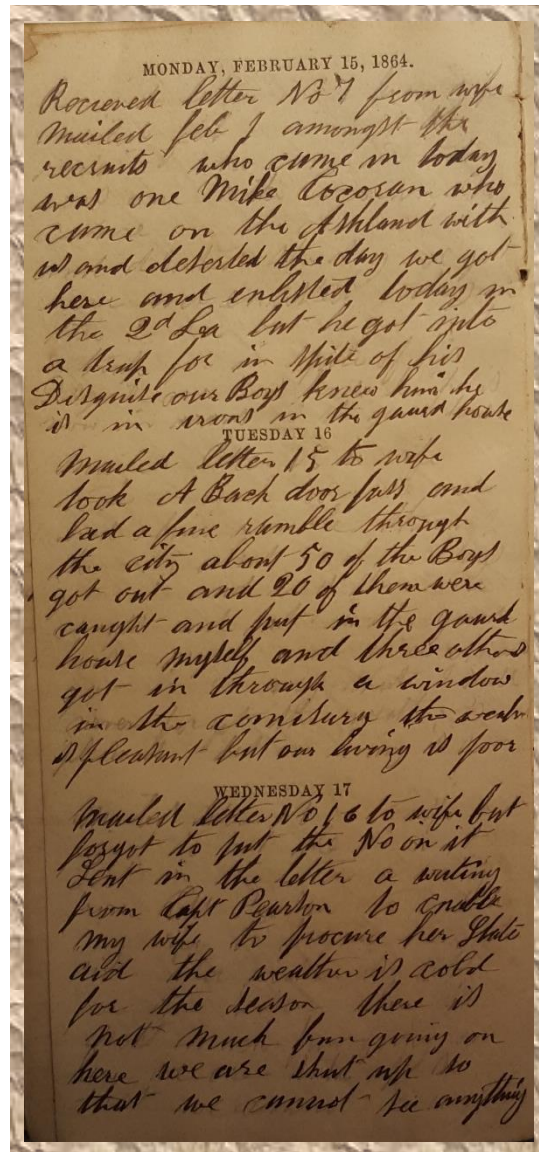
Received letter No 7 from wife mailed February 1. Amongst the recruits who came in today was one Mike [Cocoran] who came on the Ashland with us and deserted today we got here, and enlisted today in the 2nd Louisiana but he got into a [illegible] for in spite of his disguise, our boys knew him. He is in irons in the guard house.

Tuesday, February 16

Mailed letter No 15 to wife. Took a backdoor pass and had a fine ramble through the city. About 50 the boys got out and 20 of them were caught and put in the guardhouse. Myself and three others got in through a window in the commissary [the arch]. The weather is pleasant, but our living is poor.

Wednesday, February 17

Mailed letter No 16 to wife but forgot to put the No on it. Sent in the letter a writing from Capt Pearson to enable my wife to procure her state aid. The weather is cold for the season. There is not much [fun] going on here. We are shut up so that we cannot see anything.

**Thursday, February 18**

Received a magazine from wife. It is very cold and snows enough so that the water runs from the eaves. We have a fire in the stove and a large fire in the yard, but it is hard work to keep warm nights in these open sheds. It is said to be the coldest day of the season.

Friday, February 19

A little more moderate. Had a pass today, but did not want to go out so I let Lon May go out on it. He got drunk. Saw Dr. Ward. He told me that the recruits had got to the 26 Regt. all safe. The Woodville Boys were amongst them.

Saturday, February 20

Left Alabama Press and went to new quarters on Canal Street. Woods' Cotton Press. There we found the rest of the company. In the course of the day two of our guards came. The Capt. has charge of the company. The quarters are very dirty. The carpenters are at work building a fence and [replacing?]. I am on guard duty today.

...had a fine ramble through the city. About 50 the boys got out and 20 of them were caught and put in the guardhouse.

Sunday, February 21

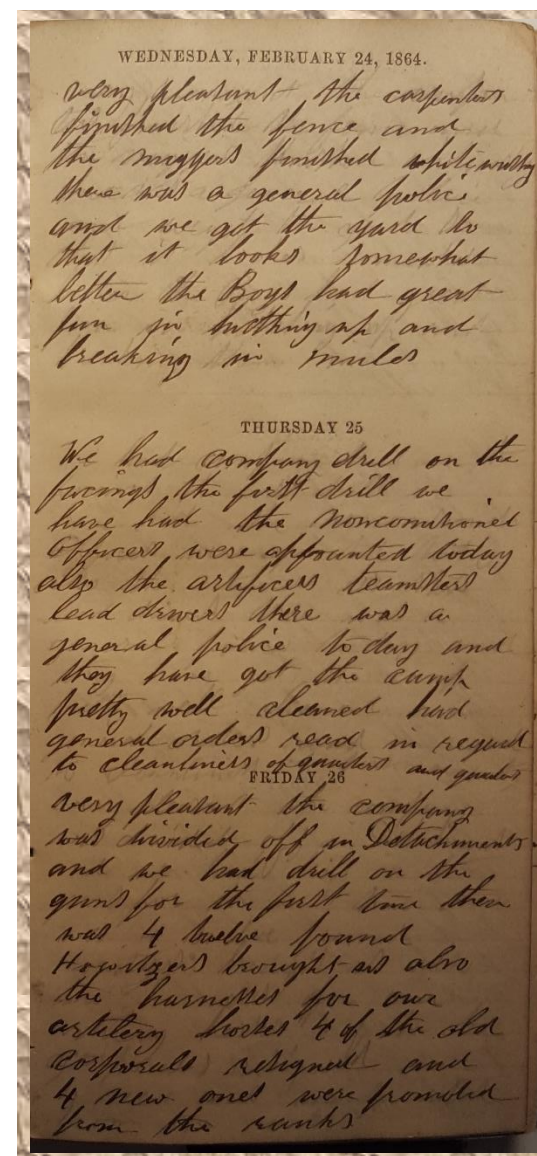
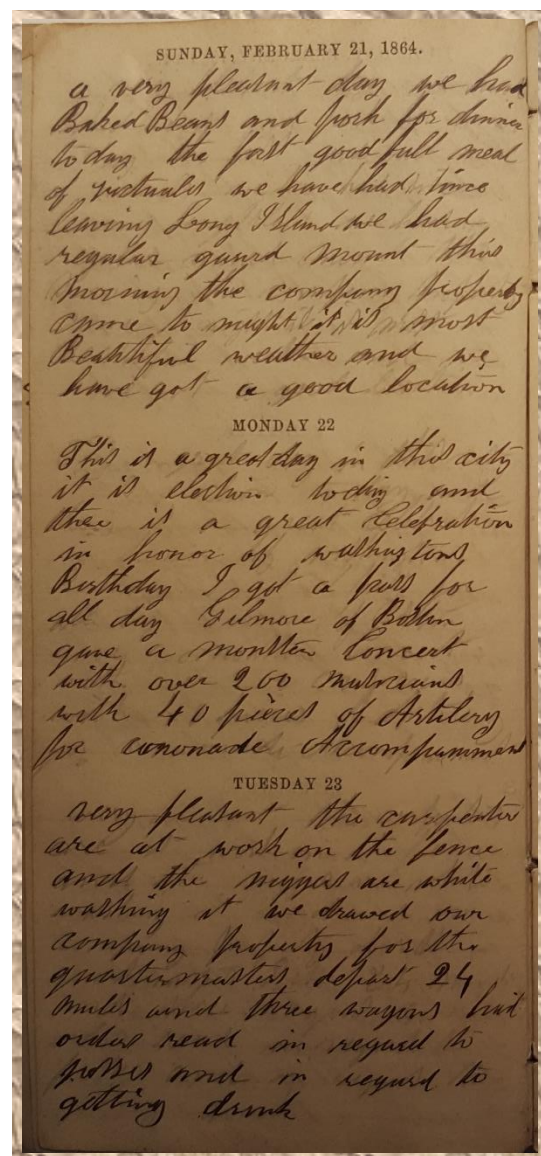
A very pleasant day. We had baked beans and pork for dinner today. The first good full meal of victuals we have had since leaving Long Island. We had regular guard mount this morning. The company property came tonight. It is most beautiful weather and we have got a good location.

Monday, February 22

This is a great day in the city it is election today and there is a great celebration in honor of Washington's birthday. I got a pass for all day. Gilmore of Boston gave a [illegible] concert with over 200 musicians with 40 pieces of artillery for cannonade accompaniment.

Tuesday, February 23

Very pleasant. The carpenters are at work on the fence and the [negroes] are whitewashing it. We drew our company property for the quartermasters [depart] 24 mules and three wagons. Had orders read in regard to passes and in regard to getting drunk.

**Wednesday, February 24**

Very pleasant. The carpenters finished the fence and the [negroes] finished whitewashing. There was a general [police?] and we got the yard so that it looks somewhat better. The boys have had great fun and hitching up and breaking in mules.

Thursday, February 25

We had company drill on the facings. The first drill we have had. The non-commissioned officers were appointed today. Also the artificers teamsters led drivers. There was a general police today and they have got the camp well cleaned. Had general orders read in regard to cleanliness of quarters and [guards]

Friday, March 26

very pleasant. The company was divided off in detachments and we had drill on the guns for the first time. There were 4 twelve pound howitzers brought, and also the harnesses for our artillery horses. 4 of the old corporals resigned, and 4 new ones were promoted from the ranks.

Saturday, February 27

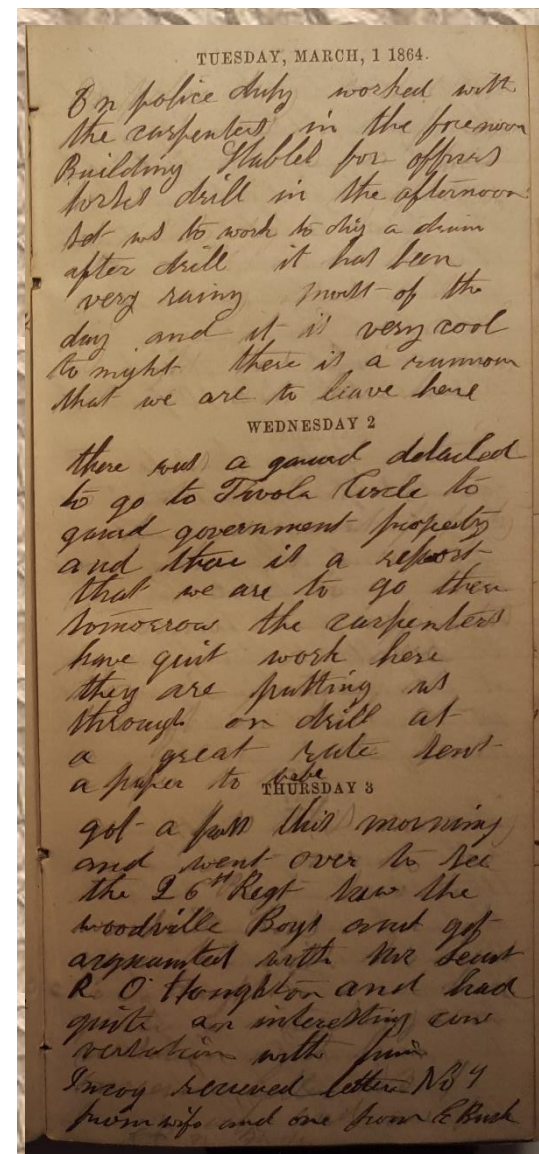
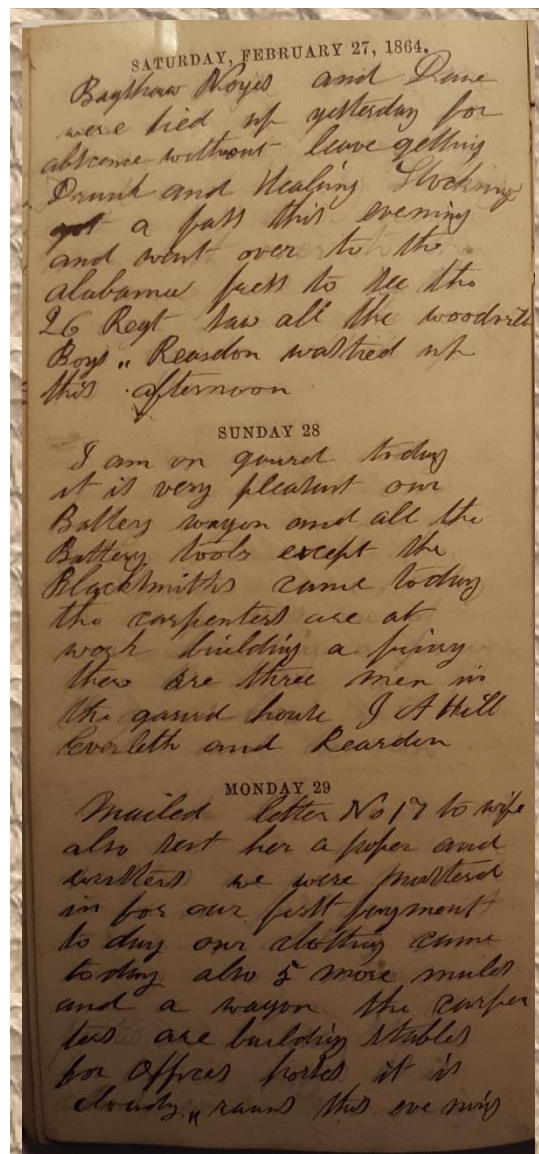
Bagshaw, Noyes and Dane were tied up yesterday for being absent without leave, getting drunk and stealing stockings. Got a pass this evening and went out over to the Alabama Press to see the **26 Regt.** Saw all the **Woodville boys.** **Reardon** and was tied up this afternoon.

Sunday, February 28

I am on guard today it is very pleasant. Our battery's wagon and all the battery tools except the blacksmith's came along today. The carpenters are at work building a [illegible]. There are three men in the guardhouse. **JA Hill, Everleth and Reardon**

Monday, February 29

Mailed letter No 17 to wife. Also sent her a paper and [illegible]. Were mustered in for our first payment today. Our clothing came today, also 5 more mules and a wagon. The carpenters are building stables for officers horses. It is cloudy. Rains this morning.

**Tuesday, March 1**

On police today. Worked with the carpenters in the forenoon building stables for the officers. Worked drill in the afternoon. Set us to work to dig a drain after drill. It has been very rainy most of the day and it is very cool tonight. There is a rumor that we are to leave here.

Wednesday, March 2

There was a guard detached to go to Tivola Circle to guard government property, and there is a report that we are to go there tomorrow. The carpenters have quit work here. They are putting us through on drill at a great rate. Sent a paper to wife.

Thursday, March 3

Got a pass this morning and went over to see the **26th Regt.** Saw the **Woodville boys** and got acquainted with the **Lieut. RO Houghton** and had quite an interesting conversation with him. [illegible] received letter No 9 from wife and one from E Buck.*

* Probably notification that Celinda was now expecting

Friday, March 4

A great day for New Orleans. The governor Hahn* is inaugurated today as part of our battery went down to fire salutes and after the performance, took a dinner [said] to be at the expense of Governor Hahn. Had all we wanted to drink. Received letter No 10 from wife.

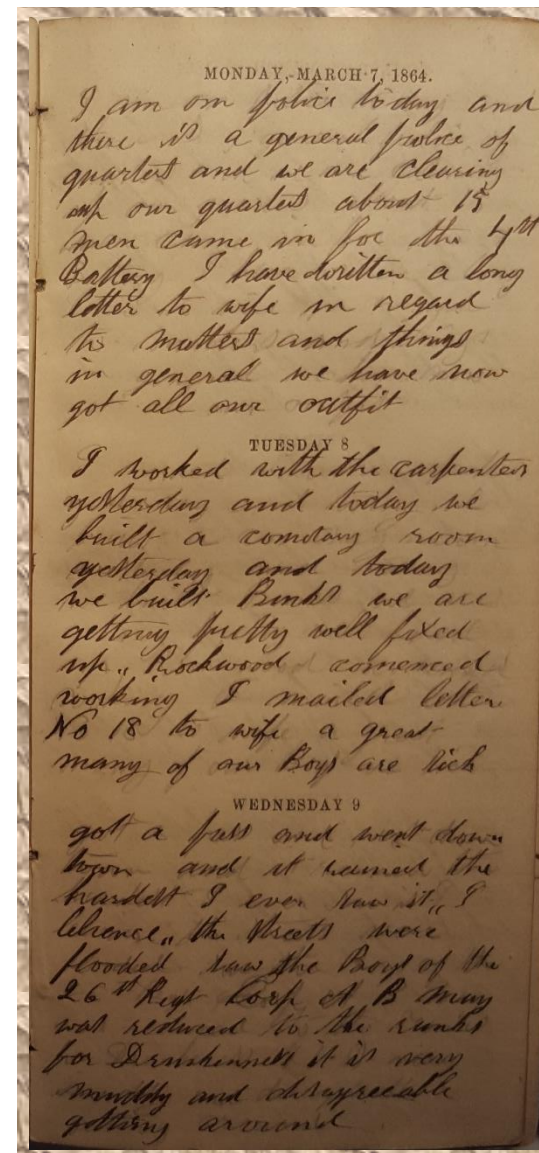
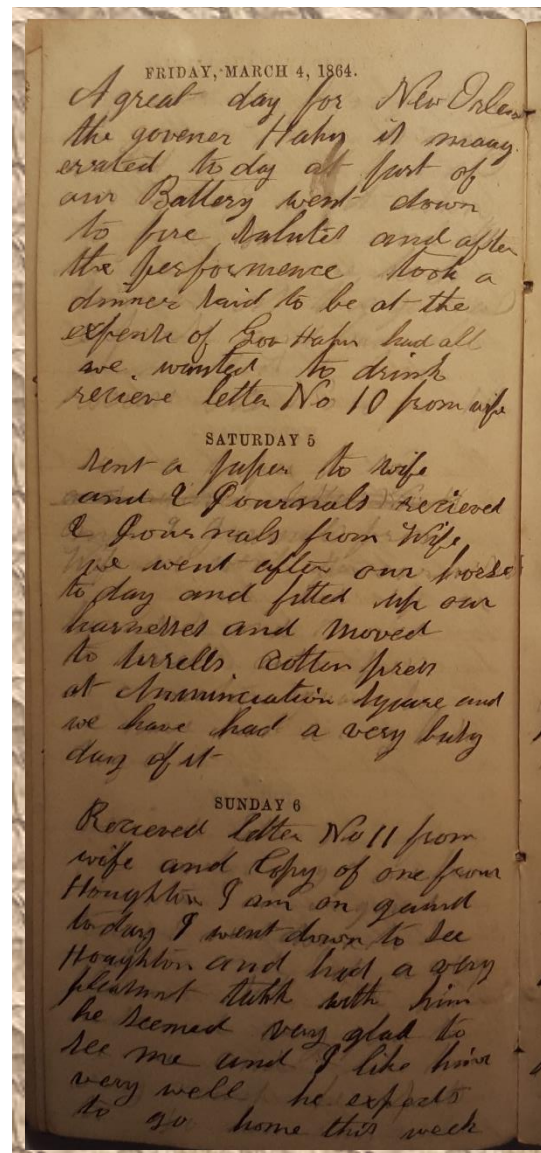
* Wartime Military Governor, Michael Hahn

Saturday, March 5

Sent a paper to wife and I received 2 Journals from [wife]. We went after our horse today and fitted up our harnesses and moved to Terrell's Cotton Press at [Annunciation Square](#) and we have had a very busy day of it.

Sunday, March 6

Received letter No 11 from wife and copy of one from Houghton. I am on guard today. I went down to see Houghton and had a very pleasant talk with him. He seemed very glad to see me and I like him very well. He expects to go home this week.

**Monday, March 7**

I am on police today and there is a general police of quarters. We are cleaning up our quarters. About 15 men came in for the 4th battery. I have written a long letter to wife in regard to matters and things in general. We now got all of our outfit.

Tuesday, March 8

I worked with the carpenters yesterday and today. We built a cemetery room yesterday, and today we built bunks. We are getting pretty well fixed up. Rockwood commenced working. I mailed letter no 18 to wife. A great many of our boys are sick.

Wednesday, March 9

Got a pass and went down town and it rained the hardest I ever saw it [illegible]. The streets were flooded. Saw the boys of the 26th Regiment [illegible] was reduced to the ranks for drunkenness. It is very muddy and disagreeable getting around.

Thursday, March 10

Cloudy with rain. We went out on parade today. The first time that the 15th Battery was out together fully equipped. I went down to see RO Houghton. Had a long talk with him and then went out of the street with him and had a fine time.

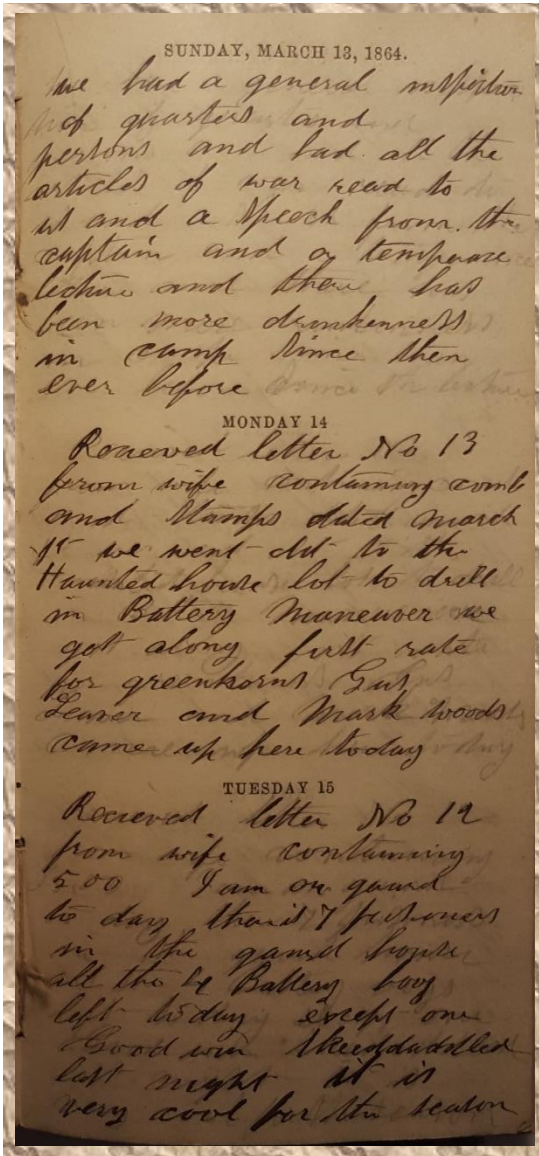
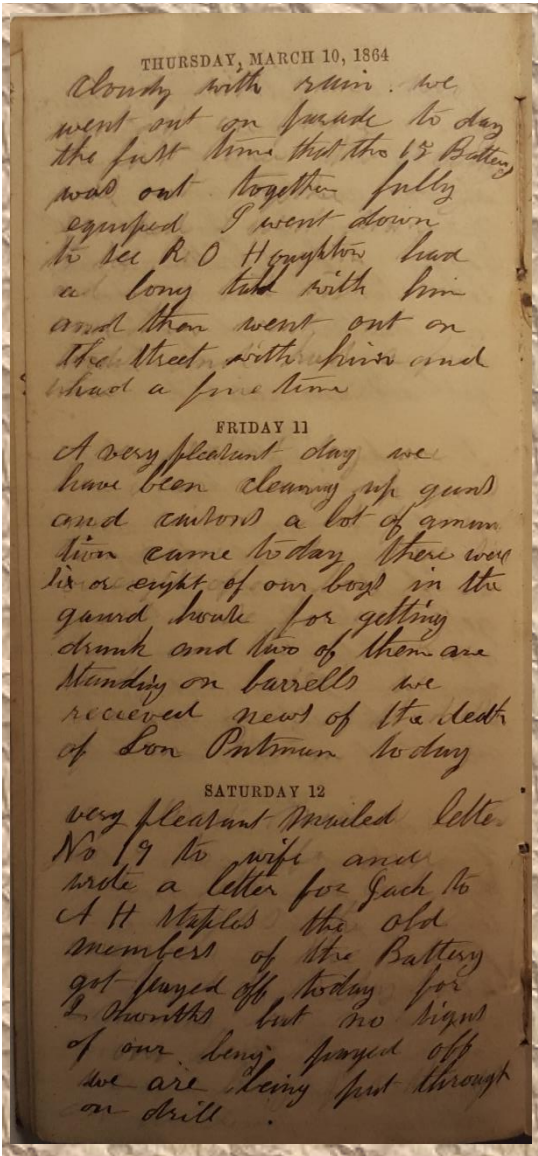
Friday, March 11

A very pleasant day. We have been cleaning up guns and caissons. A lot of ammunition came today. There were six or eight of our boys in the guard house today for getting drunk and two of them are standing on barrels. We received news of the death of **Lon Putnam** today.

Saturday, March 12

Very pleasant. Mailed letter no 19 to wife and wrote a letter for **Jack** to AH Maples.* The old members of the battery got payed off today for 2 months, but no signs of our being payed off. We are being put through on drill.

* George writes letters on behalf of **Jack/John Young** of Hopkinton throughout



Sunday, March 13

We had a guard inspection of headquarters and persons, and had all of the articles of war read to us and a speech from the Captain, and a temperance lecture. And there has been more drunkenness in camp since then ever before.

Monday, March 14

Received letter No 13 from wife containing comb and stamps dated March [??]. We went out to the Haunted house lot to drill in battery maneuver. We got along first rate for greenhorns **Gus Seaver** and **Mark Woods** came up here today.

Tuesday, March 15

Received letter no 19 from wife containing [5.00]. I am on guard today. There is 7 prisoners in the guard house. All the 4 Battery boys left today, except one. **Goodwin** skeedaddled last night. It is very cool for the season.

Wednesday, March 16

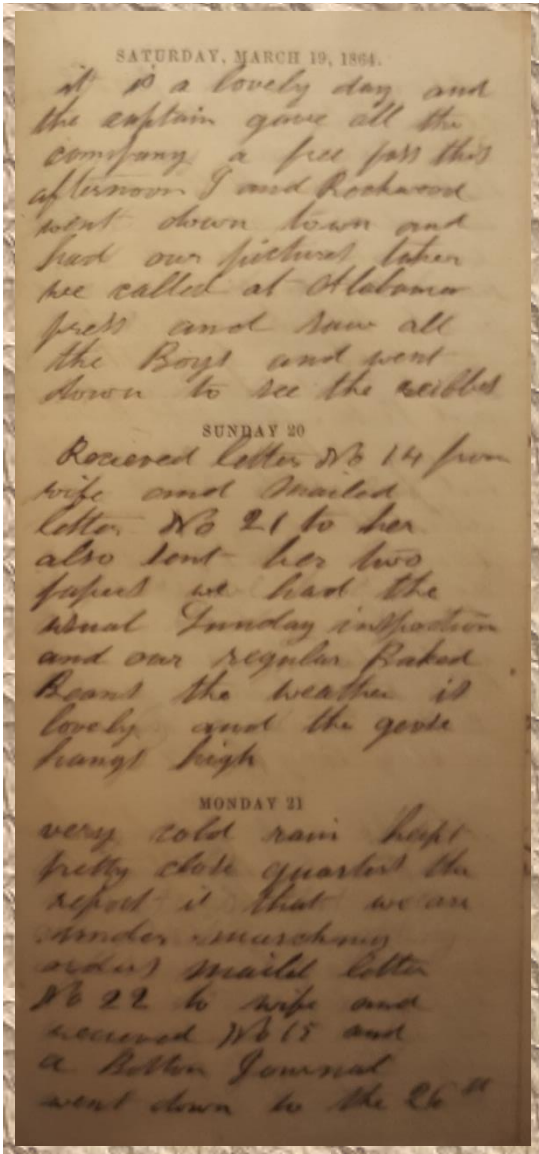
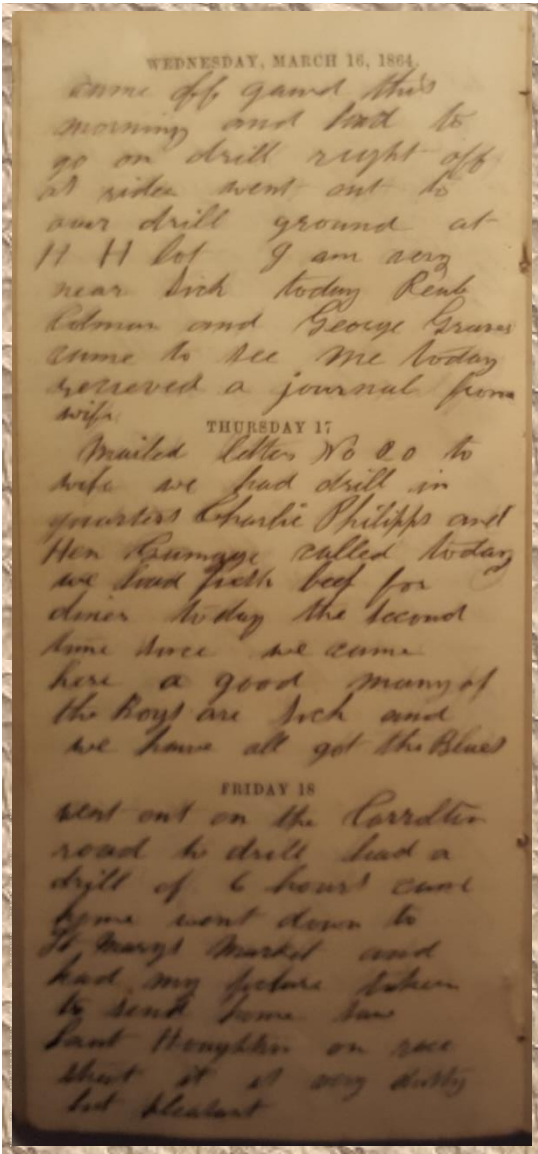
Came off guard this morning, and had to go on drill right off as riders went out to our drill ground at Haunted House lot. I am very near sick today [Reuben] Colman and George Graves came to see me today. Received a Journal from wife.

Thursday, March 17

Mailed letter number 20 to wife. We had drill in quarters. Charlie Phillips and Hen Gumage called today. We had fresh beef for dinner today. The second time since we came here. A good many of the boys are sick and we have all got the blues.

Friday, March 18

Went out on the Carrolton road to drill. Had a drill of 6 hours. Came home. Went down to St. Mary's Market and had my picture taken to send home. Saw Lieut. Houghton on Race street. It is very windy, but pleasant.



Saturday, March 19

It is a lovely day and the Captain gave all the company a free pass this afternoon. I and Rockwood went down town and had our pictures taken. We called at Alabama Press and saw all the Boys and went down to see the [illegible].

Sunday, March 20

Received letter No 14 from wife and mailed letter No 21 to her. Also sent her two papers. we had the usual Sunday inspection and our regular baked beans. The weather is lovely and the [g_illegible] hangs high.

Monday, March 21

Very cold rain. Kept pretty close quarters. The report is that we are under marching orders. Mailed letter No 22 to wife and received No 15 and a Boston Journal. *Went down to the 26th.

*Boston Daily Journal (Newspaper)

Tuesday, March 22

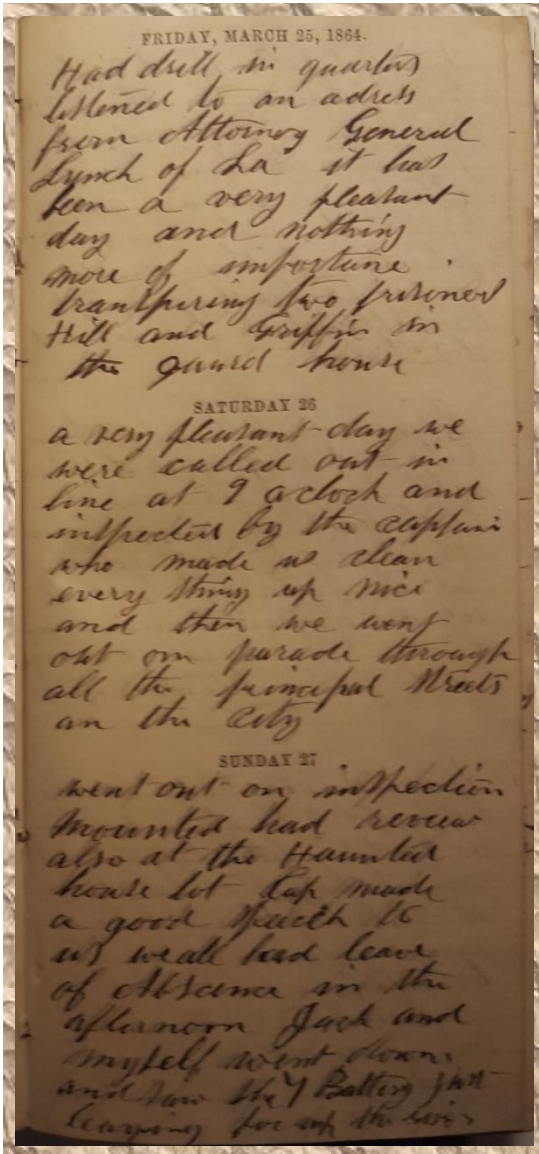
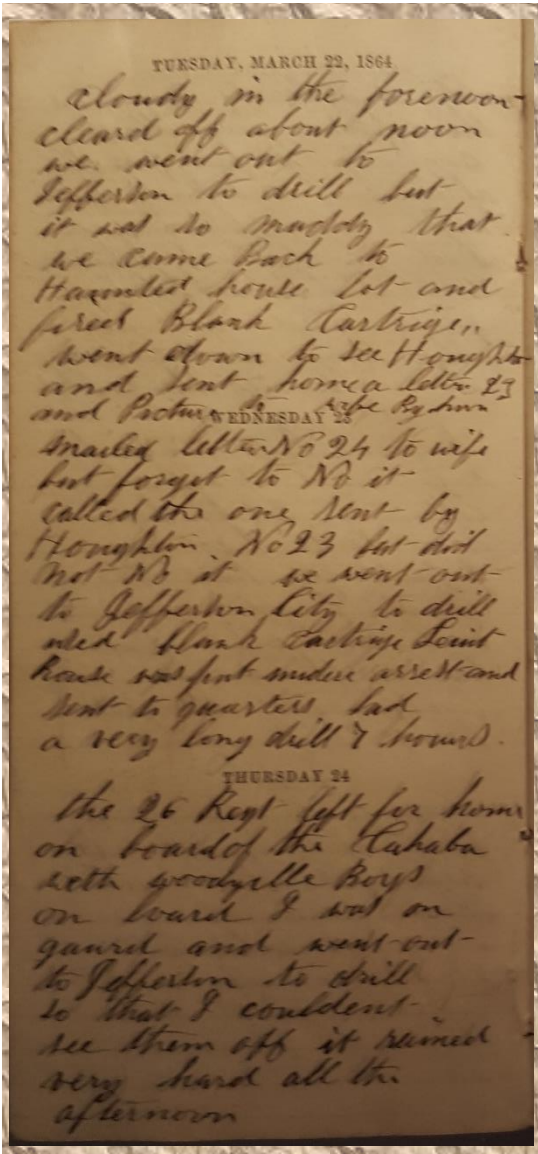
Cloudy in the forenoon. Cleared off about noon. We went out to Jefferson to drill but it was so muddy that we came back to Haunted House lot and fired blank cartridges. Went down to see Houghton and sent home a letter, 23, and pictures to wife by him.

Wednesday, March 23

Mailed letter No 24 to wife but forgot to No it. Called the one sent by Houghton No 23, but did not No. it. We went out to Jefferson City to drill with blank cartridges. Lieut. Rouse was put under arrest and sent to quarters. Had a very long drill. 7 hours.

Thursday, March 24

The 26th Regt. left for home on board of the Cahaba with Woodville boys on board. I was on guard and went out to Jefferson to drill so that I couldn't see them off. It rained very hard all the afternoon.



Friday, March 25

Had drill in quarters. Listened to an address from Attorney General Lynch of LA. It has been a very pleasant day and nothing more of importance [transpiring]. Two prisoners, Hill and Griffin, in the guard house.

Saturday March 26

A very pleasant day. We were called out in line at 9 o'clock and inspected by the Captain who made us clean everything up nice and then we went out on parade through all the principal streets of the city.

Sunday 27, March 27

Went out on inspection. Mounted had review also at the Haunted House lot. Capt. made a good speech to us. We all had leave of absence in the afternoon. Jack and myself went down and saw the 7 Battery just leaving for up the river.

The 26th Regt. left for home on board of the Cahaba with Woodville boys on board.

Monday, March 28

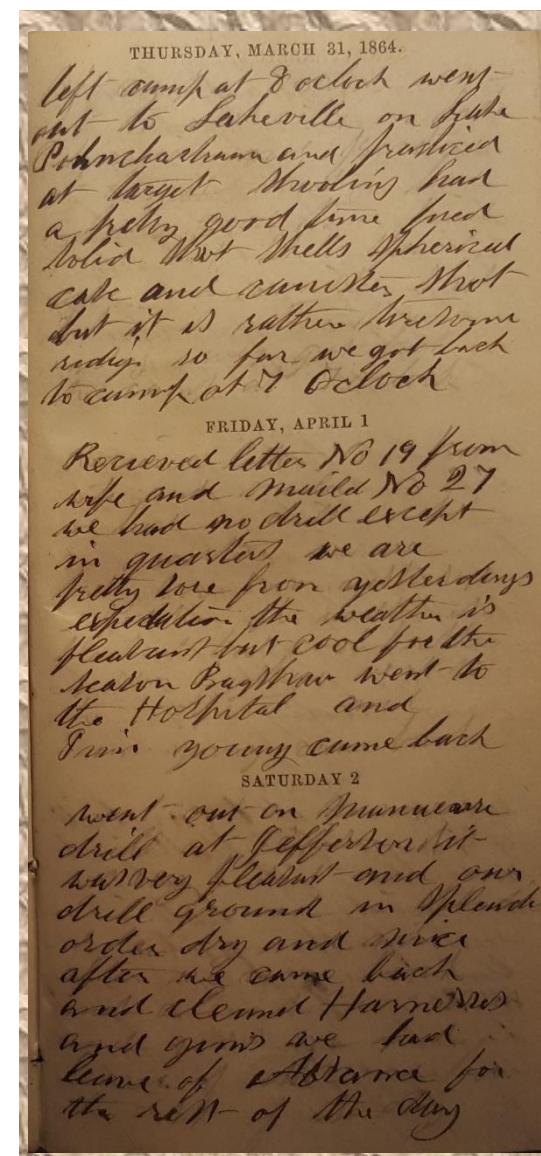
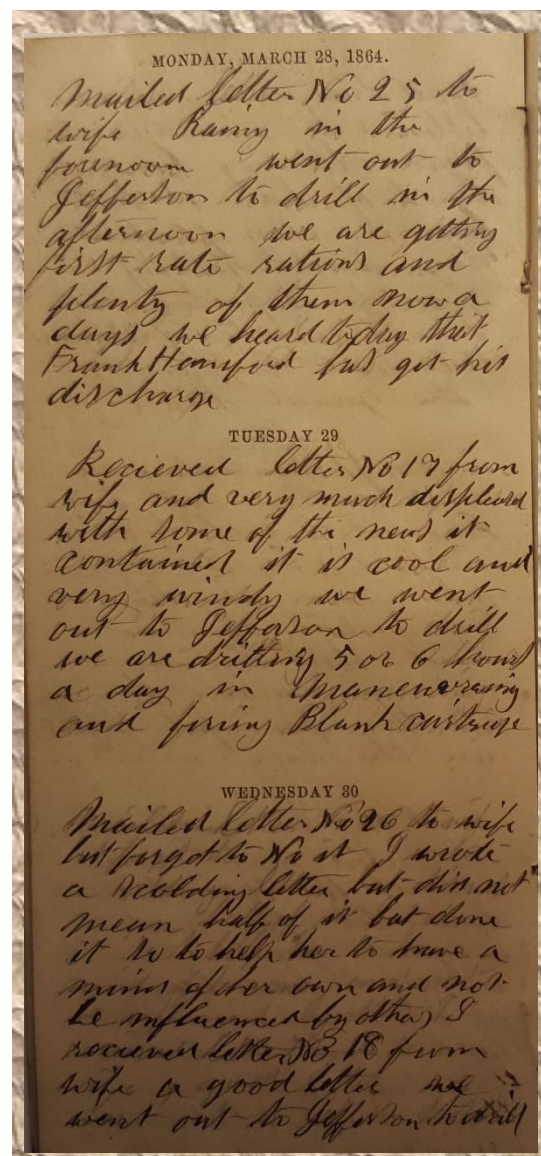
Mailed letter No 25 to wife. Rainy in the forenoon. Went out to Jefferson to drill in the afternoon. We are getting first rate rations and plenty of them nowadays. We heard today that Frank [Hanaford] has got his discharge.

Tuesday, March 29

Received letter No 17 from wife and very much displeased with some of the news it contained. It is cool and very windy. We went out to Jefferson to drill. We are drilling 5 or 6 hours a day in maneuvering and firing blank cartridge.

Wednesday, March 30

Mailed letter No 26 to wife, but forgot to No it. I wrote a scolding letter, but did not mean half of it, but done it to help her have a mind of her own, and not be influenced by the others. I received letter No 18 from wife. A good letter. We went out to Jefferson to drill.

**Thursday, March 31**

Left camp at 8 o'clock. Went out to Lakeville on Lake Ponchartrain and practiced at target shooting. Had a pretty good time. Fired solid shot shells spherical [case] and canister shot, but it is rather tiresome. [Ready] so for we got back to camp at 7 o'clock.

Friday, April 1

Received letter No 19 from wife and mailed No 27. We had no drill except in quarters. We are pretty tore up from yesterday's expedition. The weather is pleasant, but cool for the season. Bagshaw went to the hospital and Jim Young came back.

Saturday, April 2

Went out on maneuver drill at Jefferson. It was very pleasant and our drill ground is in splendid order. Dry and nice. After we came back and cleaned harnesses and guns we had leave of absence for the rest of the day.

Sunday, April 3

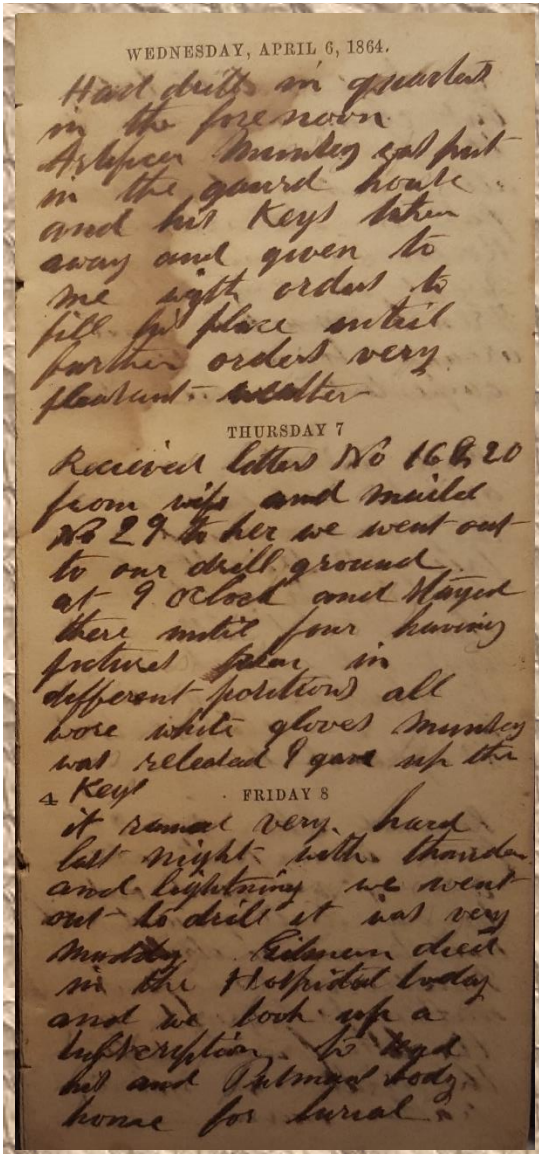
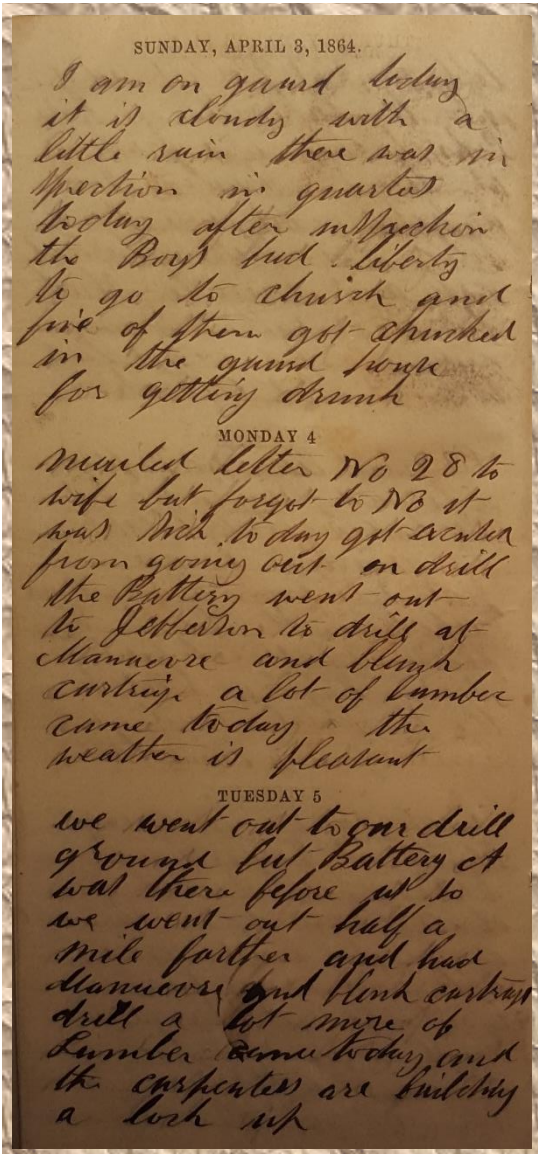
I am on guard today. It is cloudy with a little rain. There was inspection of the quarters today. After inspection, the boys had liberty to go to church and five of them got [chucked] in the guard house for getting drunk.

Monday, April 4

Mailed letter No 28 to wife, but forgot to No it. Was sick today. Got excused from going out on drill. The Battery went out to the Jefferson to drill at maneuvers and blank cartridge. A lot of lumber came today. The weather is pleasant.

Tuesday, April 5

We went out to our drill ground, but the Battery A was there before us. So we went out half a mile farther and had maneuvers and blank cartridge drill. A lot more of lumber came today and the carpenters are building a lock up.



Wednesday, April 6

Had drill in quarters in the forenoon. Munsey was first in the guard house and his keys taken away and given to me with orders to fill up place until further orders. Very pleasant weather.

Thursday, April 7

Received letter No 16 & 20 from wife and mailed No 29 to her. We went out to our drill ground at 9 o'clock and stayed there until four. Having pictures taken in different positions. All wore white gloves. Munsey was released and I gave up the keys.

Friday, April 8

It rained very hard last night with thunder and lightning. We went out to drill. It was very muddy. Gilman died in the hospital today and we took up a [collection] to [illegible] and body home for funeral.

Saturday, April 9

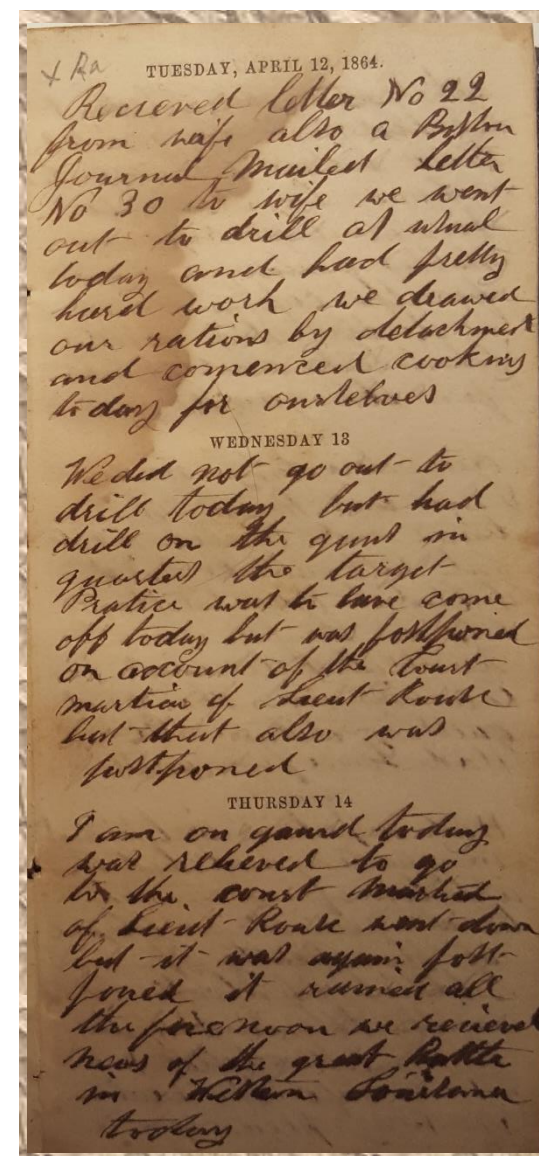
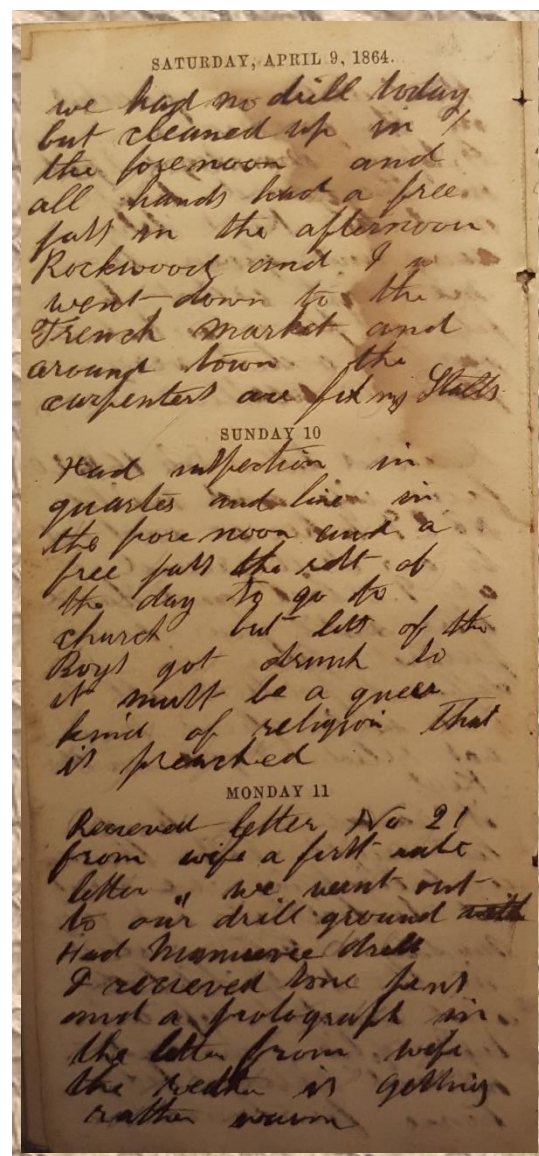
We had no drill today but cleaned up in the forenoon and all hands had a free pass in the afternoon. Rockwood and I went down to the French market and around town. The carpenters are fixing stalls.

Sunday, April 10

Had inspection in the quarters and line in the forenoon and a free pass the rest of the day to go to church but lots of the boys got drunk, so it must be a queer kind of religion that is preached.

Monday, April 11

Received letter No 21 from wife. A first rate letter. We went out to our drill ground. Had maneuver drill. I received some pens and a photograph in the letter from wife. The weather is getting rather warm.

**Tuesday, April 12**

Received letter No 22 from wife. Also a *Boston Journal*. Mailed letter No 30 to wife. We went out to drill as usual today and had pretty hard work. We drew our rations by detachment and commenced cooking today for ourselves.

Wednesday, April 13

We did not go out to drill today, but we had drill on the guns in quarters. The target practice was to have come off today, but was postponed on account of the court martial of Lieut. Rouse, but that was also postponed.

Thursday, April 14

I am on guard today. Was relieved to go to the court martial of Lieut. Rouse. Went down, but it was again postponed. It rained all the forenoon. We received news of the great Battle in Western Louisiana today.*

* Battle of Mansfield - 4/8/64

and a free pass to go to church but lots of the boys got drunk, so it must be a queer kind of religion that is preached.

Friday, April 15

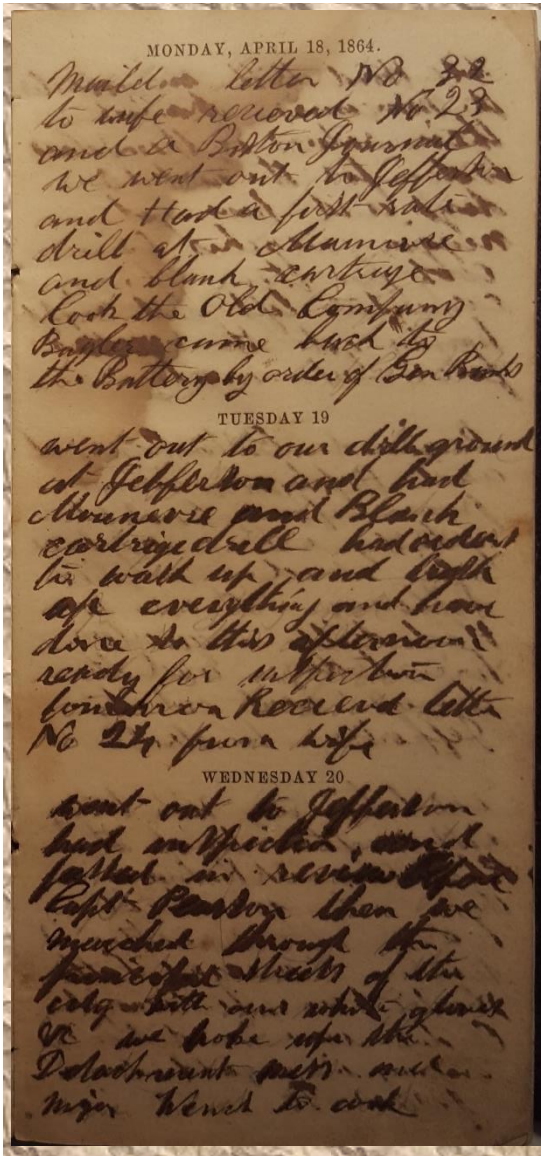
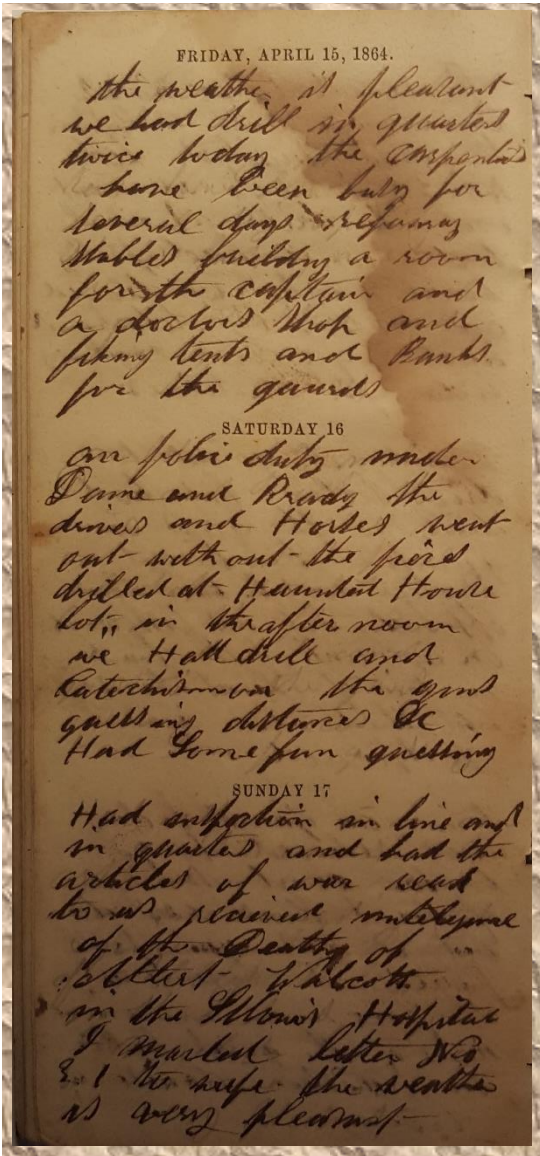
The weather is pleasant today. We had drill in quarters twice today. The carpenters have been busy for several days [reforming?] stables, building a room for the Captain and a doctors shop and fixing tents and [barracks] for the guard.

Saturday, April 16

On police duty under Dame and Brady. The drivers and horses went out without the pieces. Drilled at Haunted House lot in the afternoon. We had drill and [detachments] the guns guessing distances. We had some fun guessing.

Sunday, April 17

Had inspection in line and in quarters and had the articles of war read to us. Received intelligence of the death of [Stuart?] Walcott in the [Metazyne] hospital. I mailed letter No 31 to wife. The weather is very pleasant.



Monday, April 18

Mailed letter No 32 to wife. Received letter No 23 and a Boston Journal. We went out to Jefferson and had a first rate drill at maneuver and blank cartridge. [Cook?] the Old Company Bugler came back to the Battery by order of General Banks.

Tuesday, April 19

Went out to our drill ground at Jefferson and had maneuver and blank cartridge drill. Had orders to [illegible] everything and have done so this afternoon ready for inspection [illegible]. Received letter No 24 from wife.

Wednesday, April 20

Went out to Jefferson. Had inspection and passed in review for Captain Pearson. Then we marched through the [illegible] streets of the city with our white gloves. [illegible] [negro] [wench] to cook.

Thursday, April 21

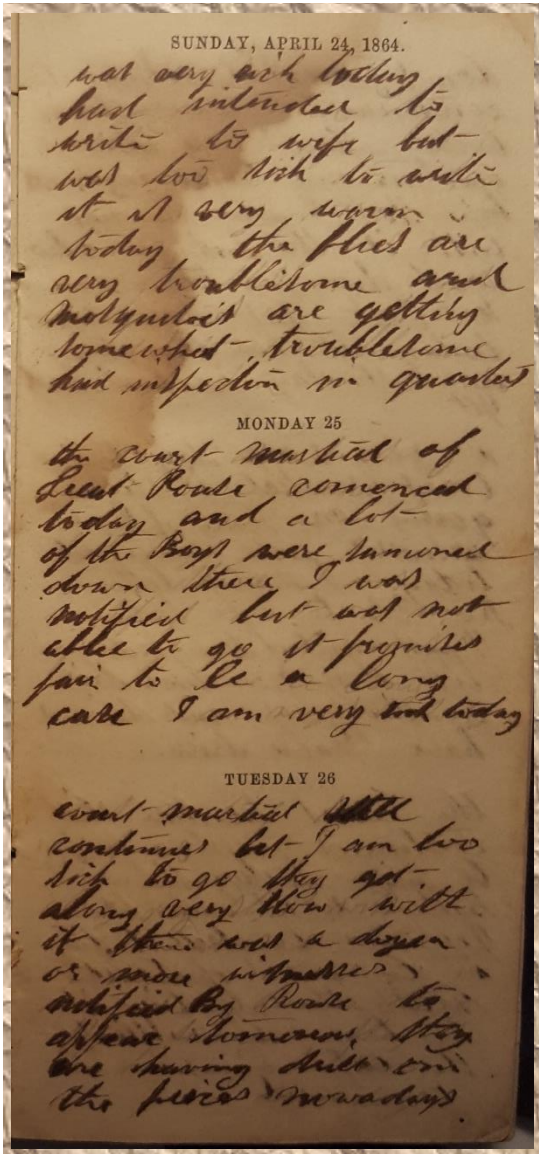
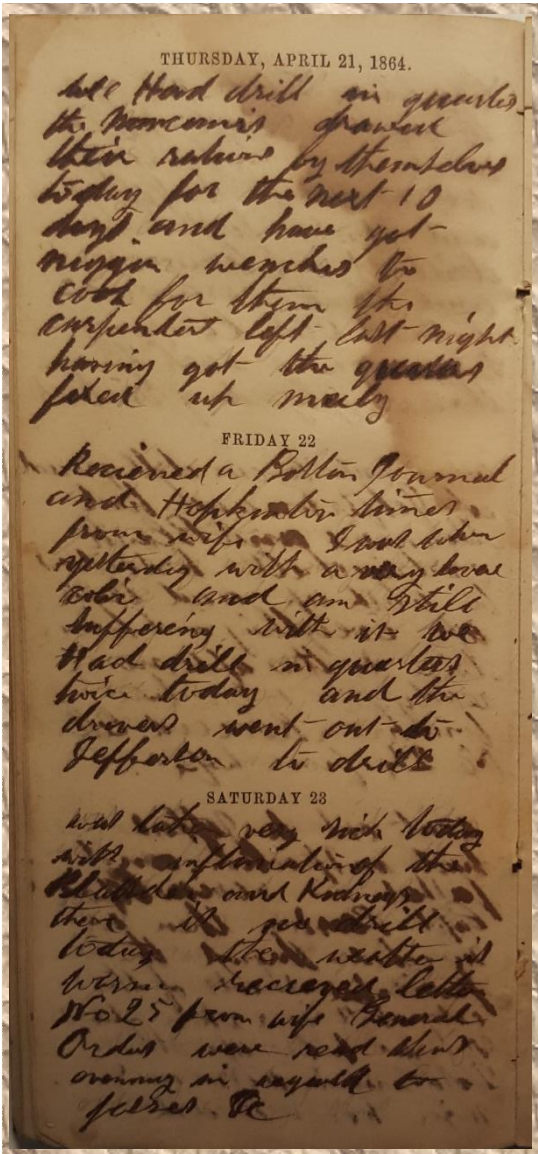
We had drill in our quarters
The newcomers drew their
rations by themselves today
for the next 10 days and have
got [negro] wenchies to cook
for them. The carpenters left
last night having got the
quarters fixed up nicely.

Friday, April 22

Received a *Boston Journal*
and *Hopkinton Times* from
wife. I was taken yesterday
with a very [illegible] [color]
and am still suffering with it.
We had drill in quarters twice
today and the drivers went out
to Jefferson to drill.

Saturday, April 23

Was rather very sick today
with inflammation of the
bladder and kidneys. There is
no drill today. The weather is
warm. Received letter No 25
from wife. General orders
were read this evening in
regard to [passes].



Sunday, April 24

Was very sick today. Had intended to write to wife, but was too sick to write. It is very warm today. The flies are very troublesome and mosquitos are getting somewhat troublesome. Had inspection in quarters.

Monday, April 25

The court martial of Lieut. **Rouse** commenced today and a lot of the Boys were summoned down there. I was notified, but was not able to go. It promises [fair?] to be a long case. I am very sick today.

Tuesday, April 26

Court martial still continues but I am too sick to go. They got along very slow with it. There was a dozen or more witnesses notified by **Rouse** to appear tomorrow. They are having drill on the pieces nowadays.

Wednesday, April 27

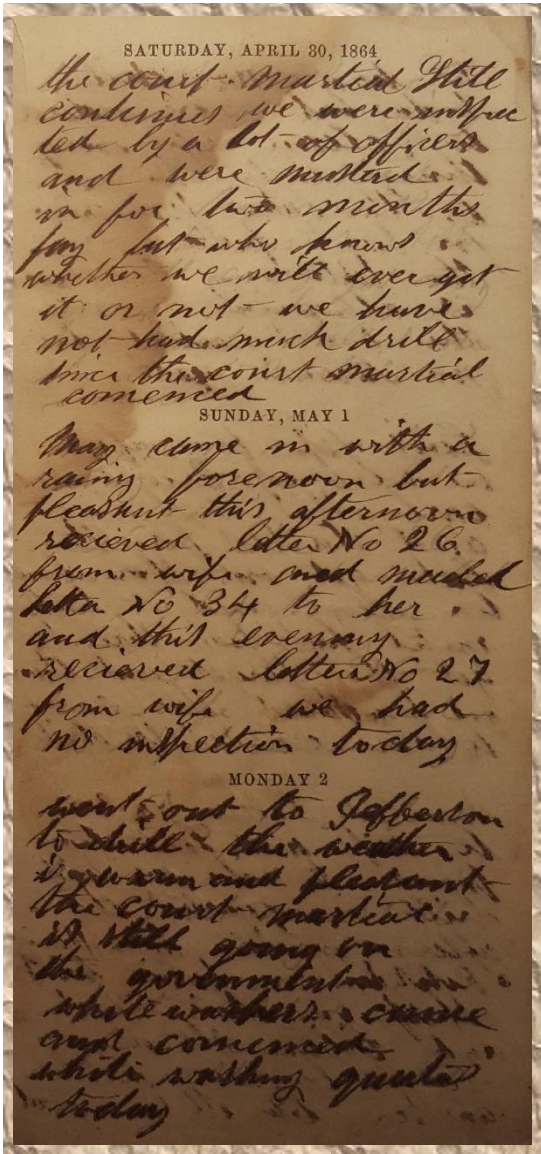
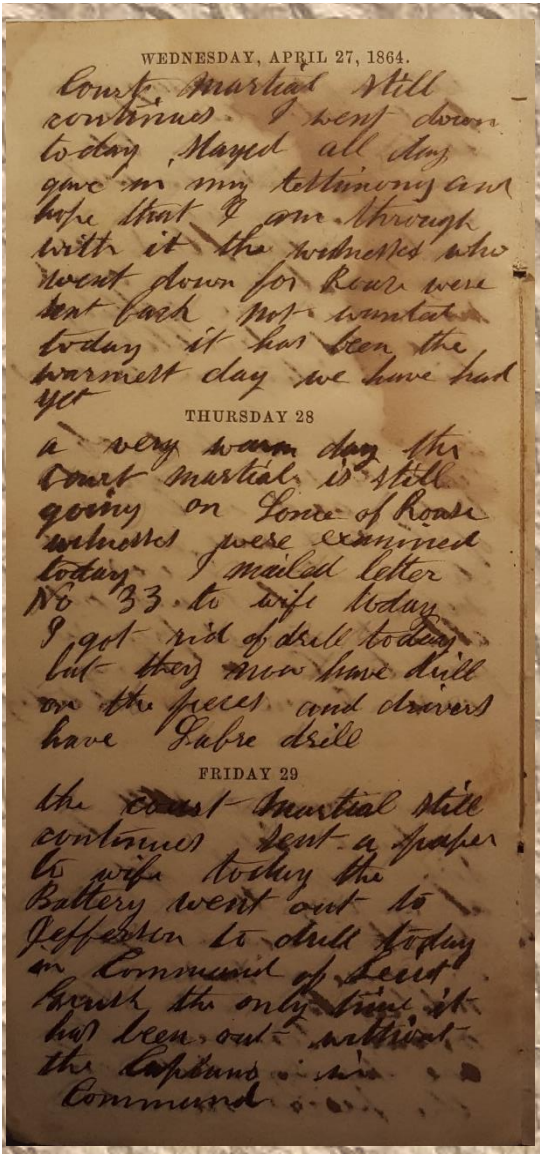
Court martial still continues. I went down today. Stayed all day. Gave in my testimony and hope that I am through with it. The witnesses who went down for Rouse were sent back. Not wanted today. It has been the warmest day we have had yet.

Thursday, April 28

A very warm day. The court martial is still going on. Some of Rouse's witnesses were examined today. I mailed letter No 33 to wife today. I got rid of drill today but they now have drill on the pieces and drivers have sabre drill.

Friday, April 29

The court martial still continues. Sent a paper to wife today. The battery went out to Jefferson to drill today in command of Lieut. Grush, the only time it has been without the Captains in command.



Saturday, April 30

The court martial still continues. We were inspected by a lot of officers and were mustered in for two months' pay but who knows whether we will ever get it or not. We have not had much drill since the court martial commenced.

Sunday, May 1

May came in with a rainy forenoon, but pleasant this afternoon. Received letter No 26 from wife and mailed letter No 34 to her and this evening received letter No 27 from wife. We had no inspection today.

Monday, May 2

Went out to Jefferson today to drill. The weather is warm and pleasant. The court martial is still going on. The government white washers came and commenced white washing quarters today.

Tuesday May 3

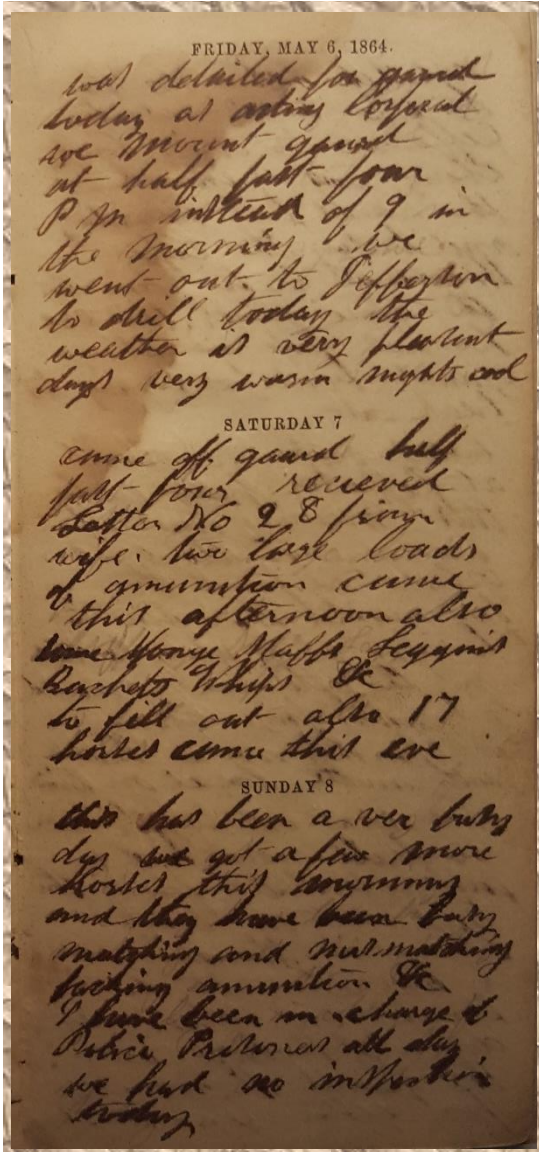
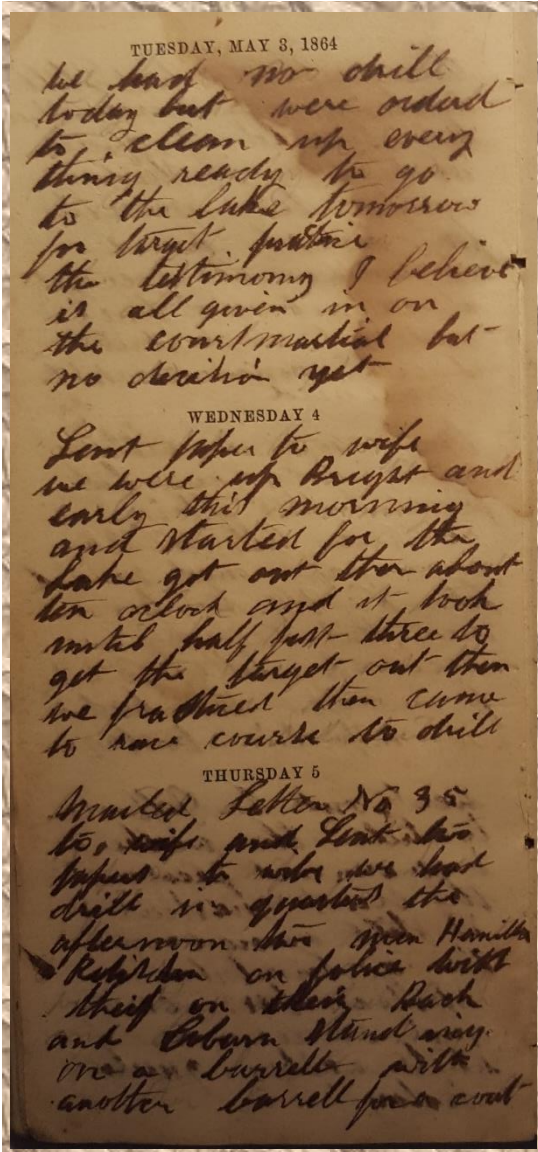
We had no drill today, but were ordered to clean up everything ready to go to the lake tomorrow for target practice. The testimony I believe, is all given in on the court martial but no decision yet.

Wednesday, May 4

Sent paper to wife. We were up bright and early this morning and started for the lake. Got out about ten o'clock and it took until half past three to get the [target] out. Then we practiced and came to race course to drill.

Thursday 5

Mailed letter No 35 to wife and sent two papers to wife. We had drill in quarters. The afternoon two men [Hamilton?] [Robertson?] on police with thief in their rack and Coburn standing on a barrel with another barrel for a coat.



Friday, May 6

Was detailed for a parade today as [artillery] corporal to mount guard at half past four pm, instead of 9 in the morning. We went out to Jefferson to drill today. The weather is very pleasant. Days very warm [and] nights cool.

Saturday, May 7

Came off guard at half past four. Received letter No 28 from wife. Two large loads of ammunition came this afternoon, also some [long?] waffle leggings [baskets] whips [illegible] to fill out, also 17 horses came this eve.

Sunday, May 8

This has been a very busy day. We got a few more horses this morning and they have been busy matching and bul matching packing ammunition. I have been in charge of Police Prisoners all day. We had no inspection today.

Monday, May 9

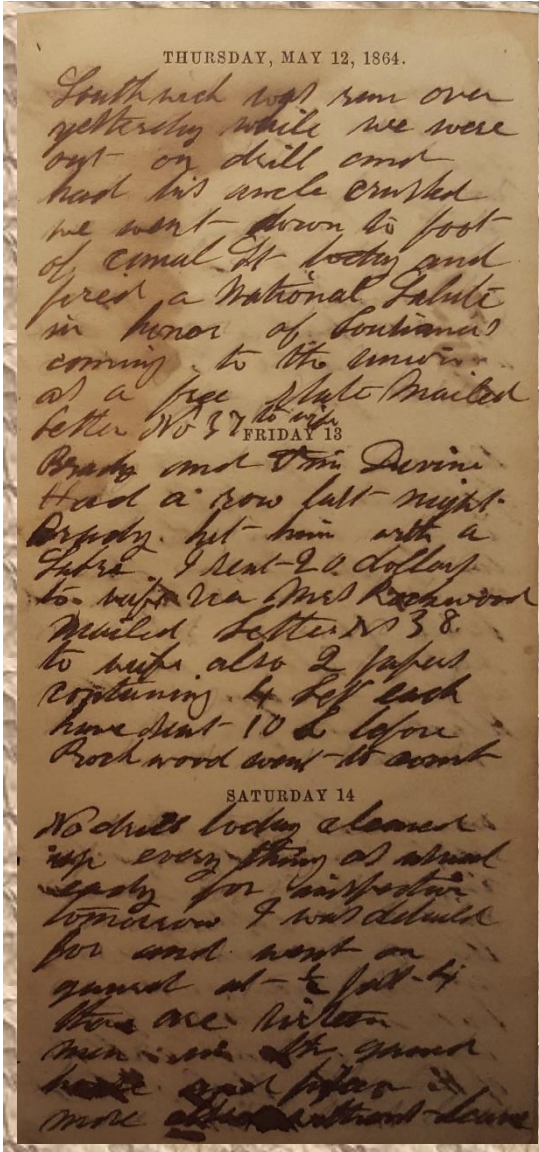
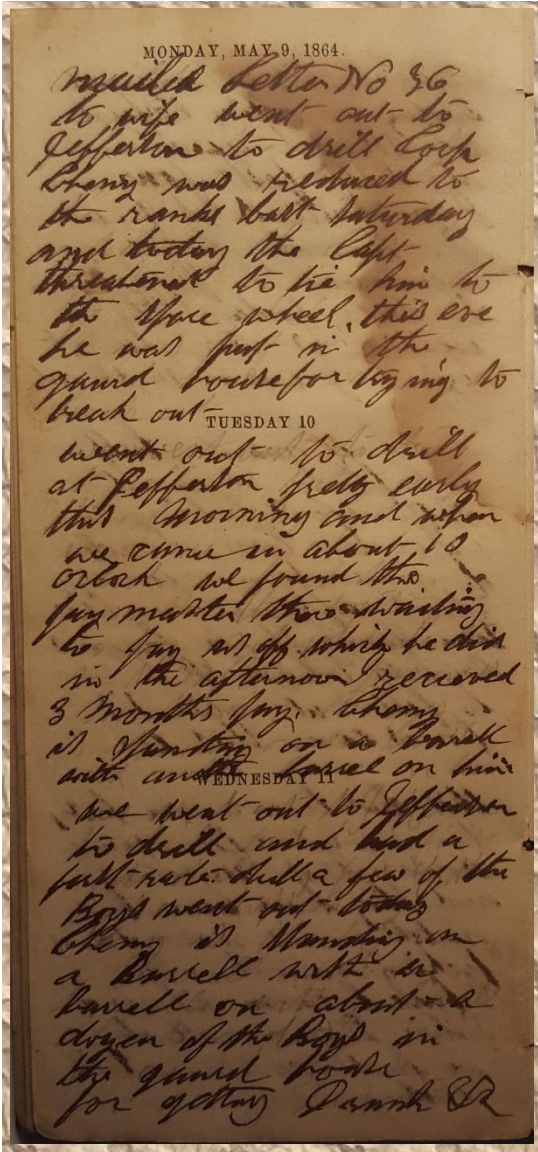
Mailed letter No 36 to wife. Went out to Jefferson to drill. Corp **Cheney** was reduced to the ranks last Saturday and today the Capt. threatened to tie him to the [space] wheel. This eve he was put in the guard house for trying to break out.

Tuesday, May 10

Went out to drill at Jefferson pretty early this morning and when we came in about 10 o'clock we found the pay master there waiting to pay us off, which he did in the afternoon. Received 3 months pay. **Cheney** is standing on a barrel with another barrel on him.

Wednesday, May 11

We went out to Jefferson to drill and had a first rate drill. A few of the boys went out today. **Cheney** is standing on a barrel with a barrel on. About a dozen of the boys in the guard house for getting drunk.



Thursday, May 12

Southwick was run over yesterday while we were out on drill and had his ankle crushed. We went down to foot of canal today and fired a National Salute in honor of Louisiana's coming to the union as a free state. Mailed letter No 37 to wife.

Friday, May 13

Brady and **Tim Devine** had a row last night. **Brady** hit him with a sabre. I sent 20 dollars to wife via [Mrs.] **Rockwood**. Mailed letter No 38 to wife, also 2 papers containing 4 [letters] each. Have sent 10 [letters] before **Rockwood** went to [send it out?].

Saturday, May 14

No drill today. Cleaned up everything as usual ready for inspection tomorrow. I was detailed for and went on guard at 1/2 past 4. There are sixteen men in the guard house. Fifteen more without [leave?].

Sunday, May 15

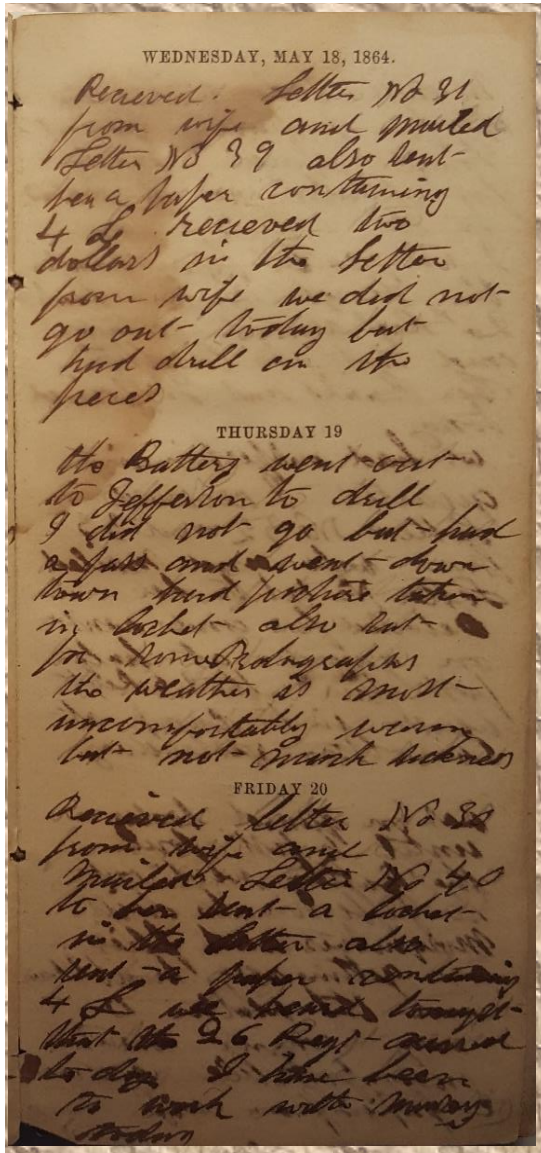
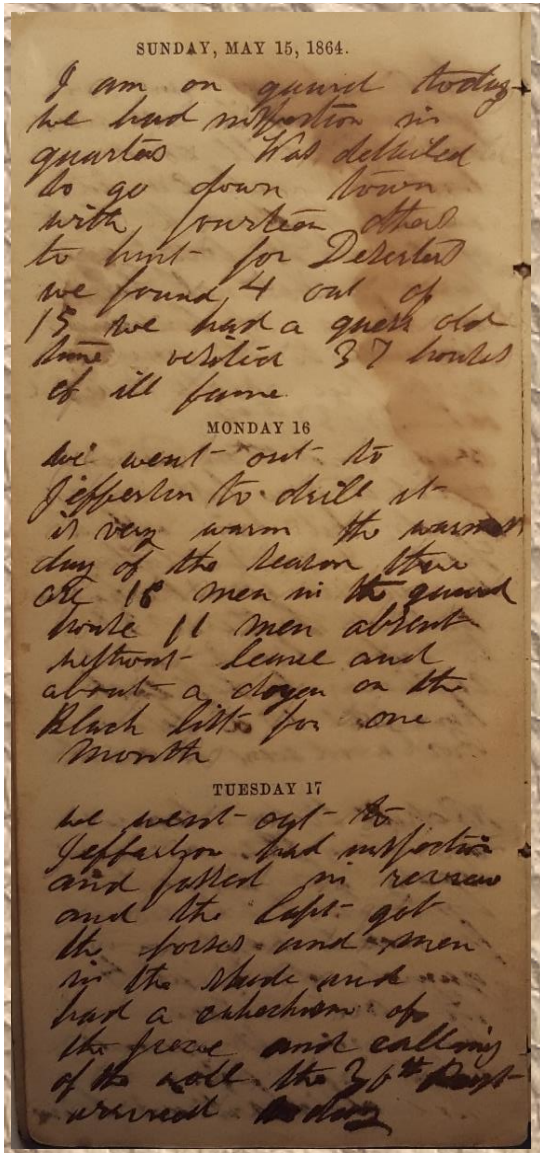
I am on guard today. We had inspection in quarters. Was detailed to go down town with fourteen others to hunt for deserters. We found 4 out of 15. We had a [queer] old time. Visited 37 houses of ill fame.

Monday, May 16

We went out to Jefferson to drill. It is very warm, the warmest day of the season. There are 16 men in the guard house. 11 men absent without leave and about a dozen on the black list for one month.

Tuesday, May 17

We went out to Jefferson. Had inspection and passed in review and the Capt. got the horses and men in the shade and had an inspection of the [place] and calling of the roll the 36th Regt. arrived today.



Wednesday, May 18

Received letter No 31 from wife and mailed letter No 39. Also sent her a paper containing 4 [letters]. Received two dollars in the letter from wife. We did not go out today but had drill on the pieces.

Thursday, May 19

The battery went out to Jefferson to drill. I did not go, but had a pass and went down town and had picture taken in locket, also [illegible]. The weather is most uncomfortably warm, but not much sickness.

Friday, May 20

Received letter No 30 from wife. Mailed letter No 40 to her. Sent a locket in the letter. Also sent a paper containing 4 [letters]. We heard tonight that the 26 Regt. arrived today. I have been to work with Munsey today.

Saturday, May 21

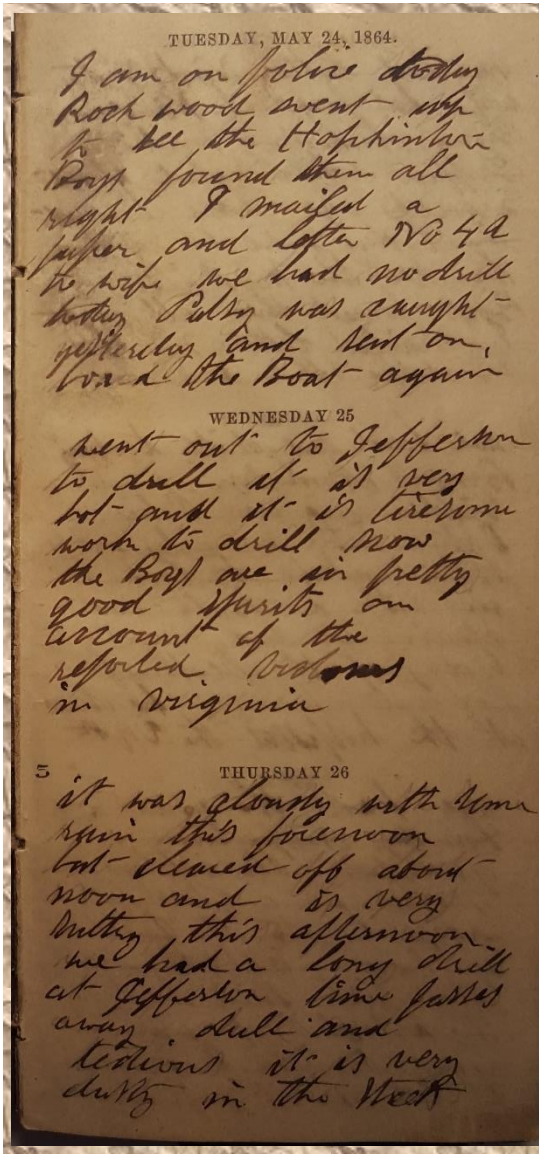
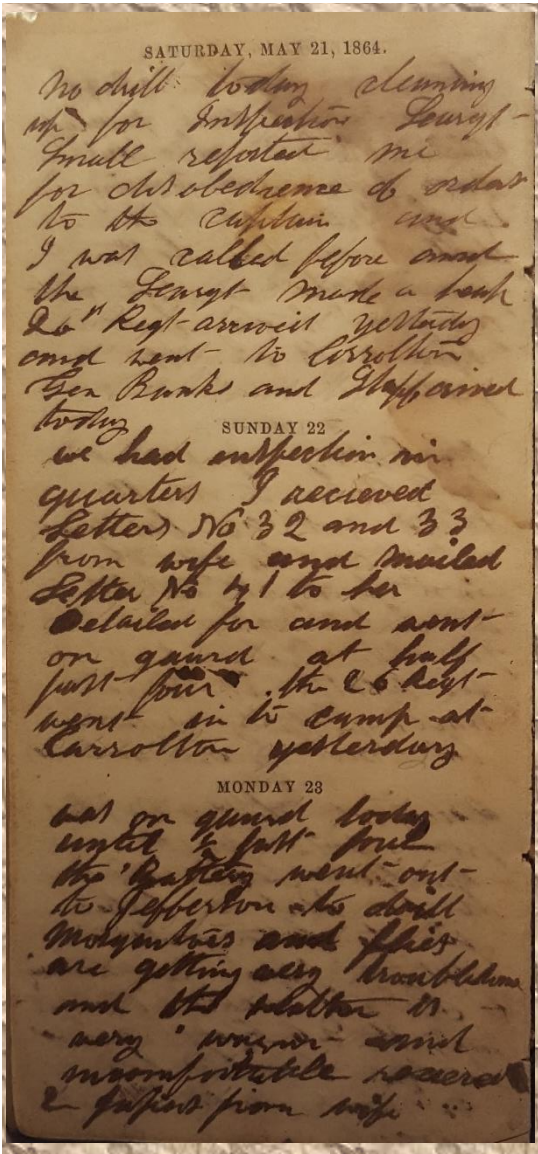
No drill today. Cleaning up for inspection. Seargt. Small reported me for disobedience of order to the Captain and I was called before and the Seargt. made a speech. 26th Regt. arrived yesterday and went to Carrolton. Gen. Banks and [staff] [arrived] today.

Sunday, May 22

We had inspection in quarters. I received letters No 32 and 33 from wife and mailed letter No 41 to her. Detailed for and went on guard at half past four. The 26 Regt. went into camp at Carrolton yesterday.

Monday, May 23

Was on guard today until half past four. The battery went out to Jefferson to drill. Mosquitos and flies are getting very troublesome and the weather is very warm and uncomfortable. Received 2 papers from wife.



Tuesday, May 24

I am on police today. Rockwood went up to see the Hopkinton boys. Found them all right. I mailed paper and letter No 42 to wife. We had no drill today. [Patsy?] was caught yesterday and sent on board the boat again.

Wednesday, May 25

Went out to Jefferson to drill. It is very hot and it is tiresome work to drill now. The boys are in pretty good spirits on account of the reported victories in Virginia.

Thursday, May 26

It was cloudy with some rain this forenoon, but cleared off about noon and is very sultry this afternoon. We had a long drill at Jefferson. Time passes away dull and tedious. It is very dusty in the street.

Friday, May 27

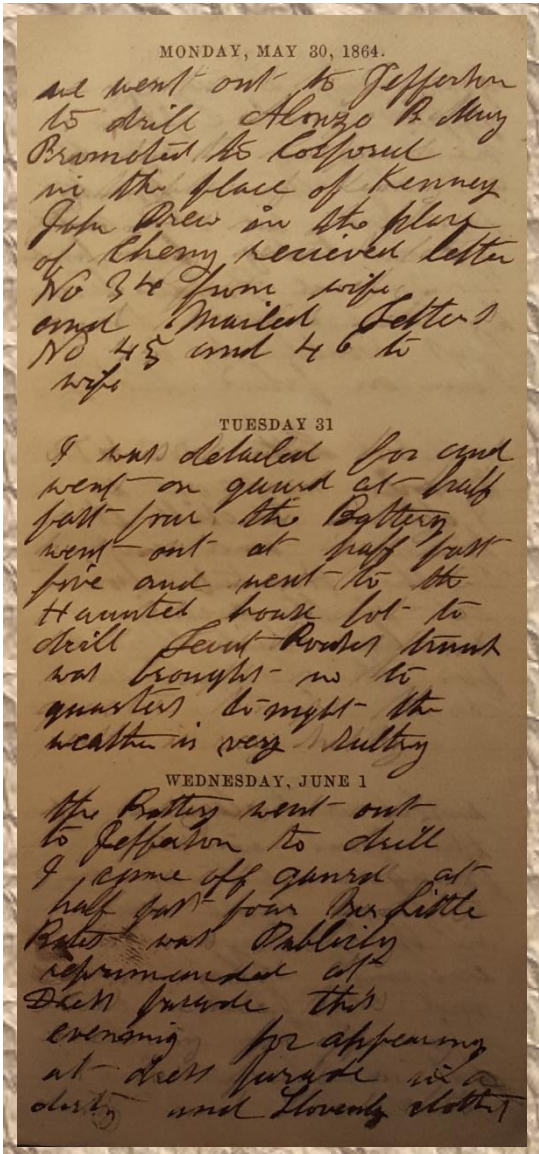
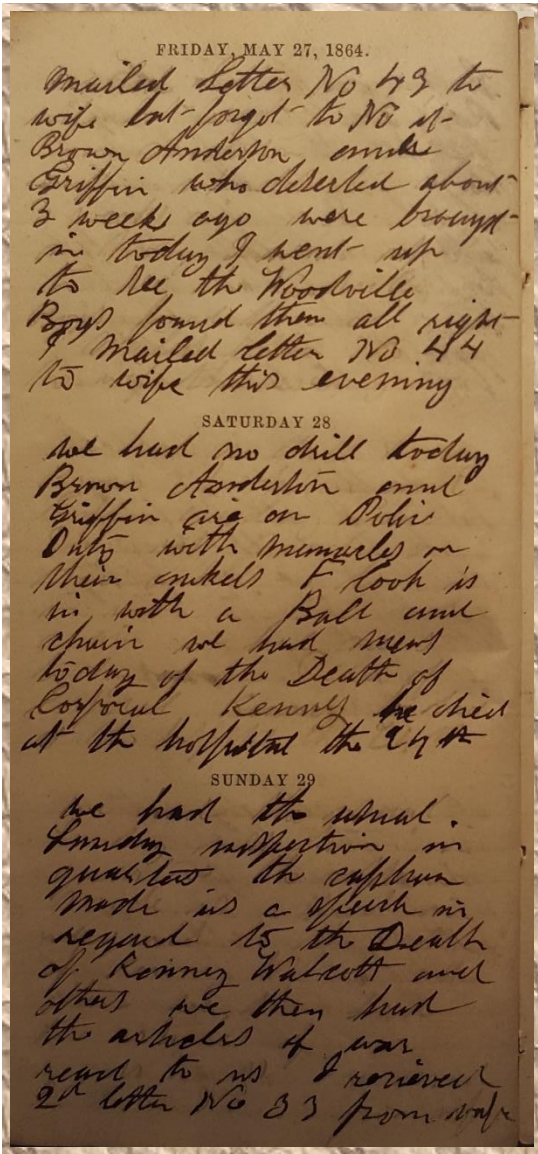
Mailed letter No 49 to wife but forgot to No it. Brown, Anderson and Griffin who deserted about 3 weeks ago were brought in today. I went up to see the Woodville boys. Found them all right. I mailed letter No 44 to wife this evening.

Saturday, May 28

We had no drill today. Brown, Anderson and Griffin are on Police duty with manacles on their ankles. F Cook is in with a ball and chain. We had news today of the death of Corporal Kenny. He died at the hospital the [27th?].

Sunday, May 29

We had the usual Sunday inspection in quarters. The Captain made a speech in regards to the death of [Ronny] Walcott and others. We then had the articles of war read to us. I received 2nd letter No 33 from wife.



Monday, May 30

We went out to Jefferson to drill. Alonzo B. May promoted to Corporal in place of Kenney. John Drew is in the place of Cheney. Received letter No 34 from wife and mailed letter No 45 and 46 to wife.

Tuesday, May 31

I was detailed for and went on guard at half past four. The battery went out at half past five and went to the Haunted House lot to drill. Lieut. Rouse's trunk was brought in to quarters tonight. The weather is very sultry.

Wednesday, June 1

The battery went out to Jefferson to drill. I came off guard at half past four. Then Little [Bates] was publicly reprimanded at [drill] [parade] this evening for appearing at drill in a dirty and slovenly [clothes].

Thursday, June 2

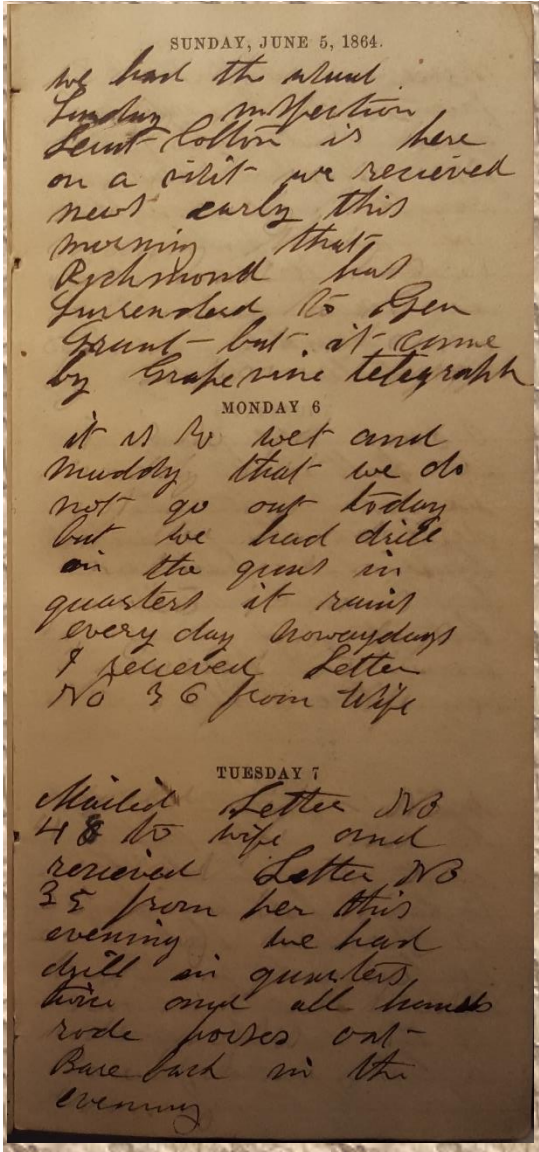
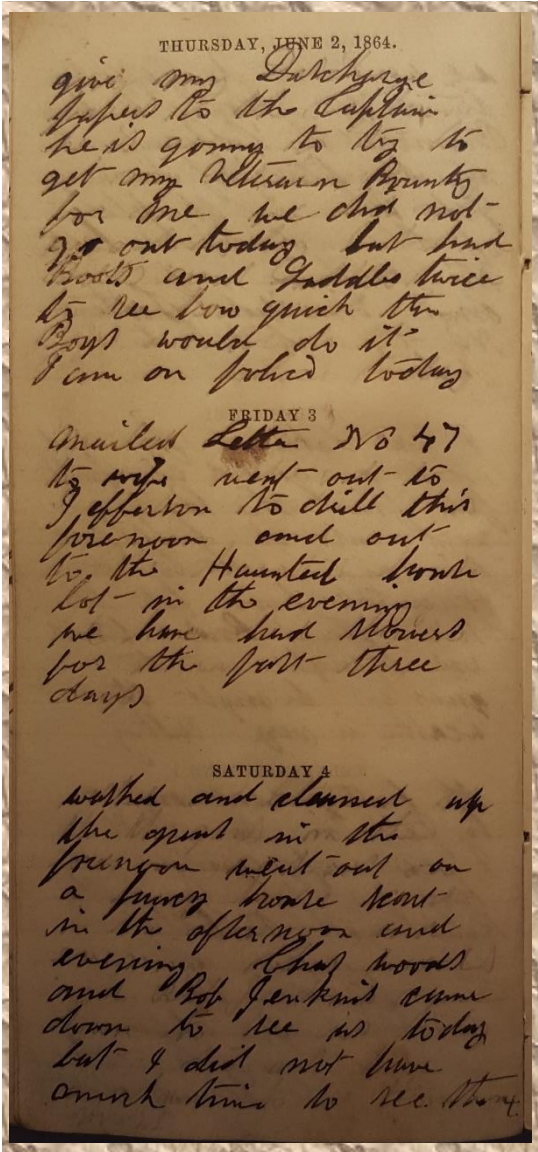
Gave my discharge papers to the Captain. He is going to try to get my [illegible] bounty for me. We did not go out today but have boots and saddles [blowed] to see how quick the boys could do it. I am on police today.

Friday, June 3

Mailed letter No 47 to wife. Went out to Jefferson to drill this forenoon and out the Haunted House lot in the evening. We have had showers for the past three days.

Saturday, June 4

Washed and cleaned up the [grounds] in the forenoon. Went out on a fancy [house/horse] scout in the afternoon and evening. [Chas] Woods and Bob Jenkins came down to see us today, but I did not have much time to see them.



Sunday, June 5

We had usual Sunday inspection. Lieut. [Colton] is here on a visit. We received news early this morning that Richmond has surrendered to Gen Grant, but it came by grapevine telegraph.

Monday, June 6

It is so wet and muddy that we do not go out today, but we had drill on the guns in quarters. It rains every day nowadays. I received letter No 36 from wife.

Tuesday, June 7

Mailed letter No 40 to wife and received letter No 35 from her this evening. We had drill in quarters twice and all hands rode horses out bareback in the evening.

Wednesday, June 8

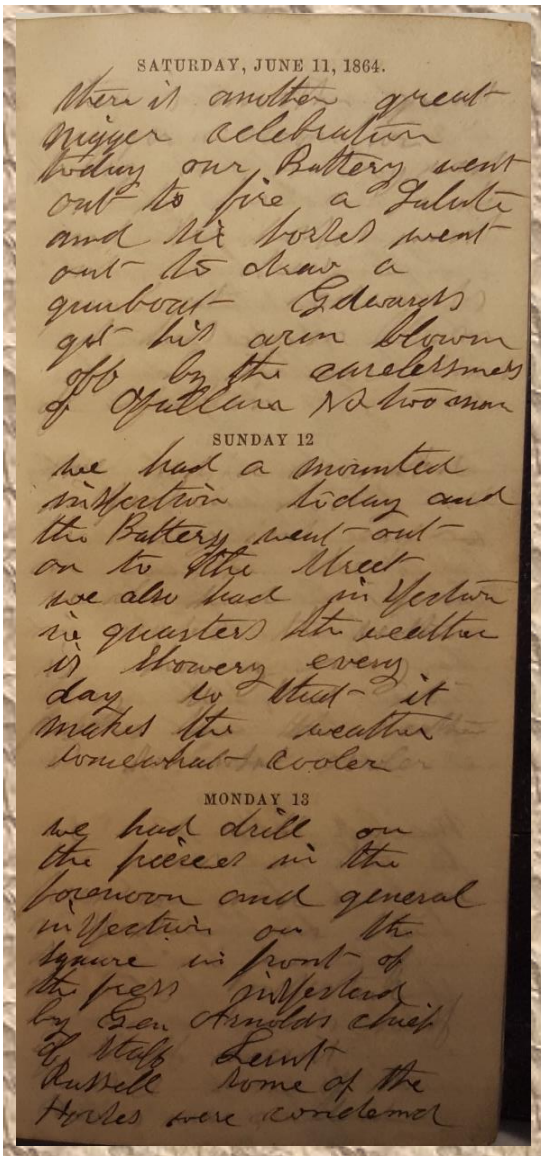
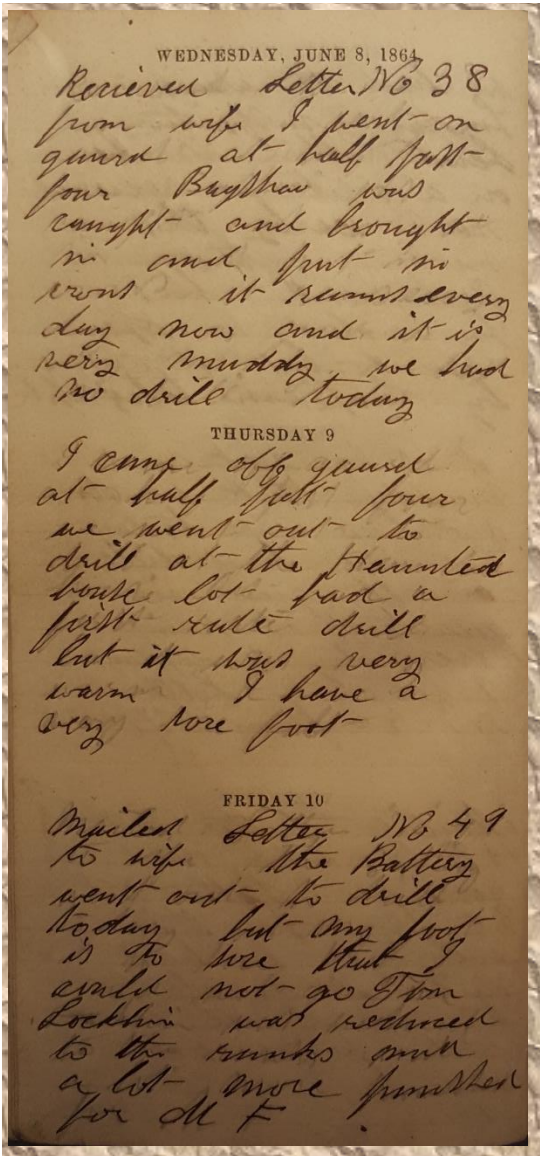
Received letter No 38 from wife. I went on guard at half past four. Bagshaw was caught and brought in and put in irons. It rains every day now and it is very muddy. We had no drill today.

Thursday, June 9

I came off guard at half past four. We went out to drill at the Haunted House lot. Had a first rate drill, but it was very warm. I have a very sore foot.

Friday, June 10

Mailed letter No 49 to wife. The battery went out to drill today but my foot is too sore that I could not go. Tom Loughlin was reduced to the ranks and a lot more punished for M F.



Saturday, June 11

There is another great [negro] celebration today. Our battery went to fire a salute and six horses went out to [draw] a gunboat. Edwards got his arm blown off by the carelessness of [illegible].

Sunday, June 12

We had a mounted inspection today and the battery went out on to the street. We also had inspection of quarters. The weather is showery every day so that it makes the weather somewhat cooler.

Monday, June 13

We had drill of the pieces in the forenoon and general inspection on the square in front of the press. Inspected by General Arnolds chief of staff, Lieut. Russell. Some of the horses were condemned.

Tuesday, June 14

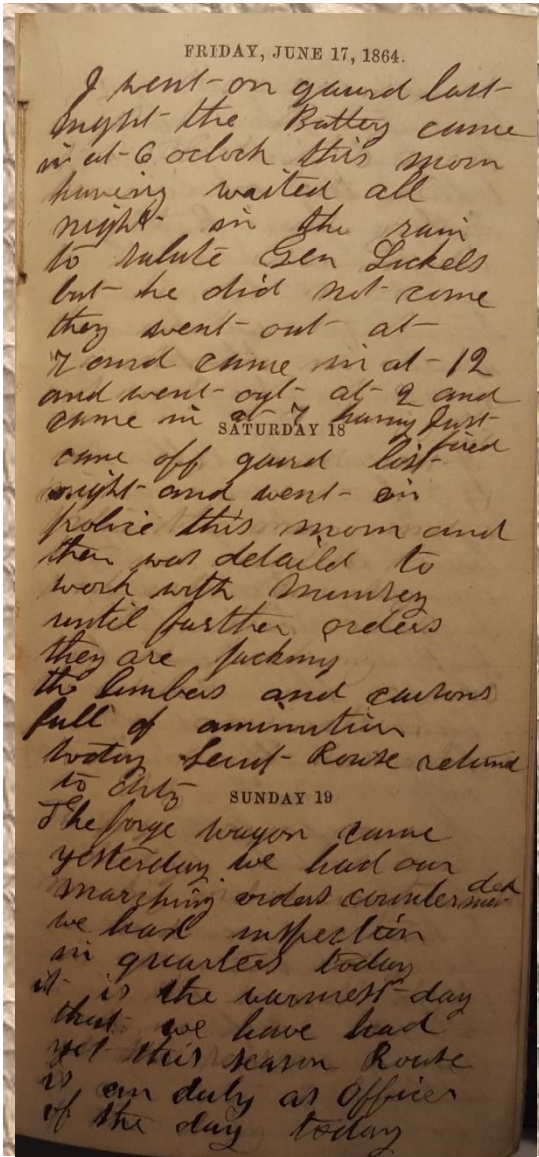
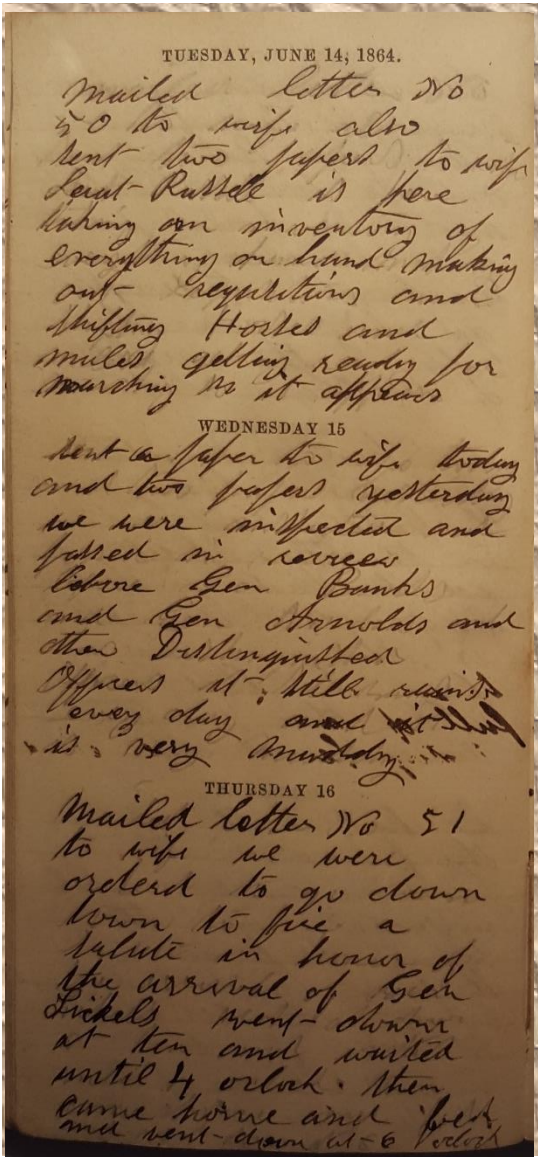
Mailed letter No 50 to wife. Also sent two papers to wife. Lieut. Russell is here taking an inventory of everything on hand, making out regulations and shifting horses and mules. Getting ready for marching, it appears.

Wednesday, June 15

Sent a paper to wife today and two papers yesterday. We were inspected, and passed in review before General Banks and General Arnolds and other distinguished officers. It still rains every day and it is very muddy.

Thursday, June 16

Mailed letter No 51 to wife. We were ordered to go down to fire a salute in honor of the arrival of General Sickels. Went down at ten and waited until 4 o'clock. Then came home and [illegible] and went down at 6 o'clock.



Friday, June 17

I went on guard last night. The battery came in at 6 o'clock this morn having waited all night in the rain to salute Gen Sickels but he did not come. They went out at 7 and came in at 12, and went out at 2 and came in at 7 having just fired.

Saturday, June 18

Came off guard last night and went on police this morning and then was detailed to work with **Munsey** until further orders. They are packing the limbers and cartons full of ammunition. Today Lieut. **Rouse** returned to duty.

Sunday, June 19

The forge wagon came yesterday. We had our marching orders countermanded. We had inspection in quarters today. It is the warmest day that we have had yet this season. **Rouse** is on duty as officer of the day today.

Monday, June 20

Mailed letter No 52 to wife. I have been to work with **Munsey** today. The whole battery forge, battery wagon and all went out to drill tonight. We have mules on the battery wagon and forge.

Tuesday, June 21

I received letter no 40 from wife and a *Journal*. I have been to work with **Munsey** today making baggage straps. The battery went out to drill this evening, but I am excused from drill while working with Munsey.

Wednesday, June 22

Received letter no 38 from wife. This is the second No 38 that I have received, having received the other one 14 days ago. Received letter No 39 from wife this evening. Mailed letter No 53 to wife.

MONDAY, JUNE 20, 1864.
Mailed letter No 52 to wife. I have been to work with Munsey today. The whole Battery forge Battery wagon and all went out to drill tonight. We have mules on the Battery wagon and forge.

TUESDAY 21
I received letter No 40 from wife and a Journal. I have been to work with Munsey today making Baggage straps. The Battery went out to drill this evening but I am excused from drill while working with Munsey.

WEDNESDAY 22
Received letter No 38 from wife this is the second No 38 that I have received having received the other one 14 days ago. Received letter No 39 from wife this evening. Mailed letter No 53 to wife.

THURSDAY, JUNE 23, 1864.
Mailed letter No 54 to wife. We had a drill in the evening on the small drill ground north of town and were inspected by the officers who we call bean soup from Alabama press. It was very muddy.

FRIDAY 24
Sent a paper and book to wife. We went out on parade through the city and visited the schools of the city and gave three cheers each for the schools, and three more for the flag. We went out to drill in the evening. I am on guard this evening.

SATURDAY 25
The captain came in last night at half past ten and had Boots and Saddles Blowed to see how quick we could hitch up. Came off guard at half past four. They have been cleaning up as usual today.

Thursday, June 23

Mailed letter No 54 to wife. We had a drill in the evening on the small drill ground north of town and were inspected by the officers we call [bean] [soup?] from Alabama Press. It has been very muddy.

Friday, June 24

Sent a paper and book to wife. We went out on parade through the city and visited the schools of the city and gave three cheers each for the schools, and three more for the flag. We went out to drill in the evening. I am on guard this evening.

Saturday, June 25

The Captain came in last night at half past ten and had boots and saddles blowed to see how quick we could hitch up. Came off guard at half past four. They have been cleaning up as usual today.

We went out on parade through the city and visited the schools of the city and gave three cheers each for the schools.

Sunday, June 26

We had our usual Sunday morning inspection. Mounted on the square in front of the press. We had our knapsacks on the caissons for the first time. Received letters No 41 and 42 from wife and mailed letter No 55 to her and letter to Jenkins.

Monday, June 27

Sent a paper to wife containing 4 old letters. Had drill to prepare for the concert on the fourth and orders to clean up everything for the grand review to come off on a day or two. Had drill at Jefferson in the evening.

Tuesday, June 28

Sent a paper to wife containing four letters. The battery went out [illegible] fire on the levee to try to [raise?] a dead body drowned last night. I have been [illegible?] the carriages today. Everything is cleaned up. [illegible sentence]

SUNDAY, JUNE 26, 1864.
we had our usual Sunday morning inspection mounted on the square in front of the press we had our knapsacks on the caissons for the first time Received letters No 41 and 42 from wife and mailed letter No 55 to her and letter to Jenkins
MONDAY 27
sent a paper to wife containing 4 old letters had drill to prepare for the concert on the fourth and orders to clean up every thing for the grand review to come off in a day or two had drill at Jefferson in the evening
TUESDAY 28
sent a paper to wife containing four letters the Battery went out to fire on the levee to try to raise a dead body drowned last night I have been painting the carriages today every thing is cleaned up Drabing put in limbo

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 29, 1864.
we had a rehearsal of the full we have got to perform on the fourth the Band all came to our quarters and we practiced with fiction primers in the afternoon we drill and practiced with out the Band
THURSDAY 30
Reub Coleman came here from Morganzie on his way home discharged we had another rehearsal with the Band today and went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening I mailed letter No 56 to wife and returned letter up to
FRIDAY, JULY 1 No 40
Coleman left to go and get transportation home we had orders to get all ready at 8 o'clock to go out on review but did not go but we went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening

Wednesday, June 29

We had a rehearsal of the [illegible]. We have got to perform on the fourth. The band all came to our quarters and we practiced with the [illegible] in the afternoon we drill and practiced without the band.

Thursday, June 30

Reub Coleman came here from Morganzie on his way home discharged. We had another rehearsal with the band today and went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening. I mailed letter No 56 to wife and returned letters up to No 40.

Friday, July 1

Coleman left to go and get transportation home. We had orders to get all ready at 8 o'clock to go out on review, but did not go. But we went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening.

Saturday, July 2

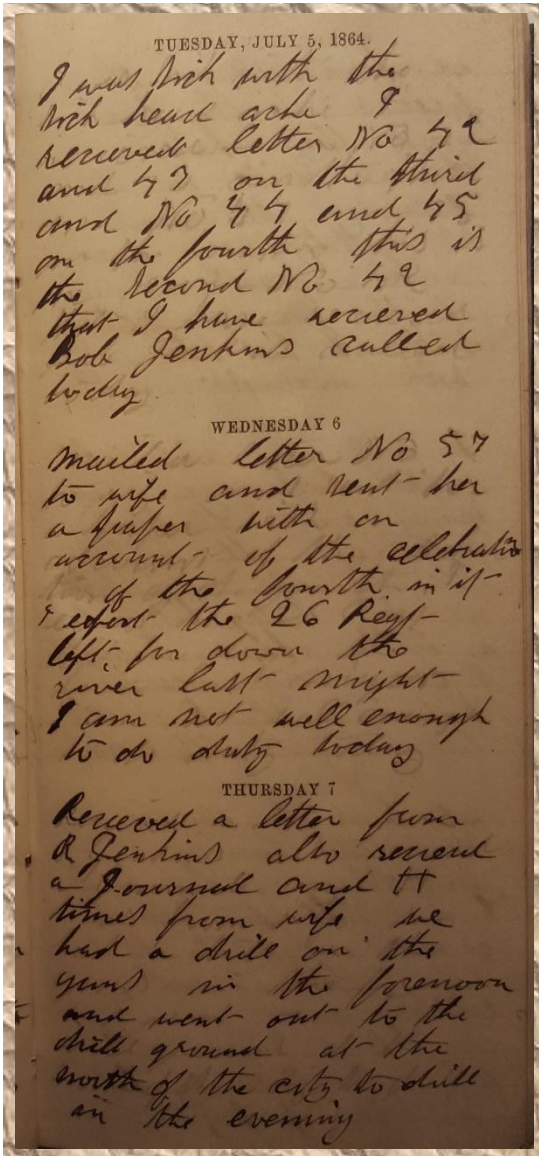
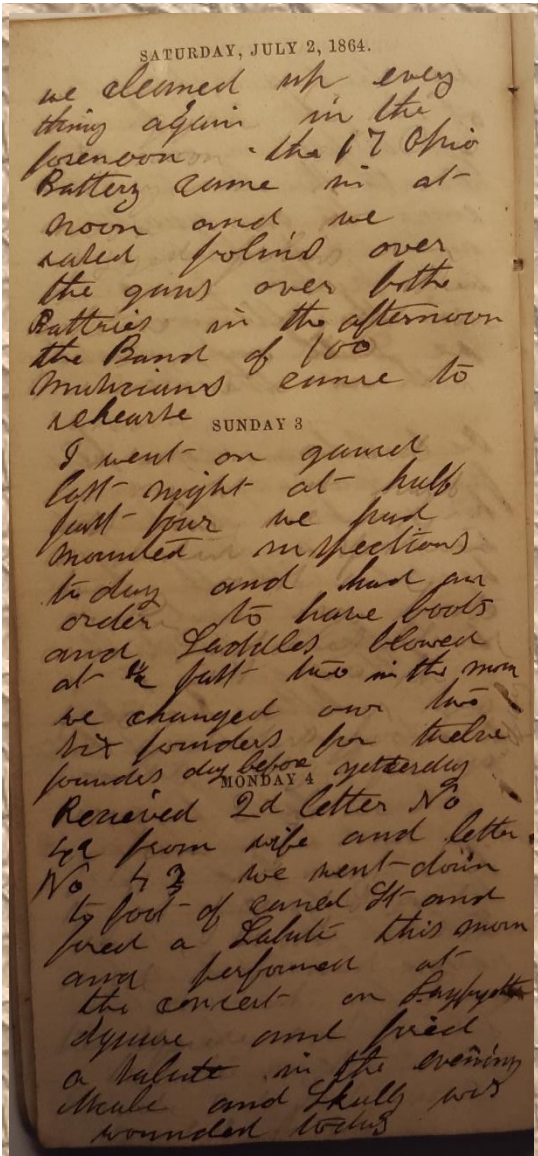
We cleaned up everything again in the forenoon. The 17 Ohio Battery came in at noon and we [illegible] [illegible] over the guns over both batteries in the afternoon. The band of 100 musicians came to rehearse.

Sunday, July 3

I went on guard last night at half past four. We had mounted inspections today and had our orders to have boots and saddles blowed at half past two in the morning. We changed our two six pounders for the twelve pounders the day before yesterday.

Monday, July 4

Received 2nd letter No 49 from wife and letter No 43. We went down to foot of Canal St. and fired a salute this morning and performed at the concert on Lafayette Square and fired a salute in the evening. McCabe and Scully was wounded today.



Tuesday, July 5

I was sick with a head ache. I received letter No 44 and 49 on the third and 44 and 45 on the fourth. This is the second No 49 that I have received. Bob Jenkins called today.

Wednesday, July 6

Mailed letter No 57 to wife and sent her an account of the celebration of the fourth in it. [Illegible?] of the 26 Regiment left for down the river last night. I am not well enough to do duty today.

Thursday, July 7

Received a letter from R. Jenkins. Also received a Journal and H (Hopkinton?) Times from wife. We had a drill on the guns in the forenoon and went out to the drill ground at the north of the city to drill in the evening.

Friday, July 8

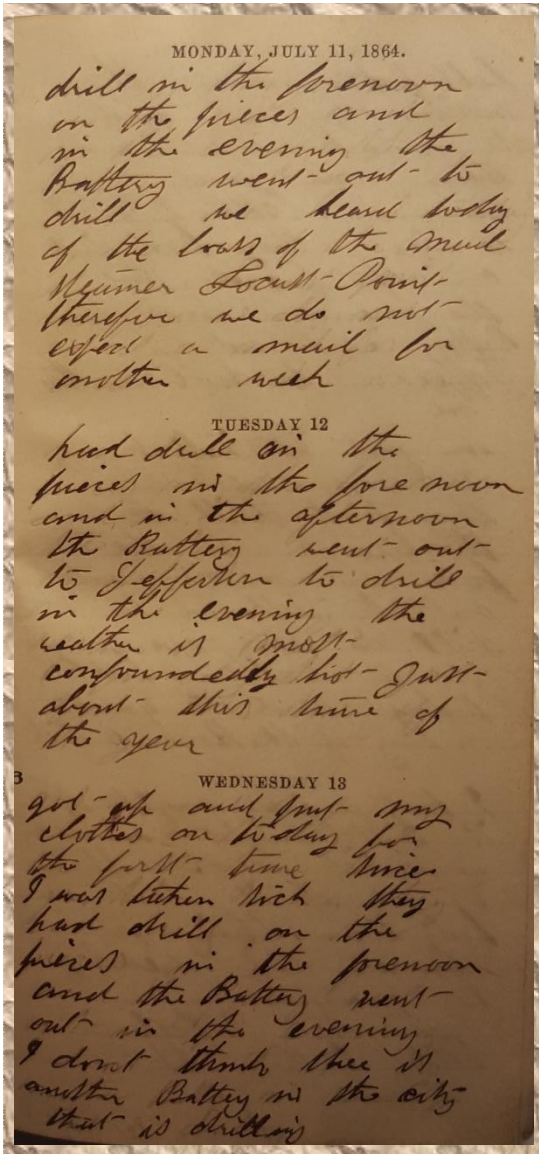
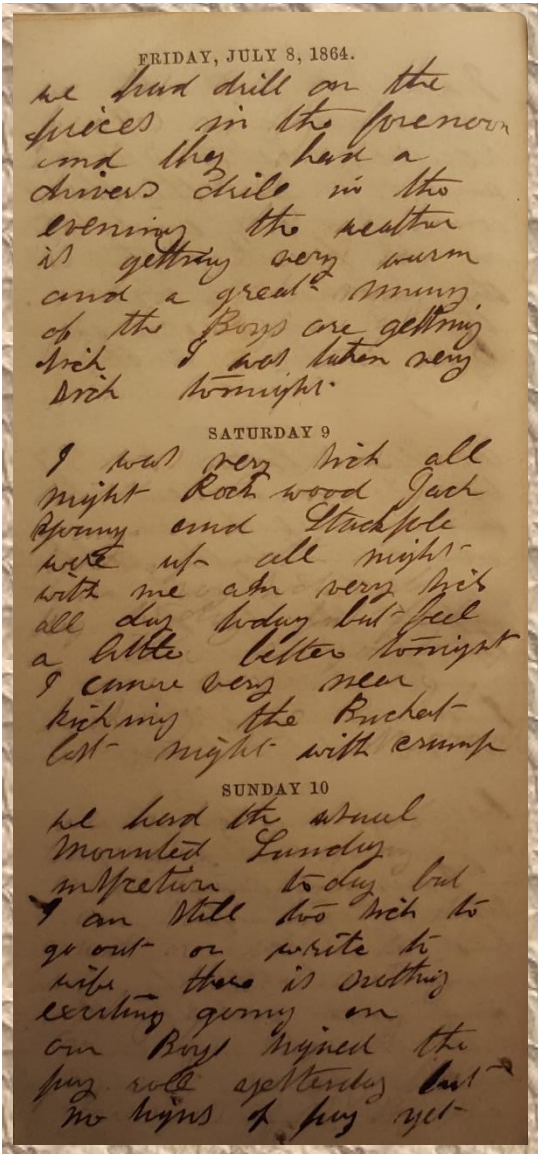
We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and they had a drivers drill in the evening. The weather is getting very warm and a great many of the boys are getting sick. I was taken very sick tonight.

Saturday, July 9

I was very sick all night. Rockwood, Jack Young and Stackpole were up all night with me and very sick all day today, but feel a little better tonight. I came very near kicking the bucket last night with [cramps?].

Sunday, July 10

We had the usual mounted Sunday inspection today, but I am still too sick to go out or write to wife. There is nothing exciting going on. Our boys signed the pay roll yesterday but no signs of pay yet.



Monday, July 11

Drill in the forenoon on the pieces and in the evening the battery went out to drill. We heard today of the loss of the mail steamer, Locust Point, therefore we do not expect a mail for another week.

Tuesday, July 12

Had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and in the afternoon. The battery went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening the weather is most confoundedly hot, just about this time of year.

Wednesday, July 13

Got up and put my clothes on today for the first time since I was taken sick. They had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and the battery went out in the evening. I don't think there is another battery in the city that is drilling.

Thursday, July 14

Felt pretty smart this morning. Got up and ate some breakfast and then wrote and mailed letter No 58 to wife. They had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and the battery went out to Jefferson to drill in the eve.

Friday, July 15

Am not so well today as I was yesterday. They had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening. It is sweltering hot today and a good many of the boys are sick.

Saturday, July 16

I had a poor night of it last night and am sick today. There is no drill today, but everything is cleaned up ready for inspection. I feel a little better this evening.

THURSDAY, JULY 14, 1864.
 felt pretty smart this morning got up and ate some breakfast and then wrote and mailed letter No 58 to wife they had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and the battery went out to Jefferson to drill in the eve.

FRIDAY 15
 am not so well today as I was yesterday they had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening it is sweltering hot today and a good many of the boys are sick.

SATURDAY 16
 I had a poor night of it last night and am sick today there is no drill today but every thing is cleaned up ready for inspection I feel a little better this evening.

SUNDAY, JULY 17, 1864.
 we had the usual Sunday inspection in quarters and then Capt Tim made one of his big speeches telling us that we should soon be called to go to the front and he hoped we would be men.

MONDAY 18
 Capt Tim was put under arrest yesterday but what for or by whose order I do not know Lieut Rouse now had command of the battery -- so now look out for [signals?]. We had drill on the guns this eve.

TUESDAY 19
 yesterday Rouse had the drivers to drill at harnessing by numbers this morning Rouse had them up at 5 o'clock and went out to drill until 7 o'clock and then drill on the pieces and harnessing in the eve Morrill was returned to duty today.

Sunday, July 17

We had the usual Sunday inspection in quarters and then **Captain Tim (Pearson)** made one of his big speeches telling us that we should soon be called to go to the front and he hoped we would be men.

Monday, July 18

Captain Tim was put under arrest yesterday, but what for or by what orders I do not know. Lieut. **Rouse** now had command of the battery -- so now look out for [signals?]. We had drill on the guns this eve.

Tuesday, July 19

Yesterday, **Rouse** had the drivers to drill at harnessing by numbers. This morning **Rouse** had them up at 5 o'clock and went out to drill until 7 o'clock and then drill on the pieces and harnessing in the eve. **Morrill** was returned to duty today.

Wednesday, July 20

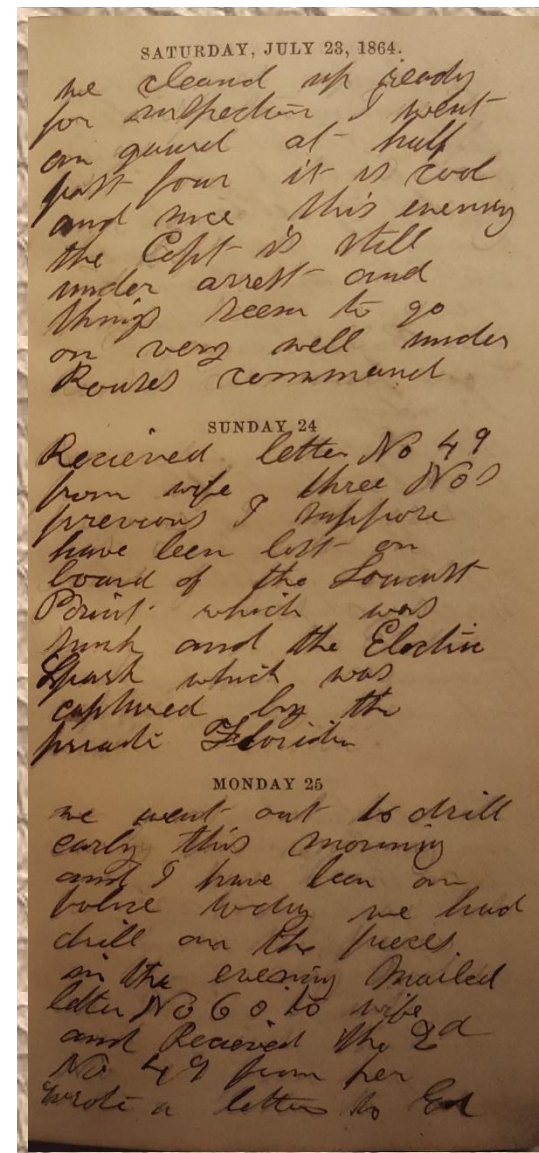
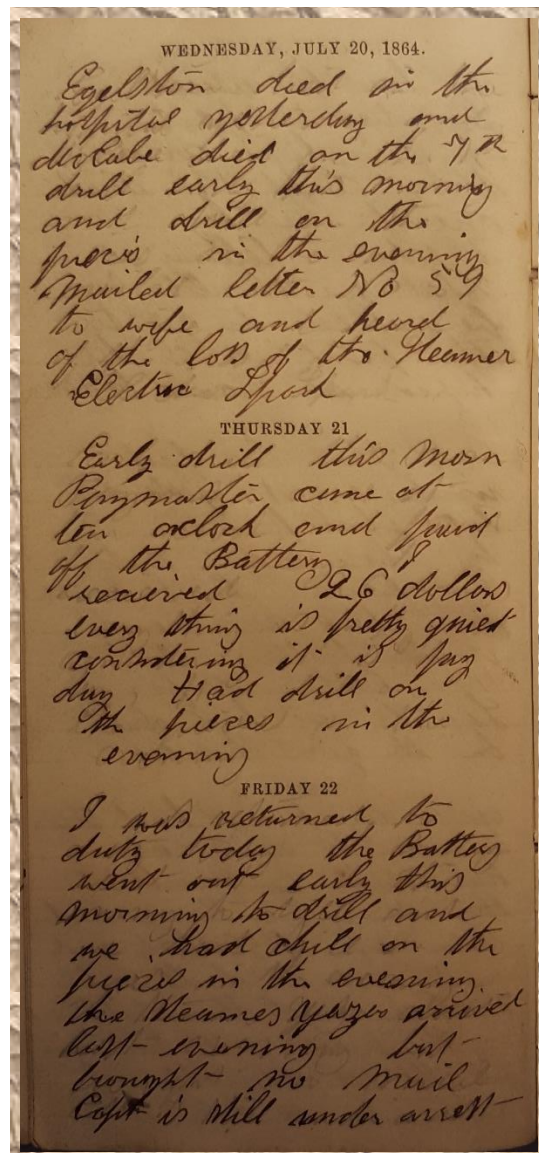
Eggleston died in the hospital yesterday and **McCabe** died on the 7th. Drill early this morning and drill on the pieces in the evening. Mailed letter No 59 to wife and heard of the loss of the steamer, Electric Spark.

Thursday, July 21

Early drill this morning. Paymaster came out at ten o'clock and paid off the battery. I received 26 dollars. Everything is pretty quiet considering it is pay day. Had drill on the pieces in the evening.

Friday, July 22

I was returned to duty today. The battery went out early this morning to drill and we had drill on the pieces in the evening. The steamer [Yazoo] arrived last evening, but brought no mail. Capt. is still under arrest.

**Saturday, July 23**

We cleaned up ready for inspection. I went on guard at half past four. It is cool and nice this evening. Capt. is still under arrest and things seem to go very well under **Rouse's** command.

Sunday, July 24

Received letter No 49 from wife. [Previous] I suppose have been lost on board of the Locust Point which was sunk and the Electric Spark which was Captured by the Pirate Florida.*

*see appendix E

Monday, July 25

We went out to drill early this morning and I have been on police today. We had drill on the pieces in the evening. Mailed letter No 60 to wife and received the 2nd No 49 from her. Wrote a letter to Ed.

Tuesday, July 26

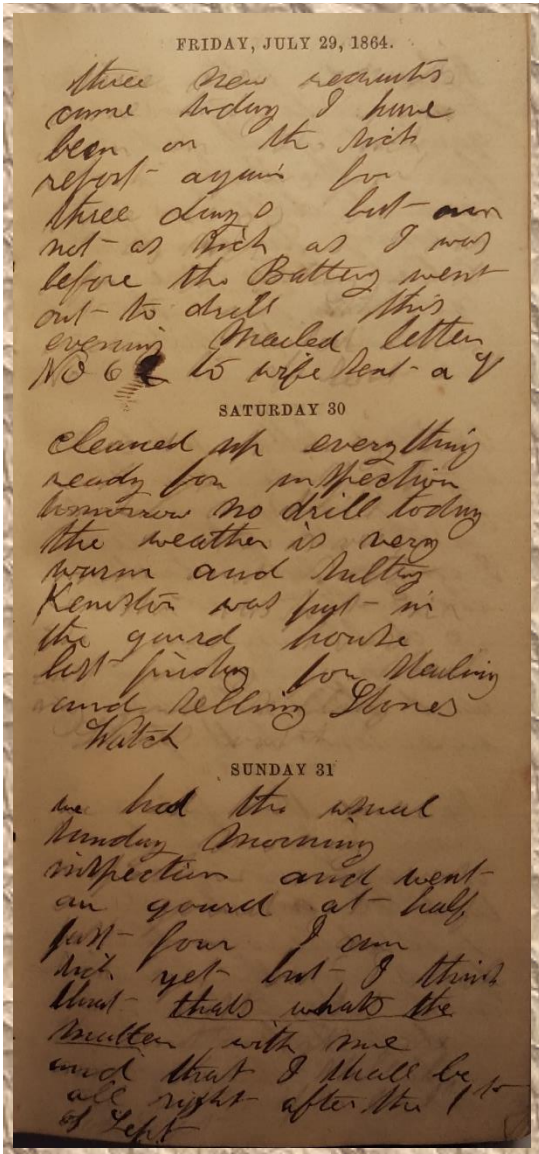
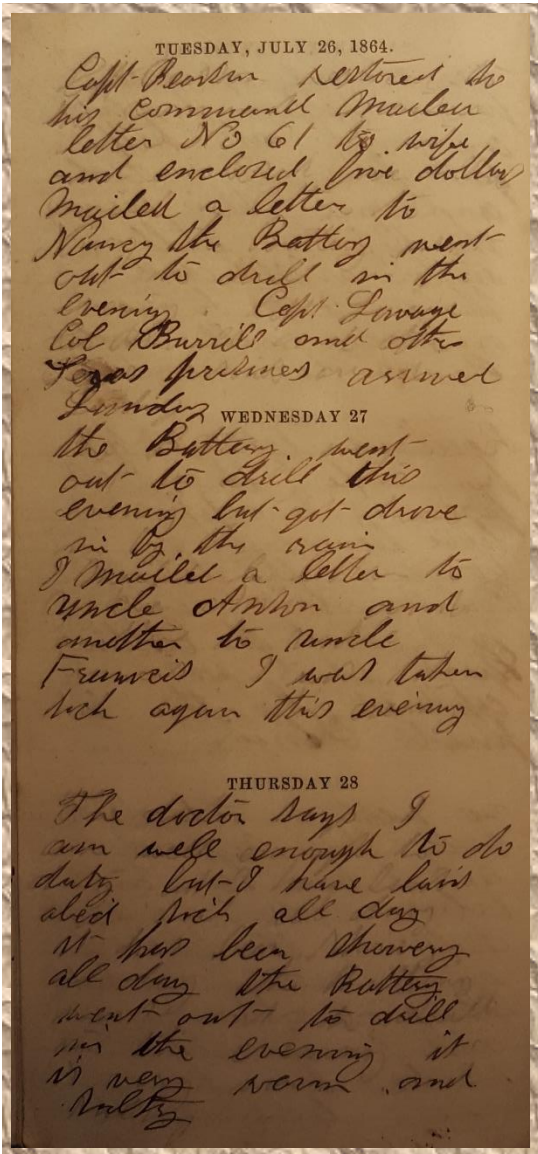
Capt. Pearson restored to his command. Mailed letter No 61 to wife and enclosed five dollars. Mailed a letter to [Nancy?]. The battery went out to drill in the evening. Captain [Savage]. Col. Burrill and other [Texas??] [??] arrived [Sunday?].

Wednesday, July 27

The battery went out to drill this evening, but got drove in by the rain. I mailed a letter to uncle [A??] and another to uncle Francis. I was taken sick again this evening.

Thursday, July 28

The doctor says I am well enough to do duty, but I have lain abed sick all day. It has been showery all day. The battery went out to drill in the evening. It is very warm and sultry.



Friday, July 29

Three new recruits came today. I have been on the sick report for three days, but am not as sick as I was before. The battery went out to drill this evening. Mailed letter No 62 to wife and sent a [V??].

Saturday, July 30

Cleaned up everything ready for inspection tomorrow. No drill today. The weather is very warm and sultry. Keniston was put in the guard house last Friday for stealing and selling Stones' watch.

Sunday, July 31

We had the usual Sunday morning inspection and went on guard at half past four. I am sick yet, but I think that's what the matter with me and that I shall be all right after the 1st of Sept.

Monday, August 1

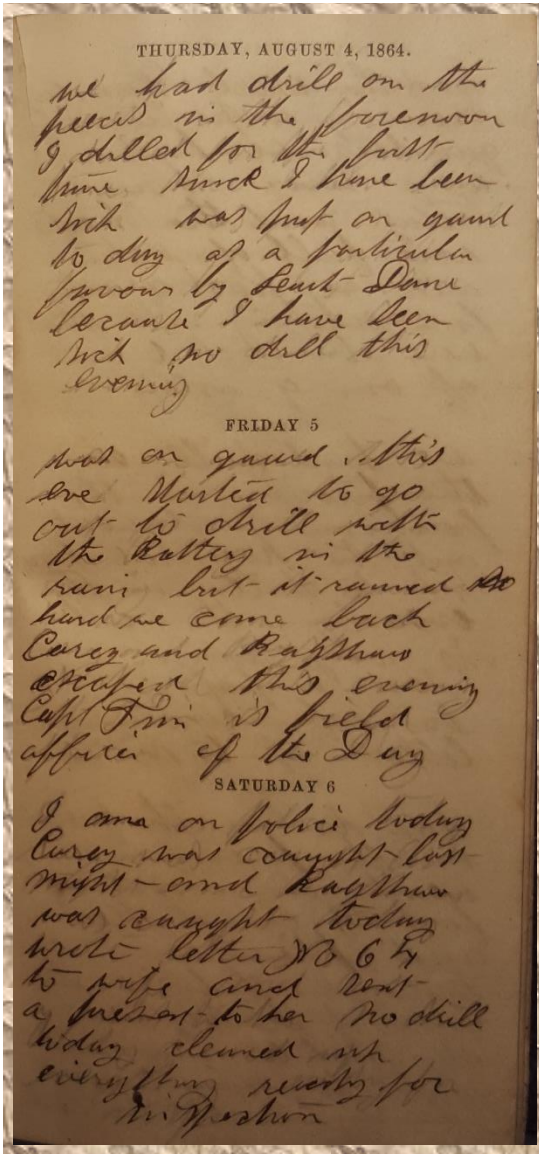
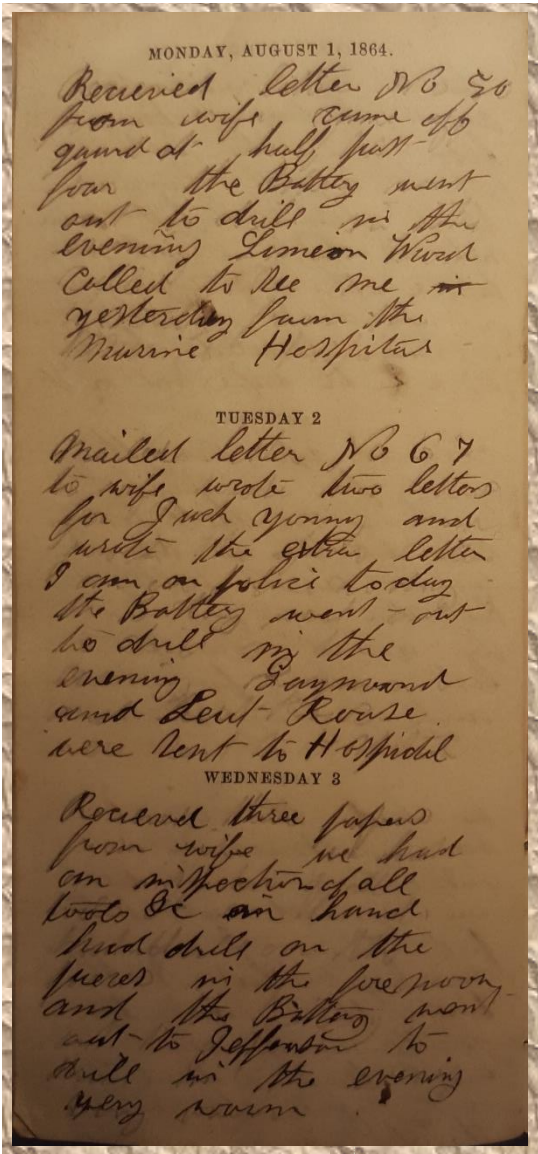
Received letter No 50 from wife. Came off guard at half past four. The battery went out to drill in the evening. **Simeon Ward** called to see me yesterday from the Marine hospital.

Tuesday, August 2

Mailed letter No 67 to wife. Wrote two letters for **Jack Young** and wrote the extra letter. I am on police today. The battery went out to drill in the evening. **Gaymond** and Lieut. **Rouse** were sent to hospital.

Wednesday, August 3

Received three papers from wife. We had an inspection of all boots [&?] on hand. Had drill on the pieces in the forenoon, and the battery went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening. Very warm.



Thursday, August 4

We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon. I drilled for the first time since I have been sick. Was put on guard today as a particular favour by Lieut. **Dame**. Because I have been sick, no drill this evening.

Friday, August 5

Was on guard this evening. Started to go out to drill with the battery in the rain, but it rained so hard we came back. **Carey** and **Bagshaw** escaped this evening. **Capt. Tim** [Pearson] is field officer for the day.

Saturday, August 6

I am on police today. **Carey** was caught last night and **Bagshaw** was caught today. Wrote letter No 64 to wife and sent a present to her. No drill today. Cleaned up everything ready for inspection.

Sunday, August 7

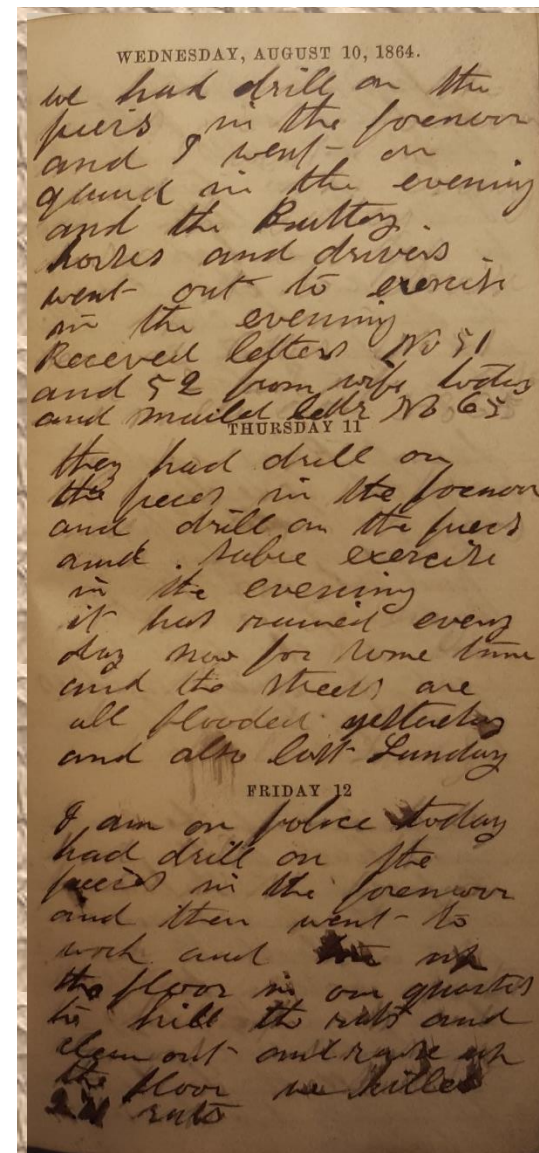
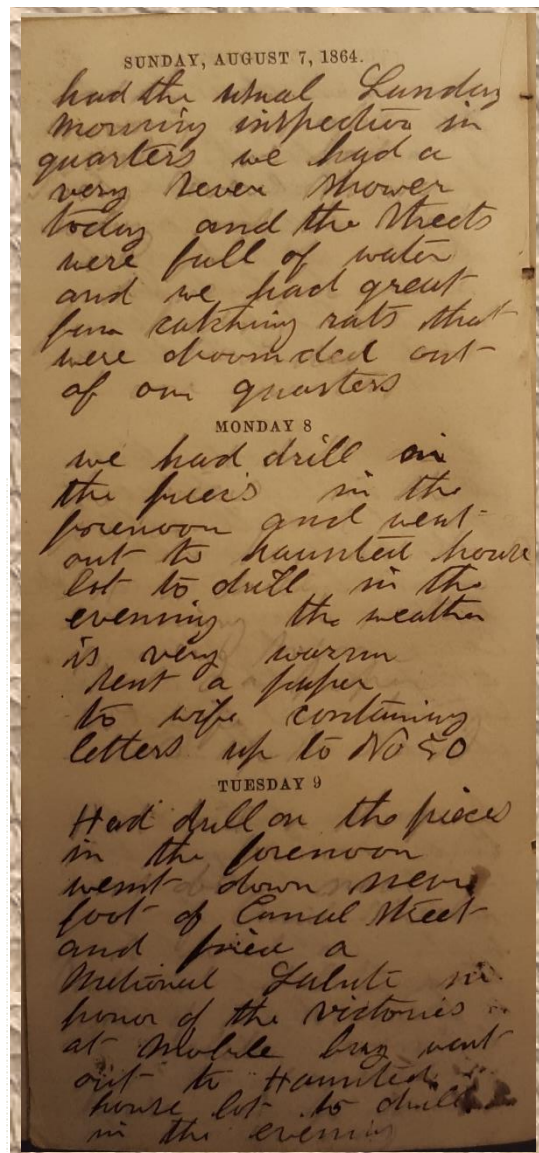
Had the usual Sunday morning inspection in quarters. We had a very severe shower today and the streets were full of water and had great fun catching rats that were [illegible] out of our quarters.

Monday, August 8

We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and went out to haunted house lot to drill in the evening. The weather is very warm. Sent a paper to wife containing letters up to No 50.

Tuesday, August 9

Had drill on the pieces in the forenoon. Went down near foot of Canal Street and fired a national salute in honor of the victories at [Mobile?] [bay?]. Went out to haunted house lot to drill in the evening.

**Wednesday, August 10**

We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and I went on guard in the evening. And the battery horses and drives went out to exercise in the evening. Received letters no. 51 and 52 from wife today and mailed letter No 65.

Thursday, August 11

They had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and drill on the pieces and sabre exercise in the evening. It has rained every day for some time and the streets are all flooded yesterday and all last [Sunday].

Friday, August 12

I am on police today. Had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and then went to work and tore up the floor in our quarters to kill the rats and clean out and raise up the floor. We killed 271 rats.

.then went to work and tore up the floor in our quarters to kill the rats and clean out and raise up the floor. We killed 271 rats.

Saturday, August 13

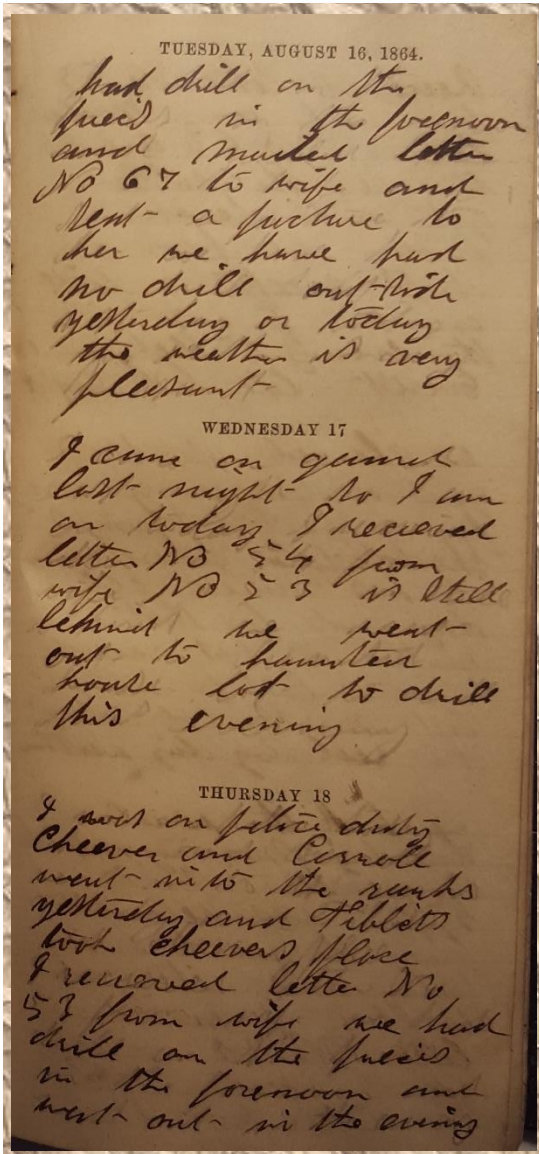
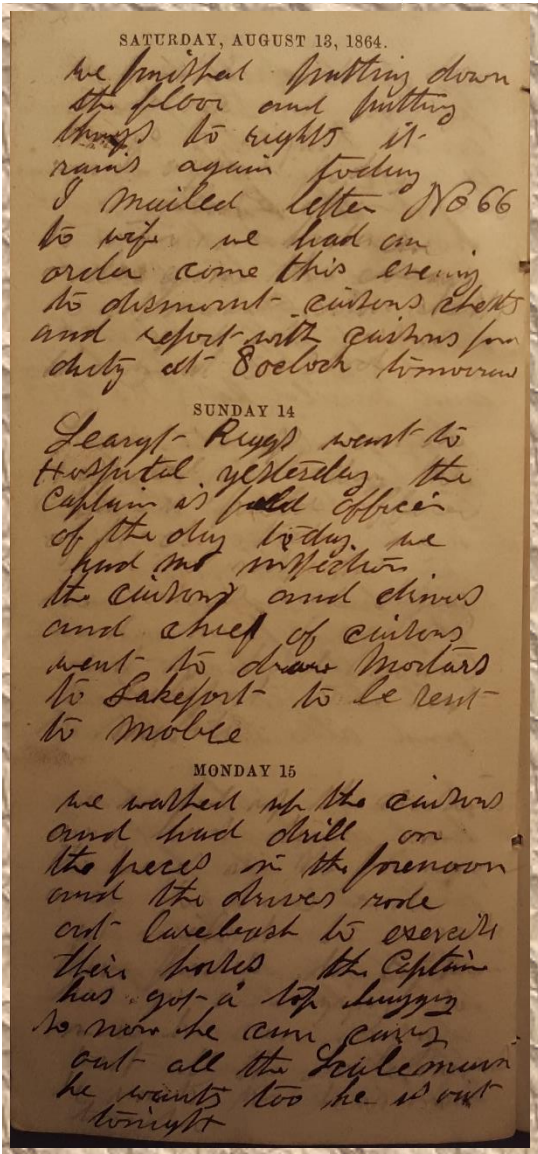
We finished putting down the floor and putting things to rights. It rains again today. I mailed letter No 66 to wife. We had an order come this evening to dismount caissons chests and report with caissons for duty at 8 o'clock tomorrow.

Sunday, August 14

Seargt. Briggs went to hospital yesterday. The Captain is field officer of the day today. We had an inspection. The caissons and drivers and chief of caissons went to draw mortars to Lakefort to be sent to Mobile.

Monday, August 15

We washed up the caissons and had drill on the pieces in the forenoon. And the drivers road out bareback to exercise their horses. The Captain has got a top [??] so now he can carry out all the [S_illegible] he wants to. He is out tonight.



Tuesday, August 16

Had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and mailed letter No 67 to wife and sent a picture to her. We had no drill outside yesterday or today. The weather is very pleasant.

Wednesday, August 17

I came on guard last night so I am on today. I received letter No 54 from wife. Not 53 is still behind. We went out to haunted house lot to drill this evening.

Thursday, August 18

I was on police duty today. Cheever and Carroll went into the ranks yesterday and Tibbets took Cheevers place. I received letter No 53 from wife. We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and went out in the evening.

Friday, August 19

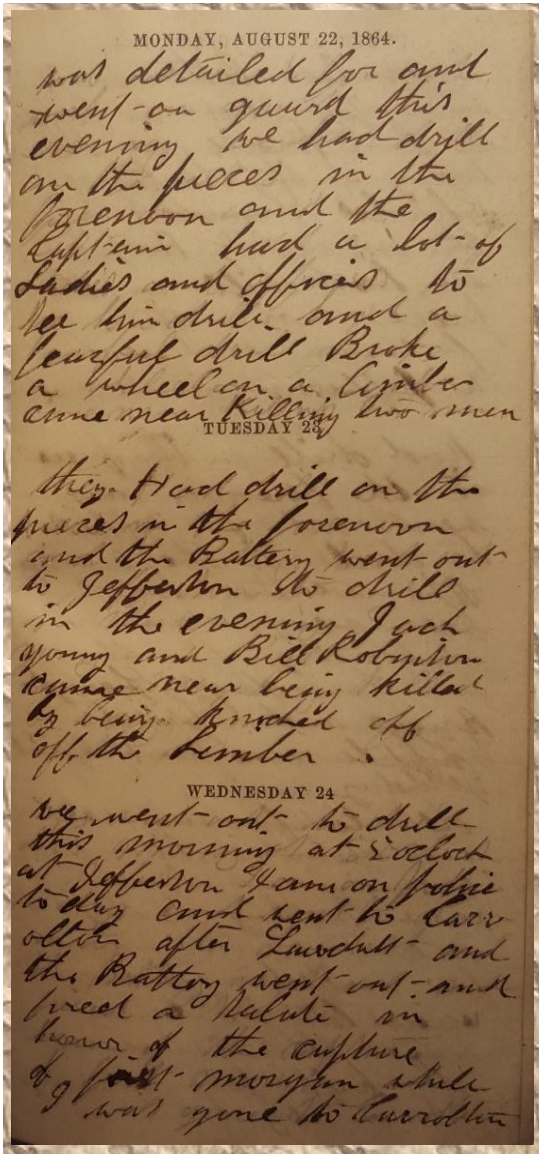
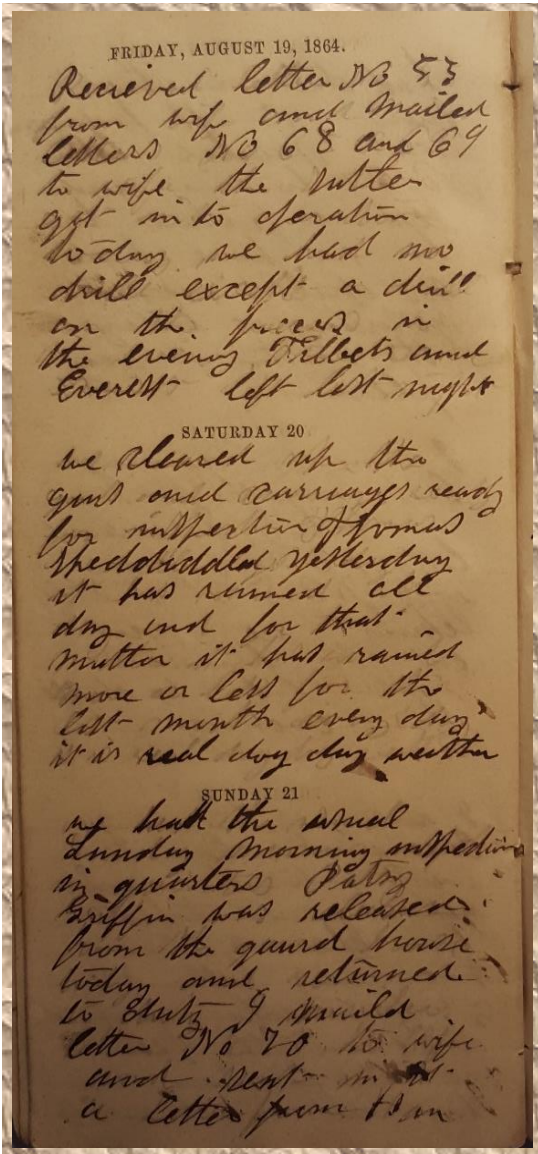
Received letter No 53 from wife and mailed letters No 68 and 69. The Sutler got into operation today. We had no drill except a drill on the pieces in the evening. Tibbets and Everest left last night.

Saturday, August 20

We cleaned up the guns and carriages ready for inspection. Thomas skedaddled yesterday. It has rained all day and for that matter, it has rained more or less for the last month every day. It is real [dog] [day] weather.

Sunday, August 21

We had the usual Sunday morning inspection in quarters. [Patsy] Griffin was released from the guard house today and returned to duty. I mailed letter No 70 to wife and sent in it a letter from [her?].



Monday, August 22

Was detailed for and went on guard this evening. We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and the Captain had a lot of ladies and officers to see him drill and a [illegible] drill broke and a wheel on a limber came near killing two men.

Tuesday, August 23

The had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and the battery went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening. Jack Young and Bill Robertson came near being killed by being knocked off the limber.

Wednesday, August 24

We went out to drill the morning at 5 o'clock at Jefferson. I am on police today and went to Carrolton after [illegible] and the battery went out and fired a salute in hone for the Capture of Fort Morgan while I was gone to Carrolton.

Thursday, August 25

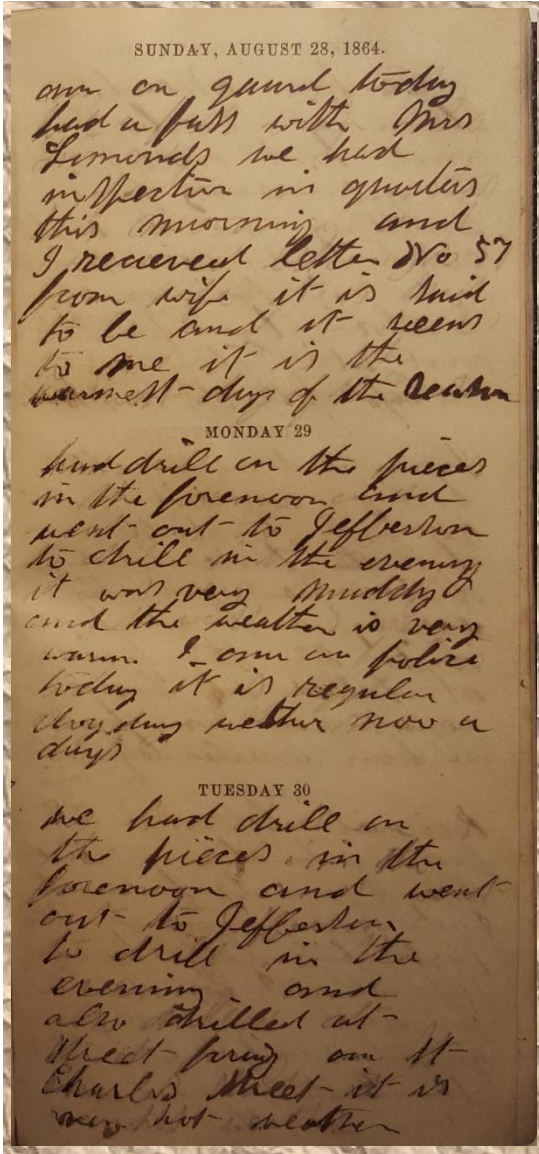
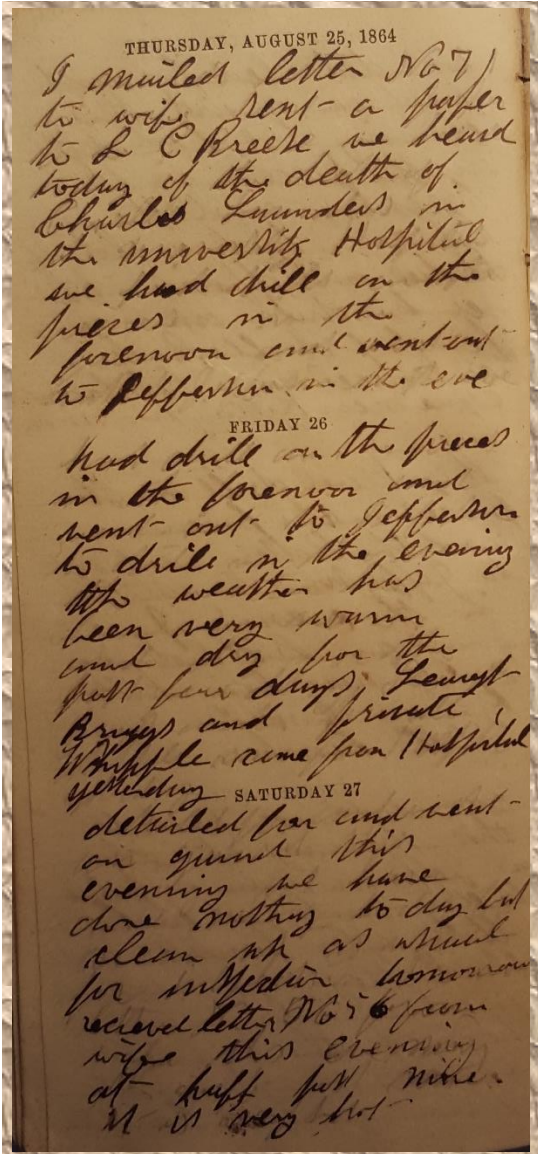
I mailed letter No 71 to wife. Sent a paper to [S C Breese?]. We heard today of the death of Charles Saunders in the university hospital. We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and went out to Jefferson in the eve.

Friday, August 26

Had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening. The weather has been very warm and dry for the past few days. Sargent Briggs and private Whipple came from hospital yesterday.

Saturday, August 27

Detailed for and went on guard this evening. We have done nothing today but clean up as usual for inspection tomorrow. Received letter No 56 from wife this evening at half past nine it is very hot.



Sunday, August 28

Was on guard today. Had a pass with Simons. We had inspection in quarters this morning and I received letter No 57 from wife. It is said to be and seems to be the warmest day of the season.

Monday, August 29

We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening. It was very muddy and the weather is very warm. I am on police today. It is regular dog day weather now a days.

Tuesday, August 30

We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening. And also drilled at [illegible] firing on St. Charles Street. It is very hot weather.

Wednesday, August 31

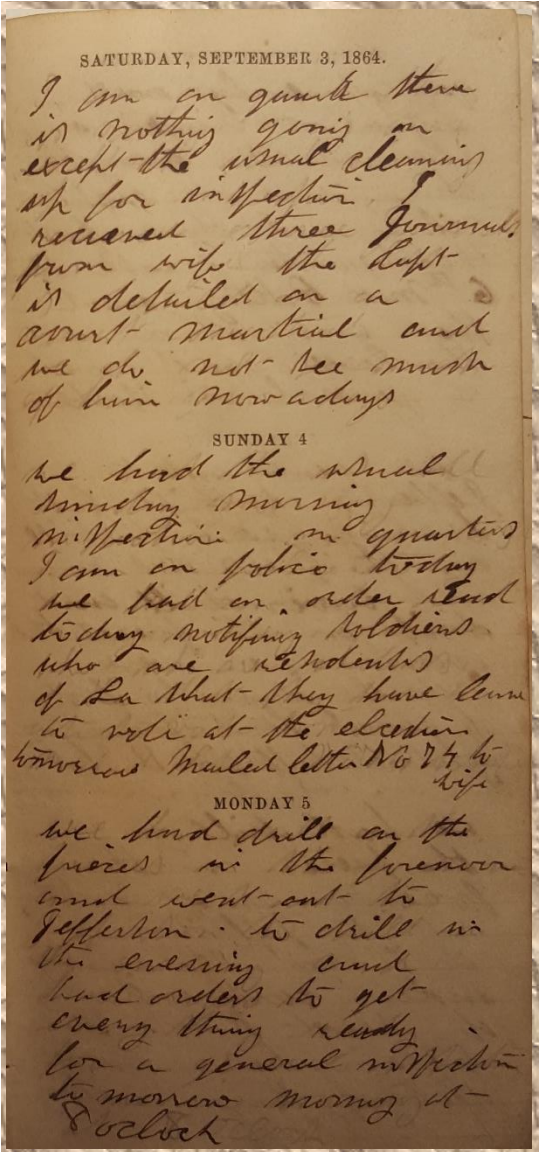
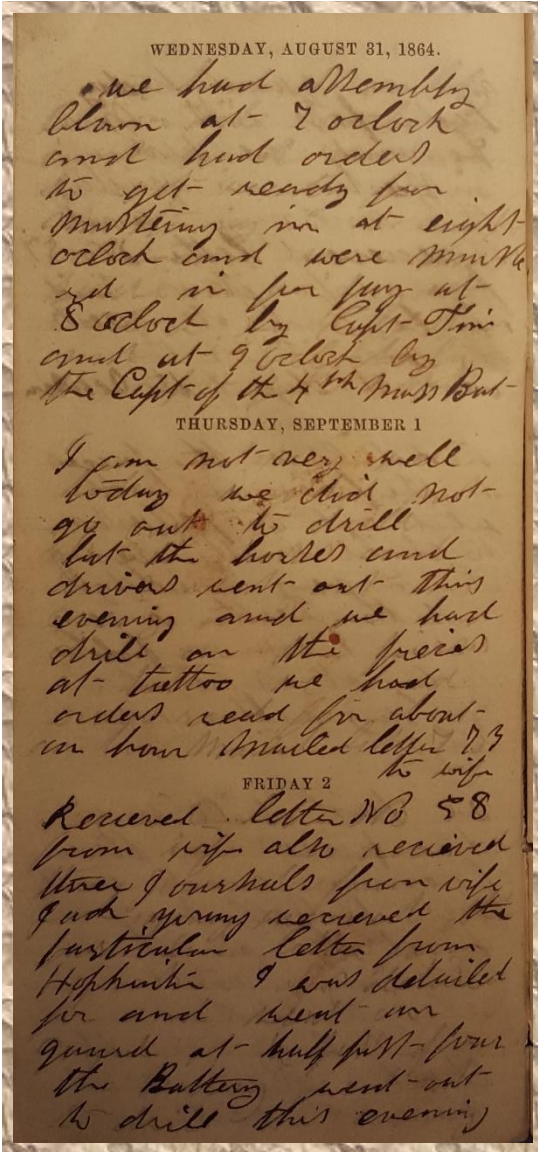
We had assembly blown at 7 o'clock and had orders to get ready for mustering in at 8 o'clock by Captain Tim [Pearson] and at 9 o'clock by the Captain of the 4th Mass Battery.

Thursday, September 1

I am not very well today. We did not go out to drill, but the horses and drivers went out this evening and we had drill on the pieces at tattoo. We had orders read to us for about an hour. Mailed letter No 73 to wife.

Friday, September 2

Received letter No 58 from wife. Also received three Journals from wife. Jack Young received a [particular] letter from Hopkinton. I was detailed for and went on guard at half past four. The battery went out to drill this evening.



Saturday, September 3

I am on guard. There is nothing going on except the usual cleaning up for inspection. I received three Journals from wife. The Capt. is detailed on a court martial and we do not see much of him nowadays.

Sunday, September 4

We had the usual inspection in quarters. I am on police today. We had an order read today notifying soldiers who are residents of LA that they have leave to vote at the election tomorrow. Mailed letter No 74 to wife.

Monday, September 5

We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening. And had order to get everything ready for a general inspection tomorrow morning at 8 o'clock.

Tuesday, September 6

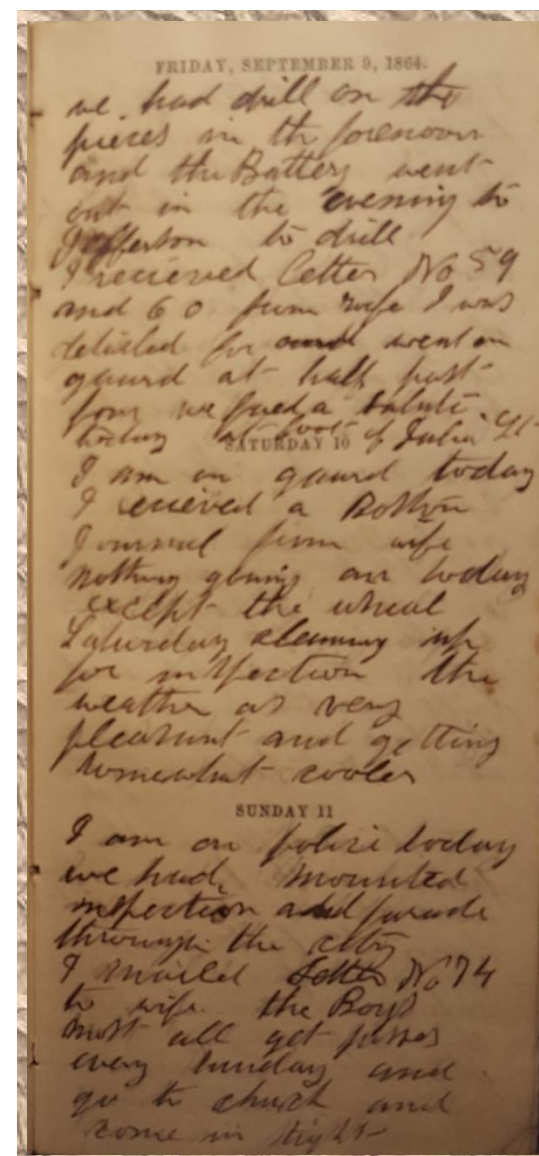
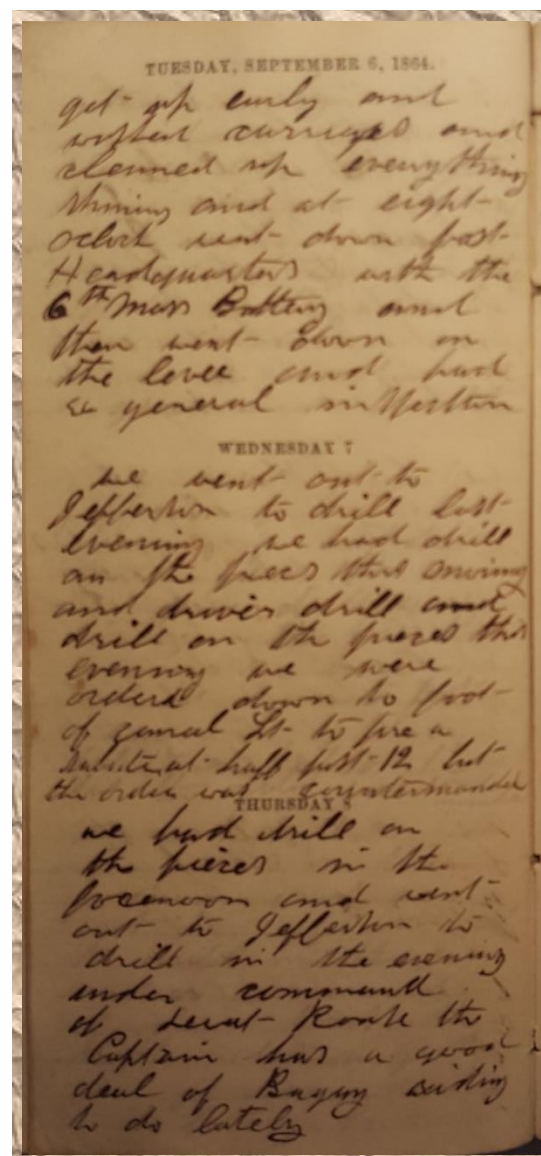
Got up early and [worked] carriages and cleaned up everything [shining] and at eight oclock went down past headquarters with the 6th Mass Battery and then went down on the levee and had a general inspection.

Wednesday, September 7

We went out to Jefferson to drill last evening. We had drill on the pieces this morning and driver drill, and drill on the pieces this evening. We were ordered down to foot of Canal St. to fire a salute at half past 12, but the order was countermanded.

Thursday, September 8

We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening under command of Lieut. **Rouse**. The Captain has a good deal of [B illegible] to do lately.

**Friday, September 9**

We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and the battery went out in the evening to Jefferson to drill. I received letter No 59 and 60 from wife. I was detailed for and went on guard at half past four. We fired a salute today at foot of Julia St.

Saturday, September 10

I am on guard today. I received a *Boston Journal* from wife. Nothing going on today except the usual Saturday cleaning up for inspection. The weather is very pleasant and getting somewhat cooler.

Sunday, September 11

I am on police today we had mounted inspection and parade throughout the city. I mailed letter No 74 to wife. The boys must all get passes every Sunday and go to church and come in tight.

Monday, September 12

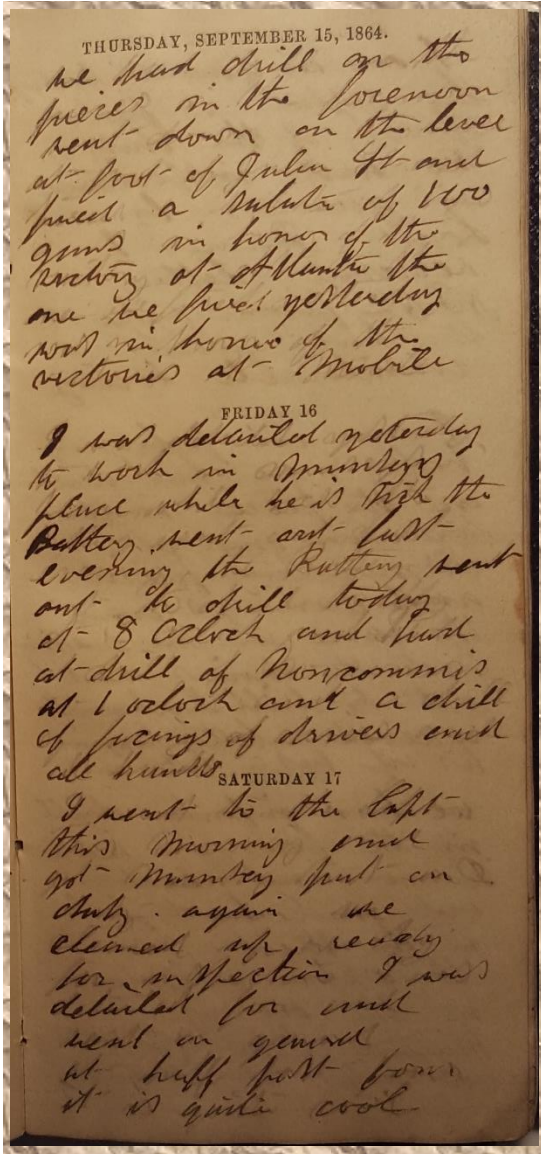
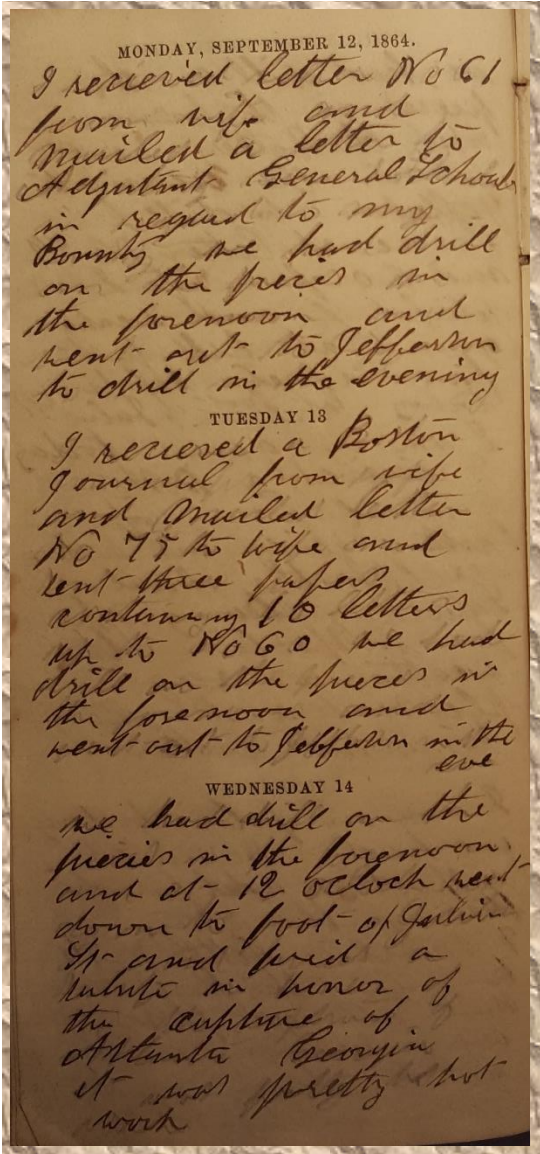
I received letter No 61 from wife and mailed a letter to Adjutant General Schouler in regards to my bounty. We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and went out to Jefferson to drill in the evening.

Tuesday, September 13

I received a Boston Journal from wife and mailed letter No 75 to wife and sent three papers containing 10 letters up to No 60. We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and went out to Jefferson in the eve.

Wednesday, September 14

We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and at 12 oclock went down to the foot of Julia St. and fired a salute in honor of Atlanta, Georgia. It was pretty hot work.



Thursday, September 15

We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon. Went down on the levee at front of Julia St. and fire a salute of 100 guns in honor of the victory of Atlanta. The one we fired yesterday, was in honor of the victories at Mobile.

Friday, September 16

I was detailed yesterday to work in **Munsey's** place while he is sick. The battery went out last evening. The battery went out to drill today at 8 oclock and had a drill of [noncommis?] at 1 oclock and a drill of [illegible] of drivers and all hands.

Saturday, September 17

I went to the Capt. today and got **Munsey** put on duty again. We cleaned up ready for inspection. I was detailed for and went on guard at half past four. It is quite cool.

Sunday, September 18

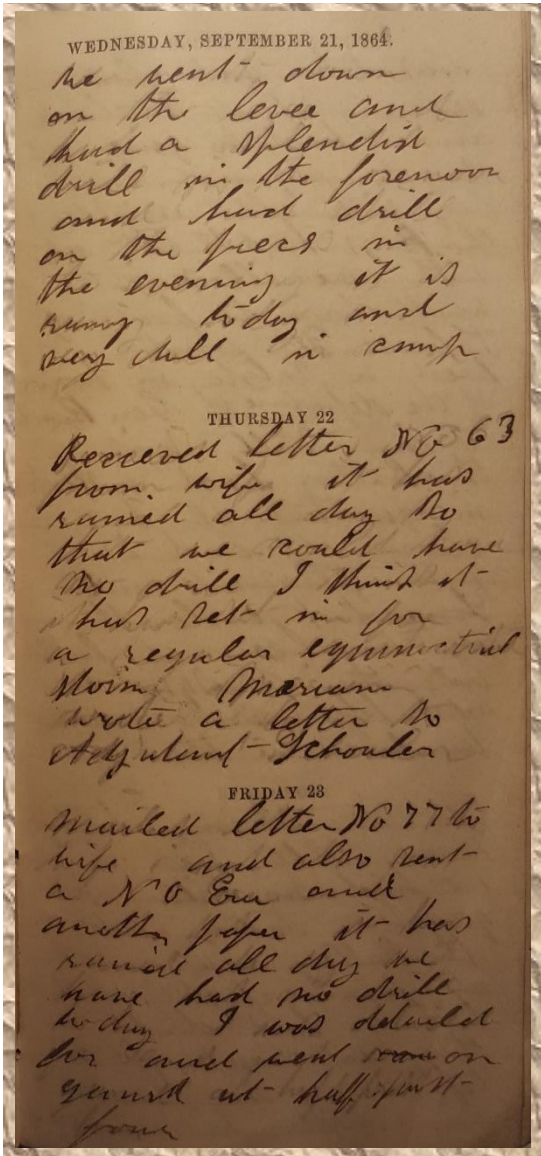
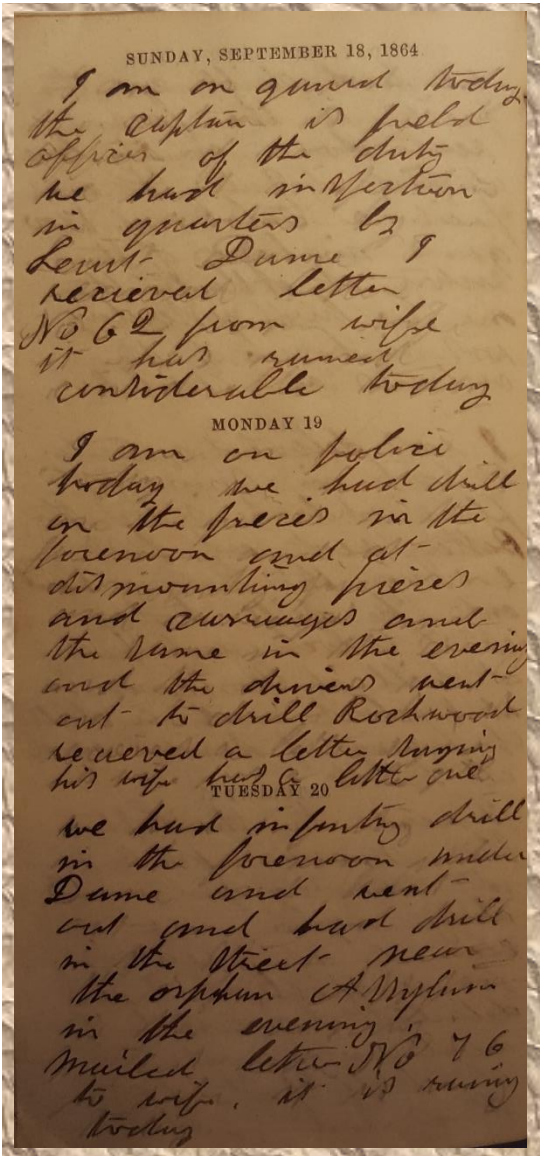
I am on guard today. The Captain is field officer of the duty. We had inspection in quarters by Lieut. Dame. I received letter No 62 from wife. It has rained considerably today.

Monday, September 19

I am on police duty today. We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and at dismounting pieces and carriages. And the same in the evening, and the drivers went out to drill. Rockwood received a letter today saying his wife had a little one.

Tuesday, September 20

We had infantry drill in the forenoon under Dame and went out and had drill in the street near the Orpheum [Assylum?] in the evening. Mailed letter No 76 to wife. It is rainy today.



Wednesday, September 21

We went down on the levee and had a splendid drill in the forenoon and had drill on the pieces in the evening. It is rainy today and very chilly in camp.

Thursday, September 22

Received letter No 63 from wife. It has rained all day so that we could have no drill. I think it has set in for a [illegible] storm. Meriam wrote a letter to Adjutant Schouler.

Friday, September 23

Mailed letter No 77 to wife and also sent a [New Orleans] [E illegible?] and another paper. It has rained all day. We have had no drill today. I was detailed for and went on guard at half past four.

Saturday, September 24

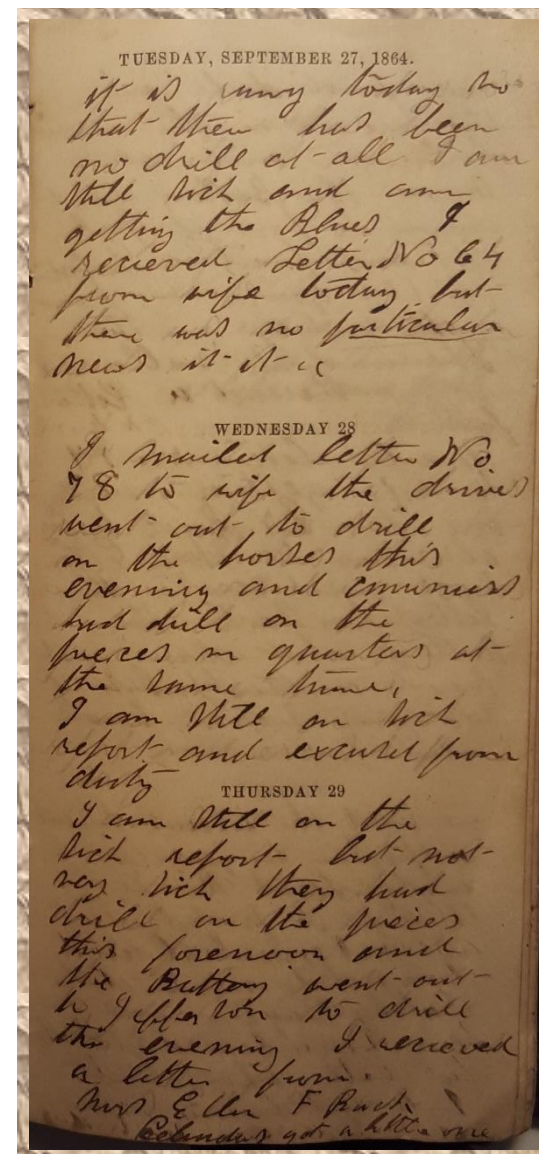
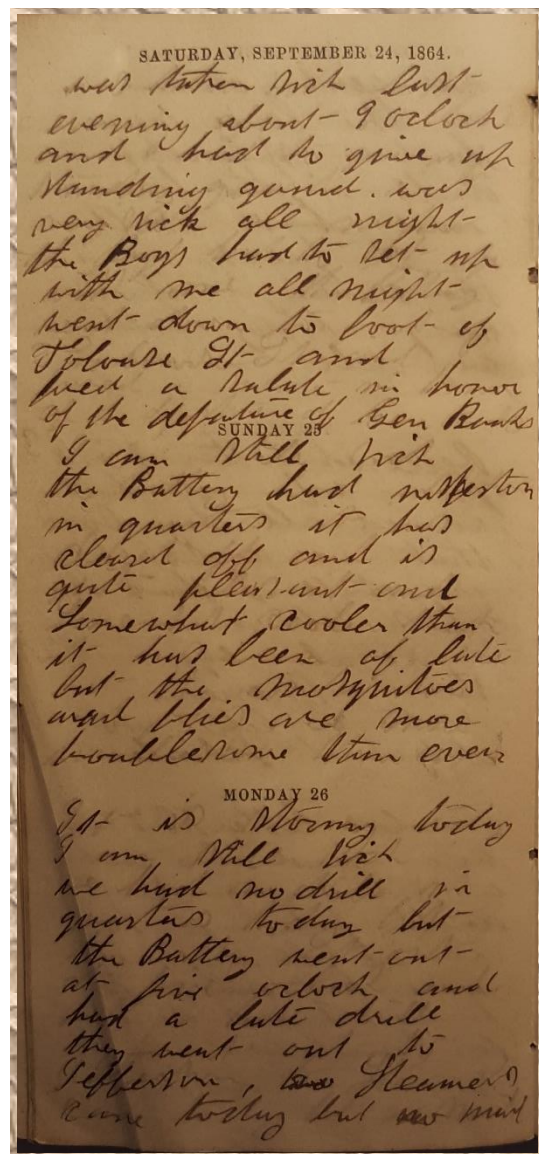
Was taken sick last evening about 9 o'clock and had to give up [minding] guard. Was very sick all night. The boys had to sit up with me all night. Went down to foot of Toulouse St. and had a salute in honor of the departure of General Banks.

Sunday, September 25

I am still sick. The battery had inspection in quarters. It has cleared off and is quite pleasant and somewhat cooler than it has been of late, but the mosquitos and flies are more troublesome than ever.

Monday, September 26

It is stormy today. I am still sick. We had no drill in quarters today, but the battery went out at five o'clock and had a late drill. They went out to Jefferson. Steamers came in today, but no mail.

**Tuesday, September 27**

It is rainy today, so that there has been no drill at all. I am still sick and getting the blues. I received letter No 64 from wife, but there was no particular news in it.

Wednesday, September 28

I mailed letter No 78 to wife. The drivers went out to drill on the horses this evening and [illegible] had drill on the pieces in quarters at the same time. I am still on sick report and excused from duty.

Thursday, September 29

I am still on the sick report, but not very sick. They had drill on the pieces this forenoon and the battery went out to Jefferson to drill this evening. I received a letter from Mrs. Ellen F Buck. Celinda's got a little one.

Friday, September 30

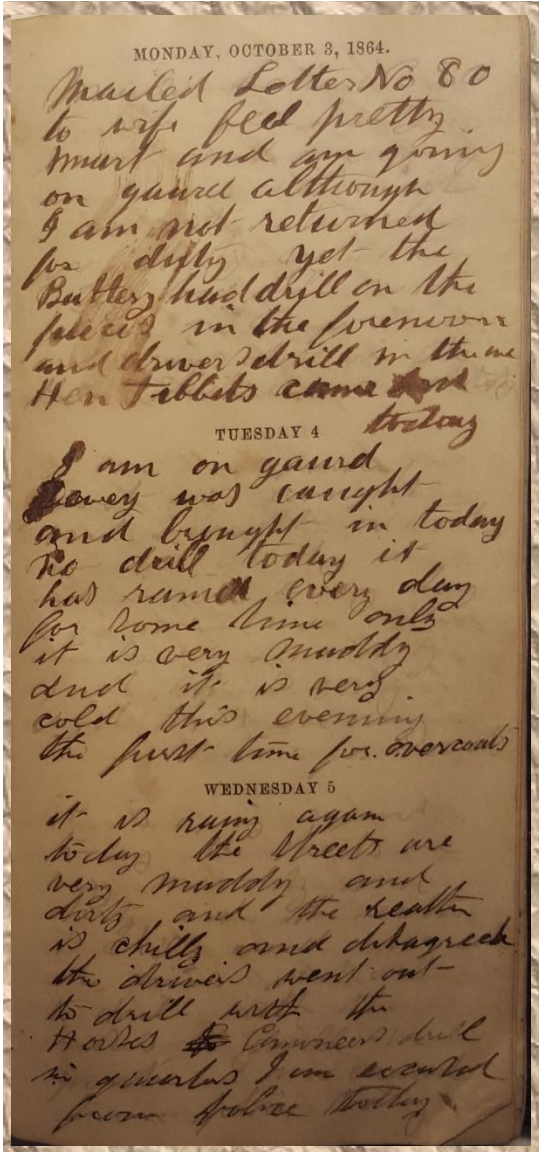
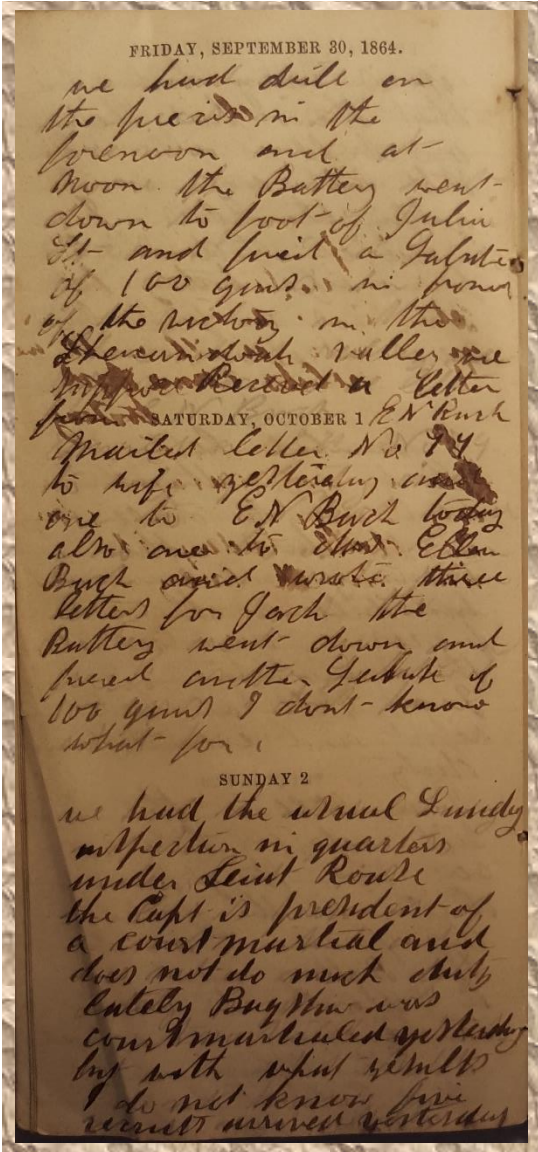
We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and at noon, the battery went down to foot of Julia St. and fired a salute of 100 guns in honor of the victory in the Shenandoah valley. Received a letter from E N Buck.

Saturday, October 1

Mailed letter No 79 to wife yesterday and one to EN Buck today. Also one to Mrs. Ellen Buck and wrote three letters for Jack. The battery went down and fired another salute of 100 guns. I don't know what for.

Sunday, October 2

We had the usual Sunday inspection in quarters under Lieut. Rouse. The Capt. is president of the court martial and does not do much duty lately. Bagshaw was court martialled yesterday, but with what results I do not know. Five recruits arrived yesterday.



Monday, October 3

Mailed letter No 80 to wife. Feel pretty smart and am going on guard although I am not returned for duty yet. The battery had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and drivers drill in the eve. Henry Tibbets came back today.

Tuesday, October 4

I am on guard. [Dewey?] was caught and brought in today. It has rained every day for some time. Only it is very muddy and cold this evening. The first time for overcoats.

Wednesday, October 5

It is rainy again today. The streets are very muddy and dirty and the weather is chilly and [illegible]. The drivers went out to drill with the horses. [Illegible] drill in quarters. I am excused from police today.

Thursday, October 6

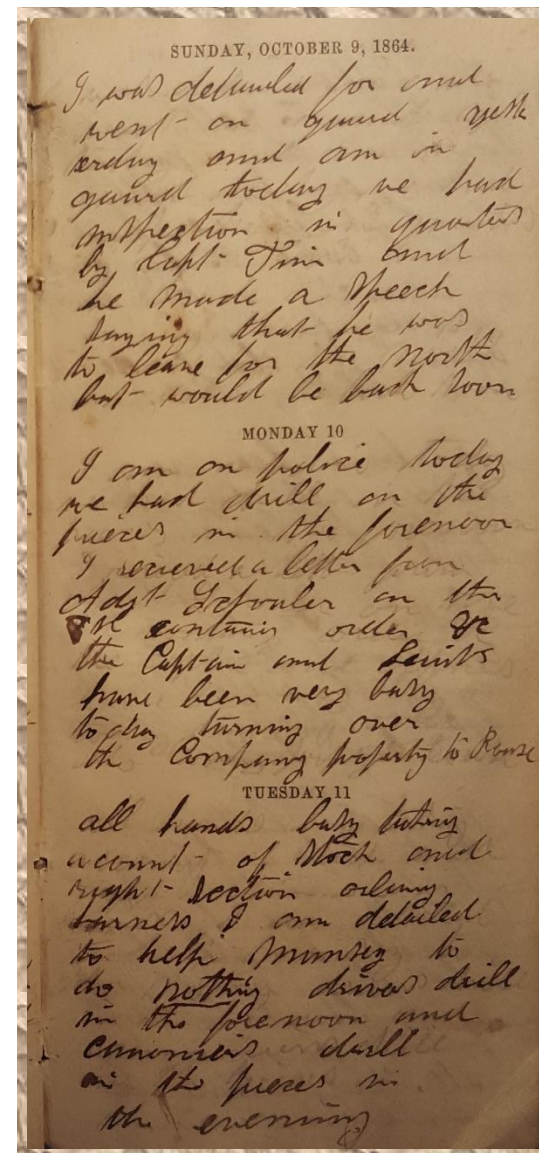
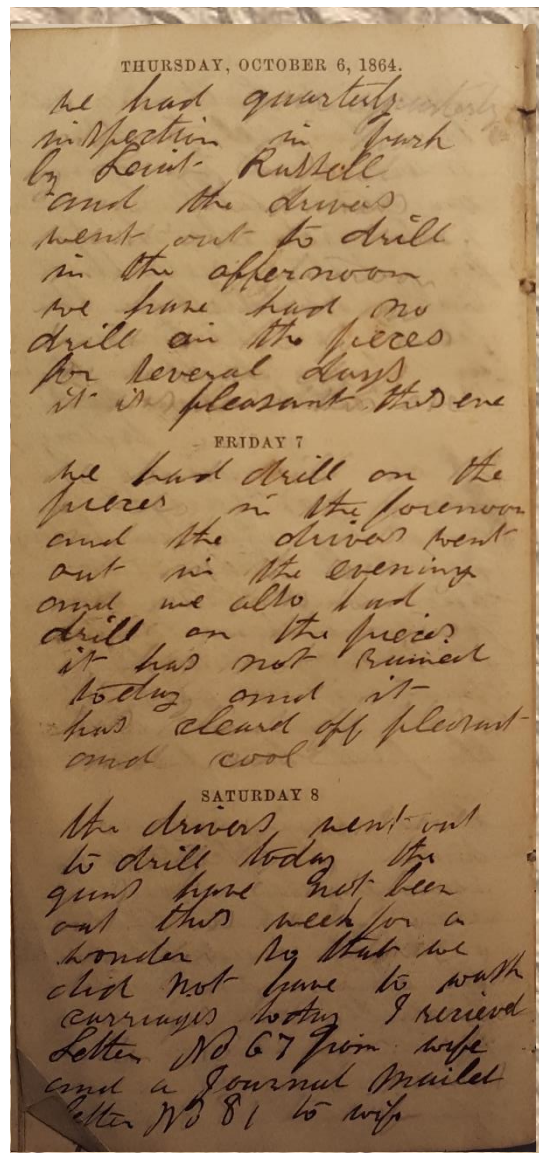
We had quarterly inspection in [illegible] by Lieut. Russell and the drivers went out to drill in the afternoon. We have had no drill on the pieces for several days. It is pleasant this evening.

Friday, October 7

We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and the drivers went out in the evening. And well also had drill on the pieces. It has not rained today and it has cleared off pleasant and cool.

Saturday, October 8

The drivers went out to drill today. The guns have not been out this week for a wonder, so that we did not have to [wash?] carriages today. I received letter No 67 from wife and a Journal. Mailed letter No 81 to wife.

**Sunday, October 9**

I was detailed for and went on guard yesterday and am on guard today. We had inspection in quarters by **Capt. Tim [Pearson]** and he made a speech saying that he was to leave for the north, but would be back soon.

Monday, October 10

I am on police today. We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon. I received a letter from Adjutant Schouler on the [illegible] contains order [illegible] The Captain and Lieut. 's have been very busy today turning over the company property to **Rouse**.

Tuesday, October 11

All hands busy taking account of stock and right section [illegible] harness. I am detailed to help **Munsey** to do nothing. Drivers drill in the forenoon and [cannons] drill on the pieces in the evening.

Wednesday, October 12

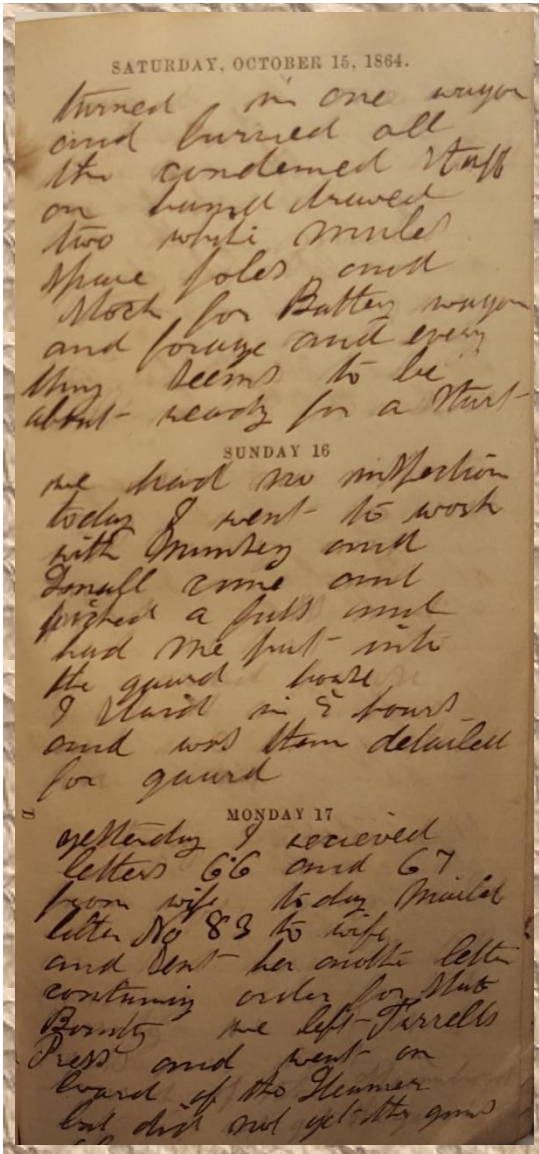
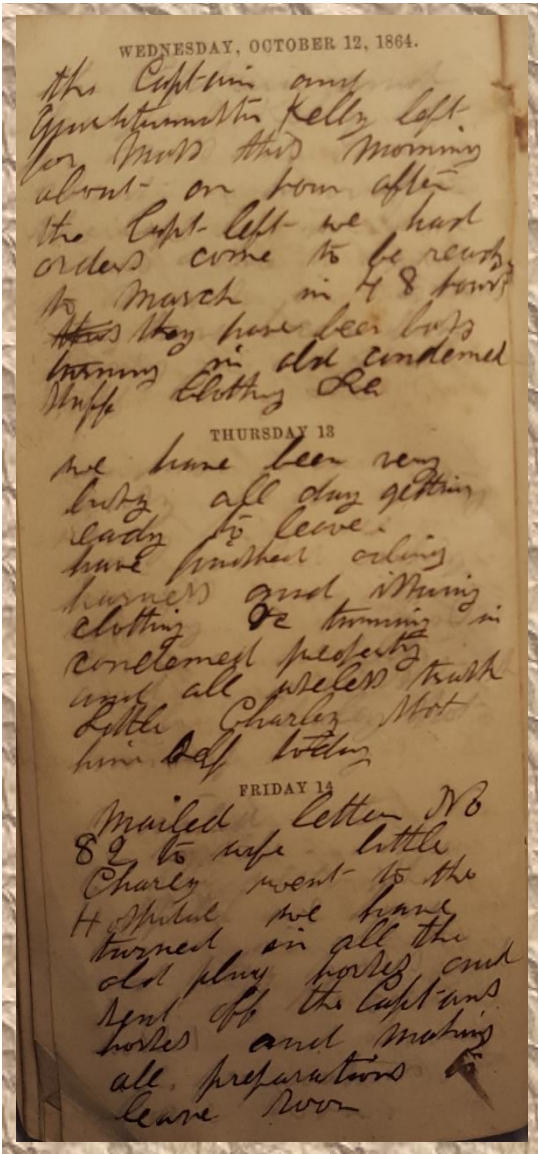
The Captain and quartermaster Kelly left for Mass this morning about an hour after the Capt. left. We had orders come to be ready to march in 48 hours. They have been busy turning in old condemned stuff, clothing [etc.].

Thursday, October 13

We have been very busy all day getting ready to leave. Have finished oiling harness and [ironing?] clothing [&] turning in condemned property and all useless trash. **Little Charley** not himself today.

Friday, October 14

Mailed letter No 82 to wife. **Little Charley** went to the hospital. We had turned in all the old [plug] horses and sent off the Captain's horses and making all preparations to leave soon.



Saturday, October 15

Turned in one wagon and burned all the condemned stuff on hand [illegible] two white mules and spare [illegible] and stock for battery wagon and [forage?]. And everything seems about ready for a start.

Sunday, October 16

We had no inspection today. I went to work with **Munsey** and **Small** came and pitched a fuss and had me put into the guard house. I stayed in 5 hours and was then detailed for guard.

Monday, October 17

Yesterday I received letters 60 and 67 from wife. Today mailed letter No 83 to wife and sent her another order for [illegible] bounty. We left **Terrell's Press** and went on board of the steamer, but did not get the guns on board.

Tuesday, October 18

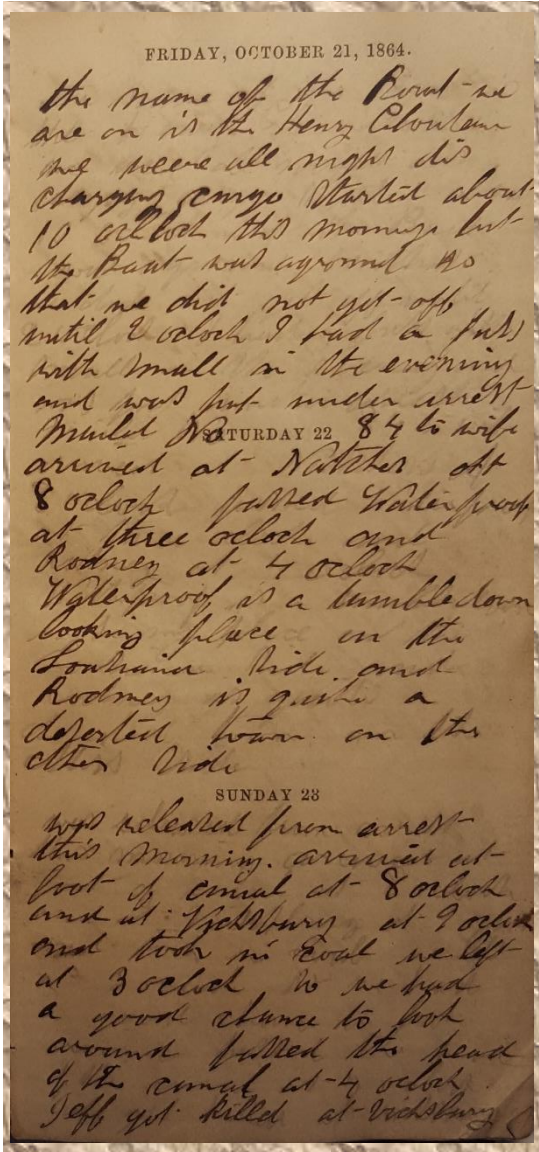
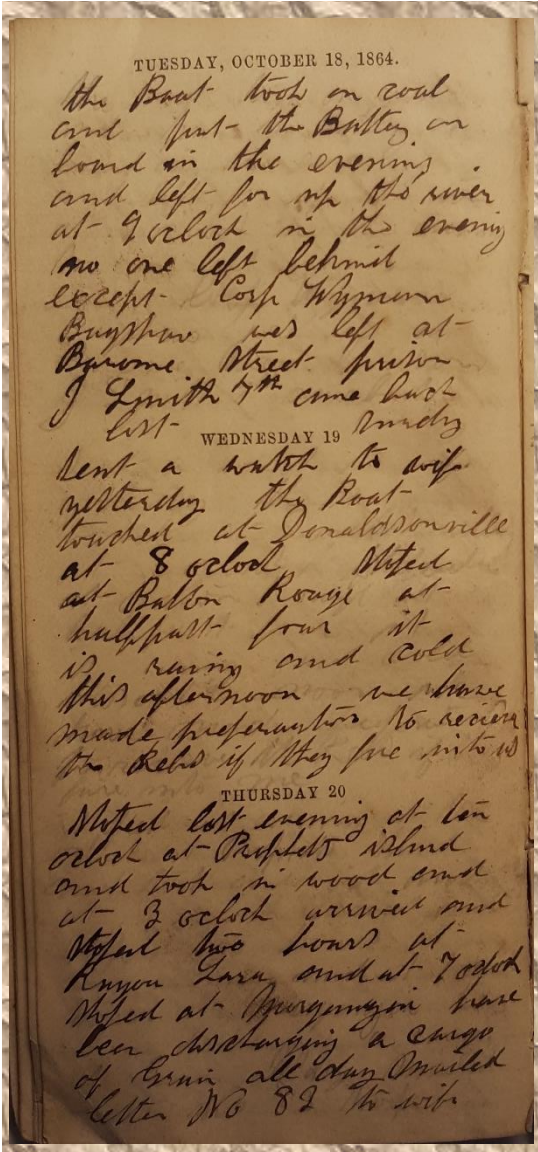
The boat took on coal and put the battery on board in the evening and left for up the river at 9 oclock in the evening. No one left behind except Corp. Wyman. Bagshaw was left at Baronne Street prison. J Smith 4th came back last Sunday.

Wednesday, October 19

Sent a letter to wife yesterday. The boat touched at Donaldsonville at 8 oclock. [Stopped] at Baton Rouge at half past four. It is raining and cold this afternoon. We have made preparations to receive the Rebs if they fire into us.

Thursday, October 20

Stopped last evening at ten oclock at Prophet's Island and took in wood and at 3 oclock. Arrived and stopped two hours at [Bayou] [Sara] and at 7 oclock stopped at [M illegible]. Have been discharging a cargo of grain all day. Mailed letter No 82 to wife.



Friday, October 21

The name of the boat we are on is the Henry [C illegible]. We were all night discharging cargo. Started about 10 oclock this morning but the boat was aground so that we did not get off until 2 oclock. I had a fuss with Small in the evening and was put under arrest. Mailed No 84 to wife.

Saturday, October 22

Arrived at Natches at 8 oclock. Passed Waterproof at three oclock and Rodney at 4 oclock. Waterproof is a tumbledown looking place on the Louisiana side and Rodney is quite a deserted town on the other side.

Sunday, October 23

Was released from arrest this morning. Arrived at foot of canal at 8 oclock and at Vicksburg at 9 oclock and took in coal. We left at 3 oclock so we had a good chance to look around. Passed the head of the canal at 4 oclock. [Jeff] got killed at Vicksburg.

Monday, October 24

Hand deserted at Vicksburg yesterday. We had a first rate run last night. I am on guard today. We passed the town of Greenville. We see but a few people along the route. About half a dozen refugees came on board last night. Also a deserter from the Rebs.

Sunday, October 25

Passed the deserted town of Napoleon at the mouth of Arkansas River at 9 o'clock. About 1 o'clock arrived at White River landing and put the battery and all hands ashore. We lost only one horse on the trip. It is rainy and muddy.

Wednesday, October 26

I put in a most miserable night sleep under the caisson in the mud and got my clothes all wet and muddy. We have had some tents issued today and are regulating camp. It is rainy now. Some Rebs across the river.

MONDAY, OCTOBER 24, 1864.
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 WEDNESDAY 26
 I put in a most miserable night sleep under the caisson in the mud and got my clothes all wet and muddy. We have had some tents issued today and are regulating camp. It is rainy now. Some Rebs across the river.

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 27, 1864.
 We had inspection in the mud by the general inspecting officer and he found lots of faults with us. We moved camp immediately after inspection over to Camp No 2 about a half a mile from here. Had to get up tents in the mud and chuck and.
 FRIDAY 28
 We went to work this morning early fixing up the things but at noon had orders to move and this afternoon we moved camp down the river two miles and have got rather a better location but have got considerable work to clean up this is camp No 3.
 SATURDAY 29
 Have been cleaning up and fixing the camp, but it has been raining all day and not much [fun] in doing anything. I wrote and mailed letter No 85 to wife. We belong to the 2d Division of the 19th Army Corps.

Thursday, October 27

We had inspection in the mud by general [inspecting] officer and he found lots of faults with us. We moved camp immediately after inspection over to Camp No 2, about a half mile from here. Had to get up tents in the mud and dark.

Friday, October 28

We went to work this morning early forcing us to stay, but at noon had orders to move and this afternoon we moved camp down the river two miles and have got [rather] a better location but have got considerable work to clean up this camp No 3.

Saturday, October 29

Have been cleaning up and fixing the camp, but it has been raining all day and not much [fun] in doing anything. I wrote and mailed letter No 85 to wife. We belong to the 2nd Division of the 19th Army Corps.

Sunday, October 30

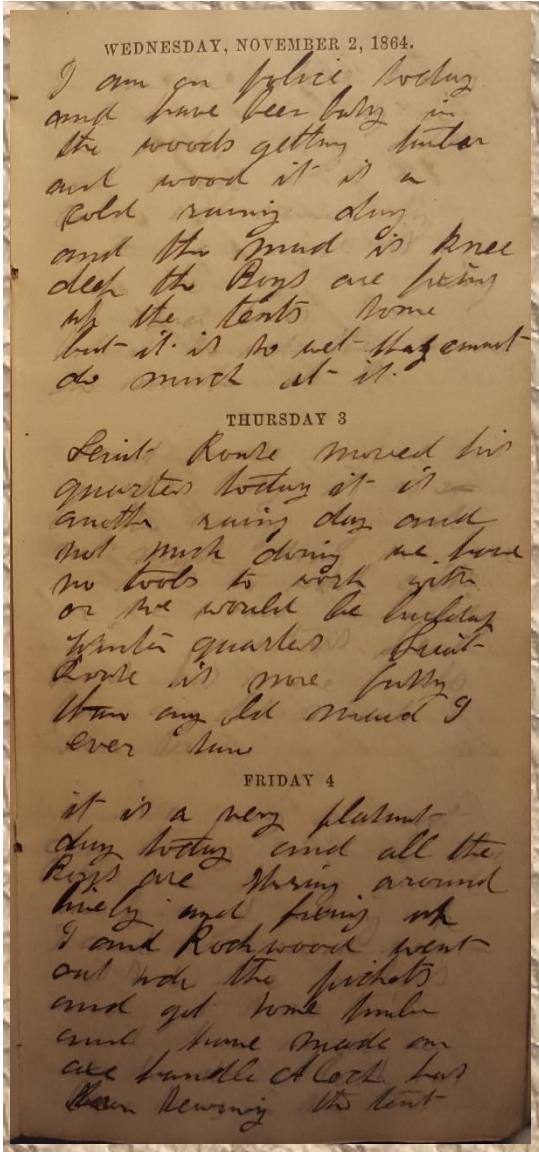
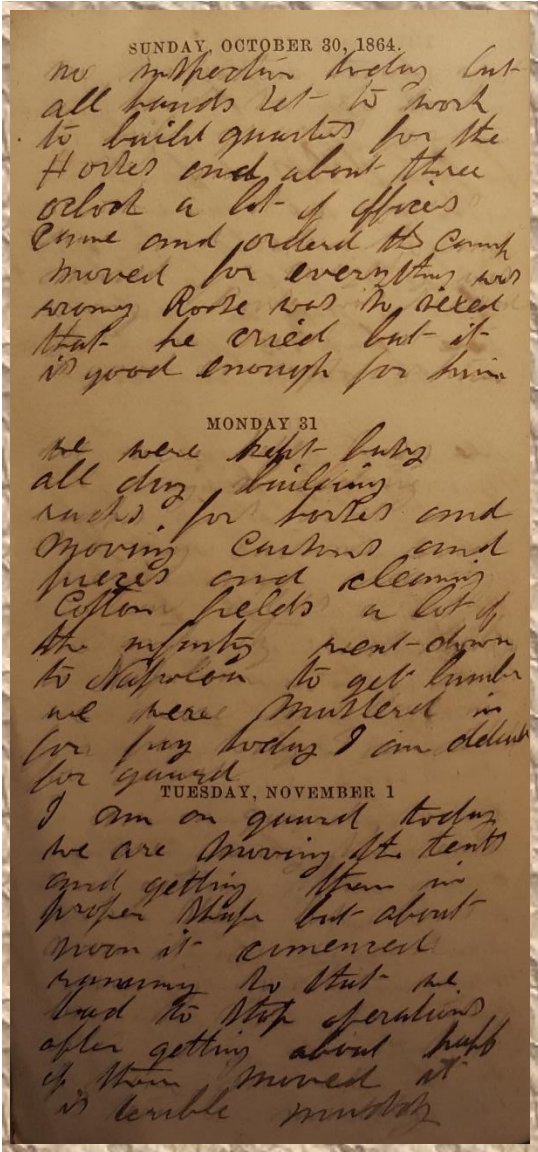
No inspection today, but all hands set to work to build quarters for the horses and about three oclock a lot of officers came and ordered the camp moved for everything was wrong. Rouse was so [illegible] that he cried, but it is good enough for him.

Monday, October 31

We were kept busy all day building [illegible] for horses and moving caissons and pieces and cleaning cotton fields. A lot of the infantry went down to Napoleon to get lumber. We were mustered in for pay today I am detailed for guard.

Tuesday, November 1

I am on guard today. We are moving the tents and getting them in proper shape, but about noon it commenced raining so that we had to stop operations after getting about half of them moved. It is terrible muddy.



Wednesday, November 2

I am on police today and have been busy in the woods getting timber and wood. It is a cold rainy day and the mud is knee deep. The boys are fixing up the tents some, but it is so wet that they cannot do much at it.

Thursday, November 3

Lieut. Rouse moved his quarters today. It is another rainy day and not much doing. We have no tools to work with or we would be building winter quarters. Lieut. Rouse is more bully than any old [man] I ever saw.

Friday, November 4

It is a very pleasant day today and all the boys are [spring] around lively and fixing up. I and Rockwood went out with the pickets and got some lumber and hand made an axe handle. [Aleck] has been sewing the tent.

...and about three oclock a lot of officers came and ordered the camp moved for everything was wrong.

Saturday, November 5

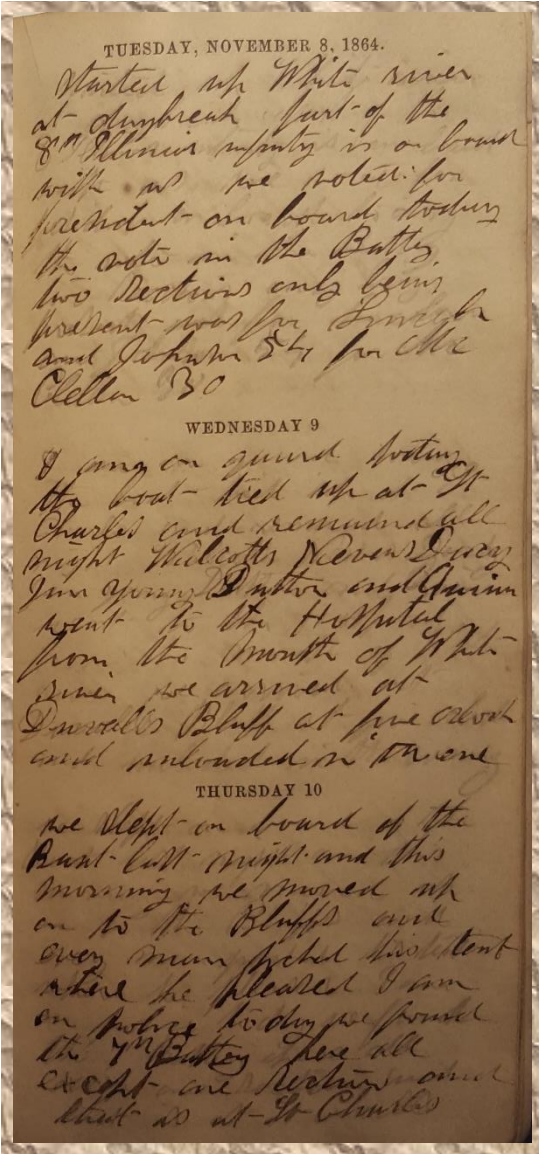
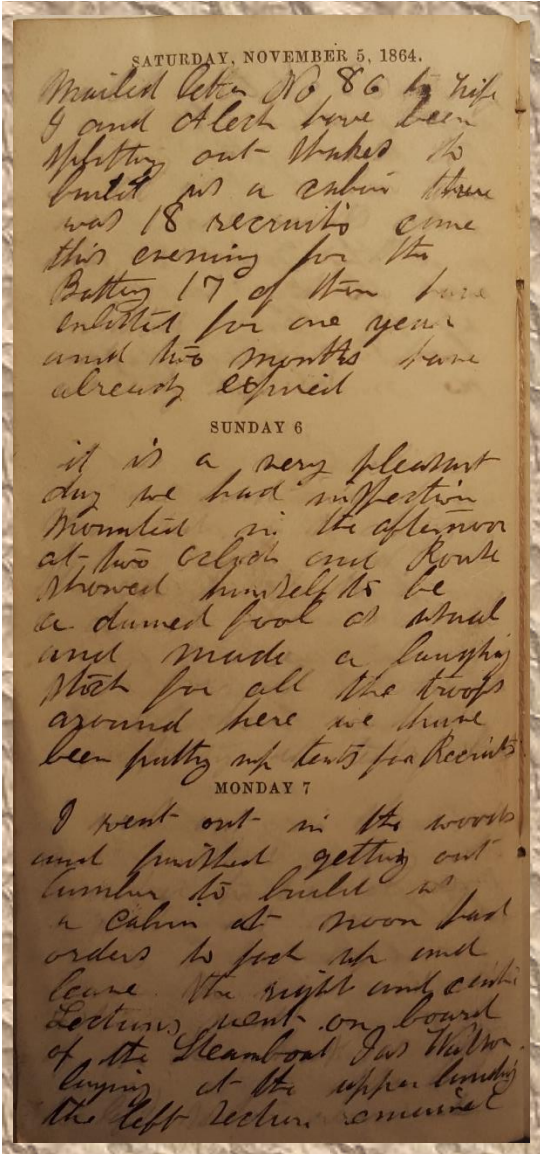
Mailed letter No 86 to wife. I and [Aleck] have been [splitting] out [shakes] to build us a cabin. [illegible] 18 recruits came this evening for the battery. 17 of them have enlisted for one year, and two months have already expired.

Sunday, November 6

It is a very pleasant day. We had inspection mounted in the afternoon. At two oclock. And [Rouse] showed himself to be a damned fool as usual and made a laughing stock for all the troops around here. We have putting up tents for recruits.

Monday, November 7

I went out in the woods and finished getting out lumber to build us a cabin. At noon had orders to pack up and leave. The right and center sections went on board of the steamboat Jas [Watson]. [Leaving] at the upper landing. The left section remained.



Tuesday, November 8

Started up White River at daybreak. Part of the 8th Illinois infantry is on board with us. We [voted?] for [president?] on board today. The vote in the battery - two sections only being [present] was for Lincoln and Johnson 54 for McClellan 30.

Wednesday, November 9

I am on guard today. The boat tied up at St. Charles and remained all night. [Walcott, Nevens, Dacy, Jim Young, Dutton and Quinn] went to the hospital. From the mouth of the White River we arrived at Duvall's Bluff at five oclock and unloaded in the evening.

Thursday, November 10

We kept on board of the boat last night. And this morning we moved up on to the Bluffs and every man pitched his tent where he pleased. I am on police today. We found the [4th? 7th?] Battery here all except one section and that is at St. Charles.

Friday, November 11

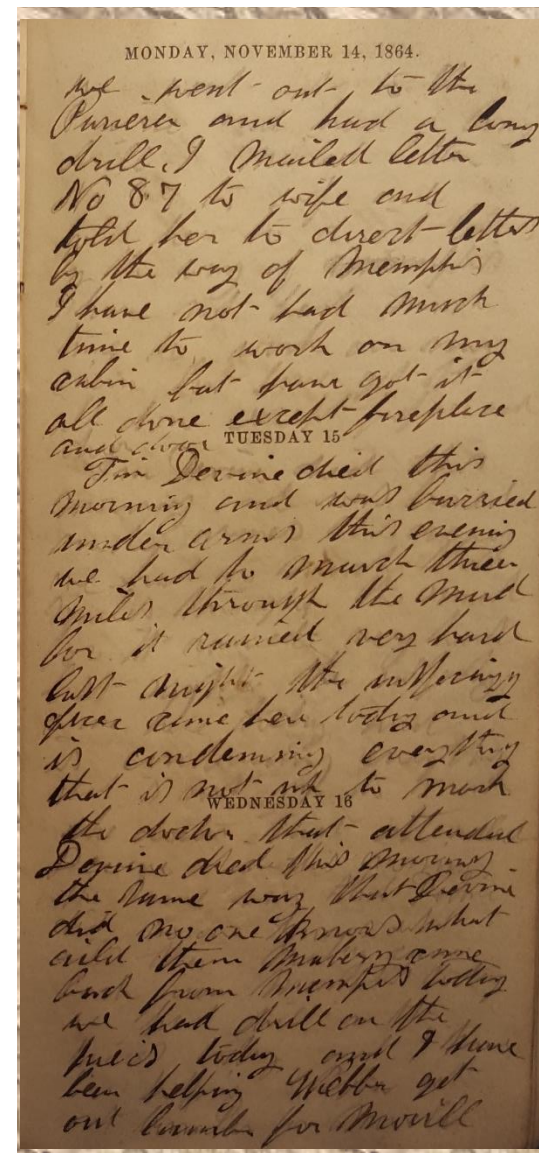
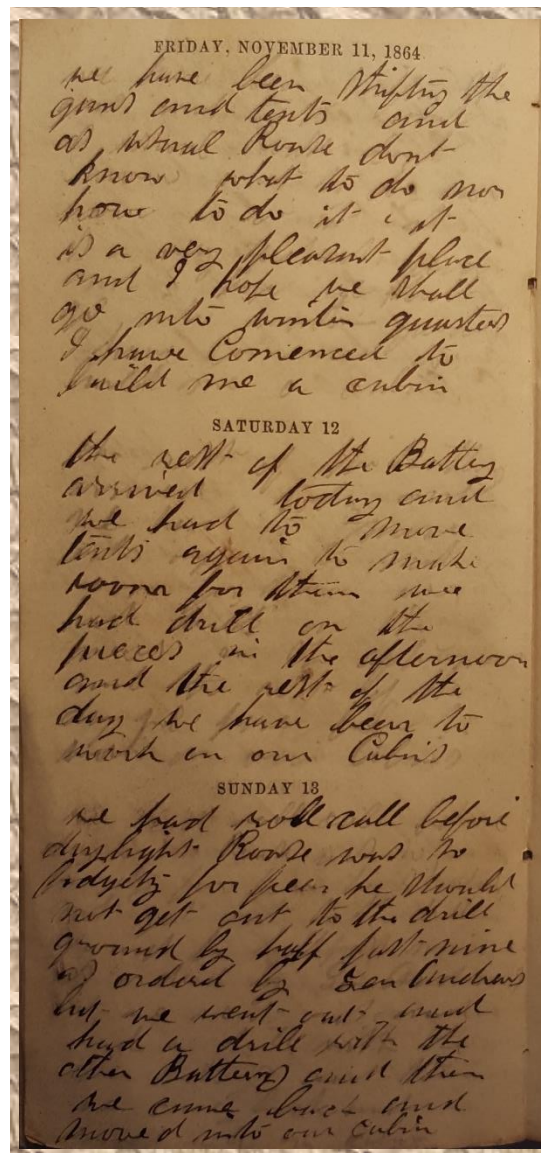
We have been shifting the guns and tents and as usual, **Rouse** don't know what to do nor how to do it. It is a pleasant place and hope we shall go into winter quarters. I have commenced to build me a cabin.

Saturday, November 12

The rest of the battery arrived today and we had to move tents again to make room for them. We had drill on the pieces in the afternoon and the rest of the day we have been to work on our cabins.

Sunday, November 13

We had roll call before daylight. **Rouse** was so fidgety for fear he should not get out to the drill ground by half past nine as ordered by Gen. Andrews. But we went out and had a drill with the other battery and then we came back and moved into our cabin.

**Monday, November 14**

We went out to the [P illegible] and had a long drill. I mailed letter No 87 to wife and told her to direct letters by way of Memphis. I have not had much time to work on my cabin, but have got it all done except fireplace and door.

Tuesday, November 15

Tim Devine died this morning and was buried under arms this evening. We had to march their mules through the mud for it rained very hard. Last night the inspecting officer came here today and is condemning everything that is not up to mark.

Wednesday, November 16

The doctor that attended **Devine** died this morning the same way that **Devine** did. No one knows what ailed them. **Mayberry** came back from Memphis today. We had drill on the pieces today and I have been helping **Webber** get out lumber for **Morrill**.

Thursday, November 17

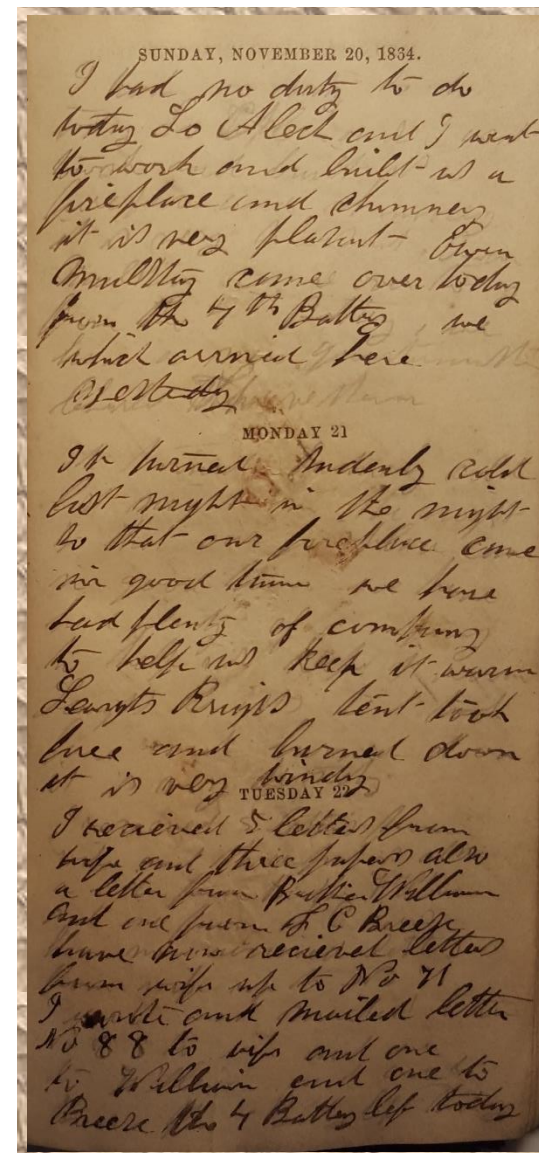
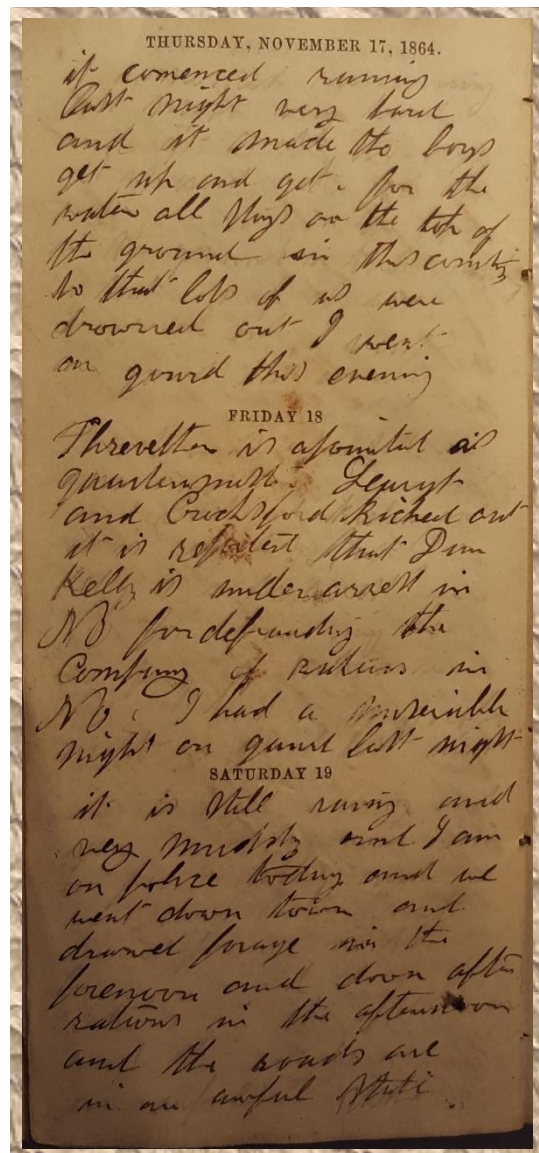
It commenced raining last night very hard and it made the boys get up and get, for the water all stays on the ground in this country so that lots of us were drowned out. I went on guard this evening.

Friday, November 18

Trefethun is appointed as Quartermaster. [Illegible] and Croxford kicked out. It is reported that Dan Kelly is under arrest for in [New Orleans] for [defecting?] the Company of soldiers in [New Orleans]. I had a miserable night on guard last night.

Saturday, November 19

It is still raining and very muddy and I am on police today. And we went down town and [d illegible] forage in the forenoon and down after rations in the afternoon. And the roads are in an awful state.

**Sunday, November 20**

I had no duty to do today, so [Aleck] and I went to work and built us a fireplace and chimney. It is very pleasant today. [M Illegible] came over today from the 4th Battery which arrived here yesterday.

Monday, November 21

It turned suddenly cold last night in the night so that our fireplace came in good time. We have had plenty of company to help us keep it warm. Seargt. Briggs tent took fire and burned down. It is very windy.

Tuesday, November 22

I received 5 letters from wife and three papers. Also a letter from [B illegible] [William] and one from C. Breese. Have now received letters from wife to No 71. I wrote and mailed letter No 88 to wife and one to [William] and one to Breese. The 4th Battery left today.

Wednesday, November 23

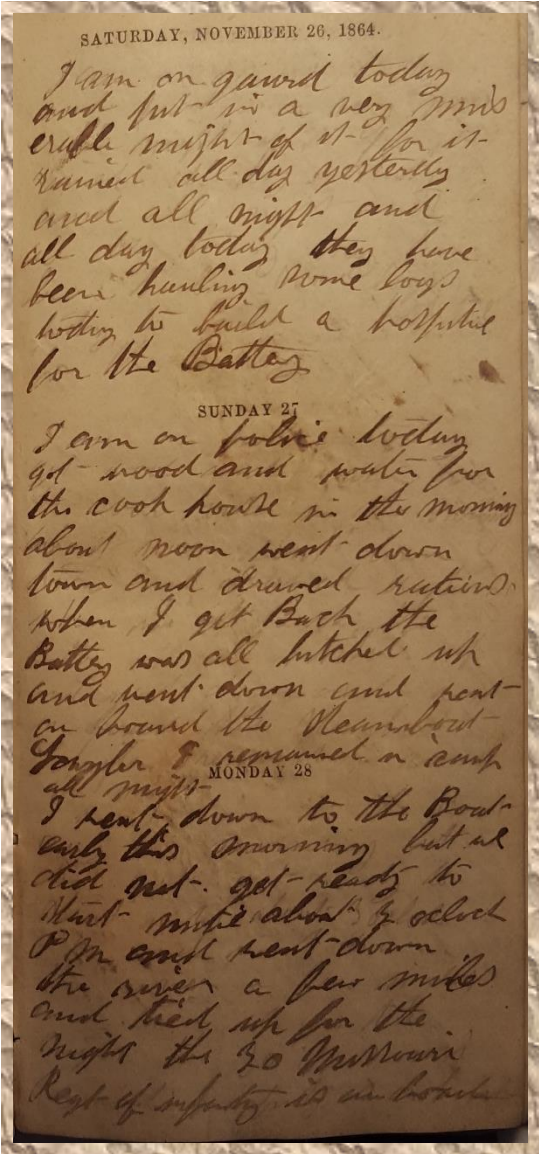
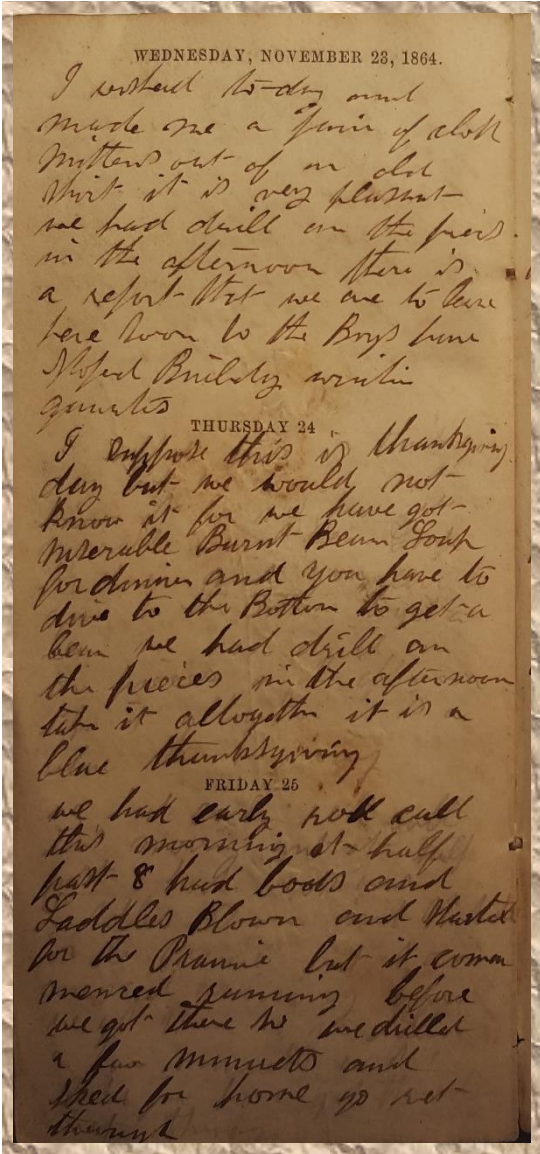
I [visited] today and made me a pair of cloth mittens out of an old shirt. It is very pleasant. We had drill on the pieces in the afternoon. There is a report that we are to leave here soon, so the boys have stopped building winter quarters.

Thursday, November 24

I suppose this is Thanksgiving Day, but we would not know it for we have got miserable burnt bean soup for dinner and you have to dive to the bottom to get a bean. We had drill on the pieces in the afternoon. Take it altogether it is a blue Thanksgiving.

Friday, November 25

We had early roll call this morning at half past 8. Had boots and saddles blown and started for the Prairie. But it commenced raining before we got there, so we drilled for a few minutes and [sped] for home [to get through?].



Saturday, November 26

I am on guard today and put in a very miserable night of it for it rained all night and all day today. They have been hauling some logs today to build a hospital for the battery.

Sunday, November 27

I am on police today. Got wood and water from the cook house in the morning. About noon, went down town and drew rations. When I got back, the battery was all hitched up and went down and [put?] onboard the steamboat [Illegible]. I remained in camp all night.

Monday, November 28

I went down to the boat early this morning, but we did not get ready to start until about 3 o'clock PM and went down the river a few miles and tied up for the night. The 30 Missouri [Regiment] of infantry is on board.

Tuesday, November 29

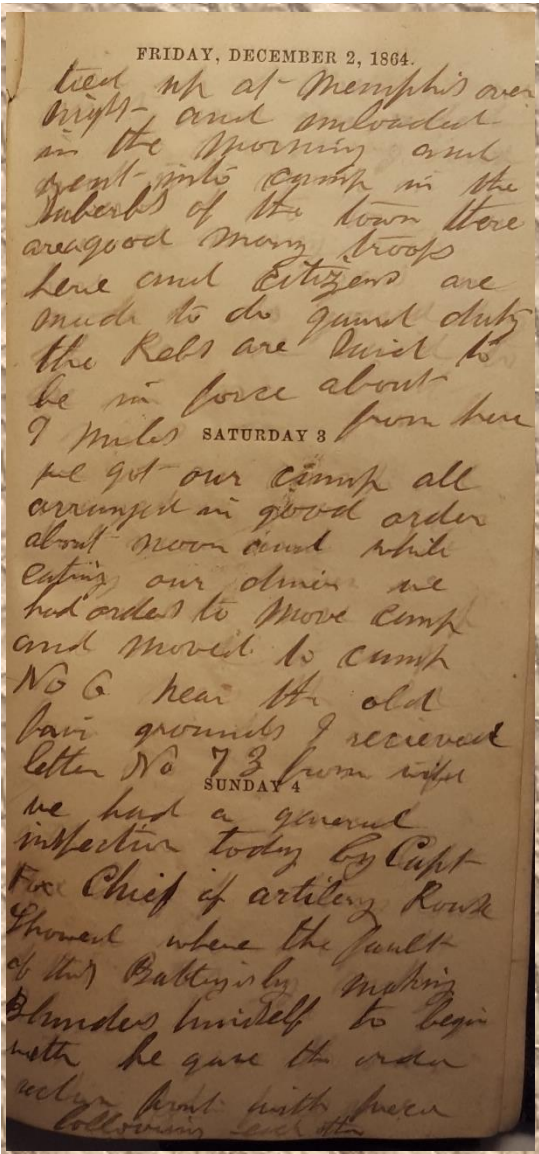
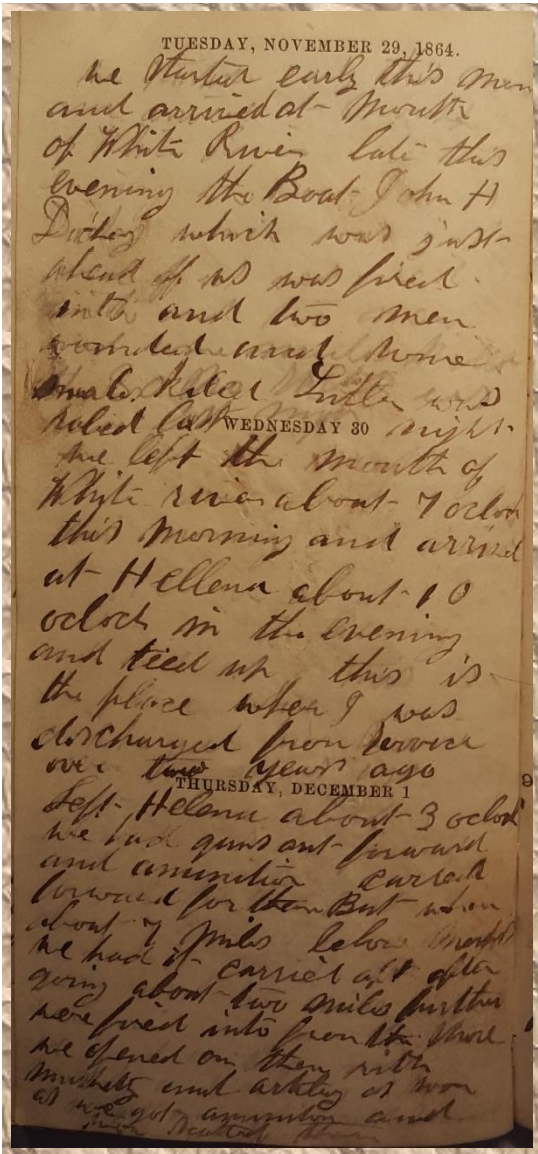
We started early this morning and arrived at mouth of White River late this evening. The boat, John H [Dickey?], which was just ahead of us, was fired into and two men wounded and some [were?] killed. [Little?] was [robbed?] last night.

Wednesday, November 30

We left the mouth of White River about 7 oclock this morning and arrived at Helena about 10 oclock in the evening and tied up. This is the place where I was discharged from service over two years ago.

Thursday, December 1

Left Helena about 3 oclock. We had guns out forward and ammunition carried forward for them. But were about 7 miles below Memphis, going about 2 miles further were fired into from the shore. We opened on them with muskets and artillery as soon as we got ammunition and then scattered them.



Friday, December 2

Tied up at Memphis overnight and unloaded in the morning. And went into camp. In the suburbs of town there are a good many troops here and citizens are made to do guard duty. The Rebs are said to be in force about 9 miles from here.

Saturday, December 8

We got our camp all arranged in good order about noon and while eating our dinner, we had orders to move camp. And moved to camp No [6] near the old fairgrounds. I received letter No 73 from wife.

Sunday, December 4

We had a guard inspection today by Capt. [Fox?], Chief of Artillery. Rouse showed where the fault of his battery is by making blunders himself. To begin with, he gave the order [section] [front] with [pieces] following each other.

Monday, December 5

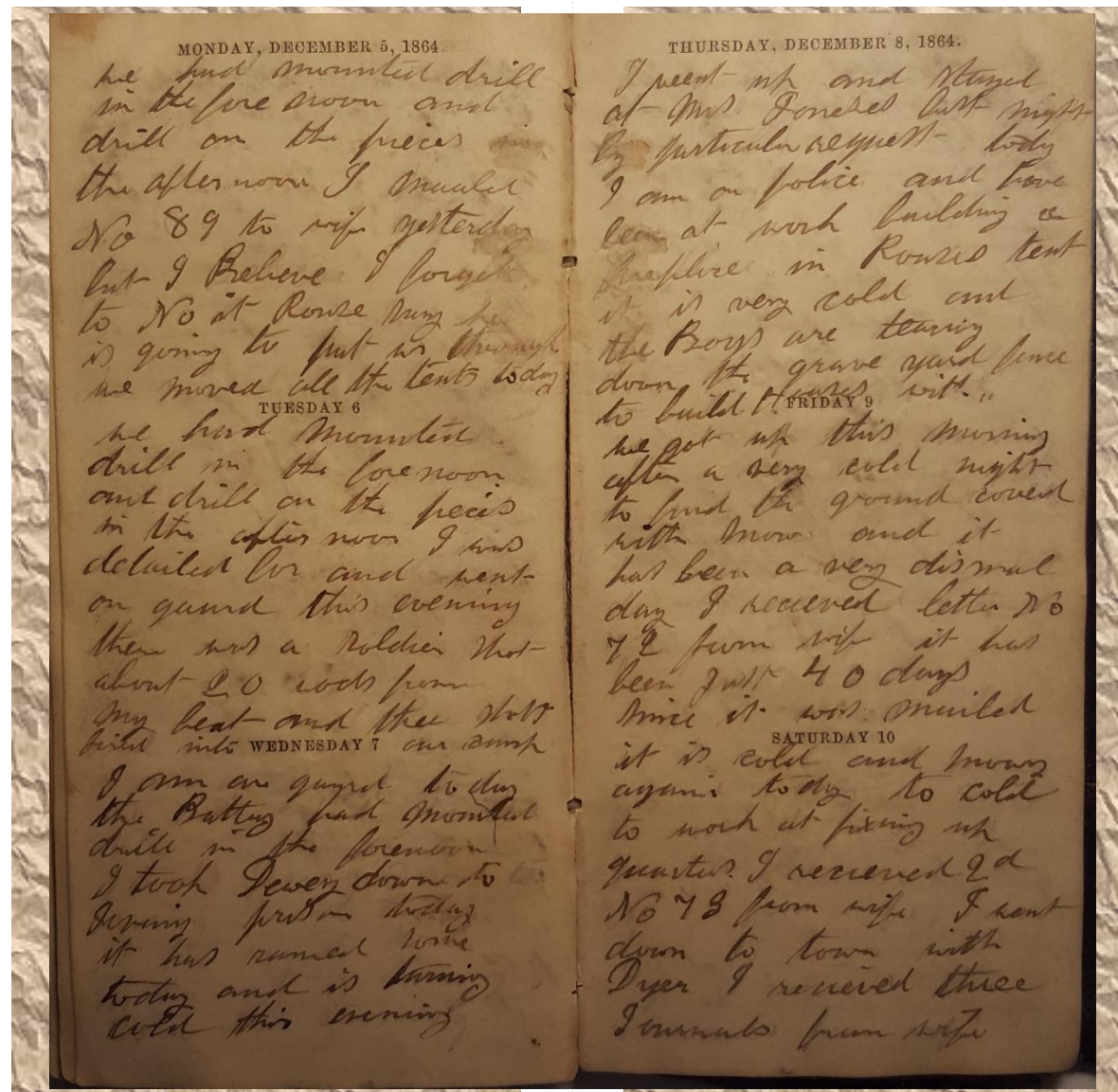
We had mounted drill in the forenoon and drill on the pieces in the afternoon. I mailed letter No 89 to wife yesterday, but I believe I forgot to No it. **Rouse** says he is going to [put] us through. We moved all the tents today.

Tuesday, December 6

We had mounted drill in the forenoon and drill on the pieces in the afternoon. I was detailed for and went on guard the evening. There was a soldier [shot?] about 20 [yards?] from my beat and then [shots?] fired into our camp.

Wednesday, December 7

I am on guard today. The battery had mounted drill in the forenoon. I took **[Dewey]** down to [Irving?] prison today. It has rained some today and is turning cold this evening.

**Thursday, December 8**

I went up and stayed at [Mrs.] [Joneses] last night by particular request. Today I am on police and have been at work building a fireplace in **Rouse's** tent. It is very cold and the boys are tearing down the graveyard fence to build houses with.

Friday, December 9

We got up this morning after a very cold night to find the ground covered with snow and it has been a very dismal day. I received letter No 72 from wife. T has been just 40 days since it was mailed.

Saturday, December 10

It is cold and snowy again today. Too cold to work at fixing up quarters. I received 2nd No 73 from wife. I went down to town with **Dyer**. I received three Journals from wife.

It is very cold and the boys are tearing down the graveyard fence to build houses with.

Sunday, December 11

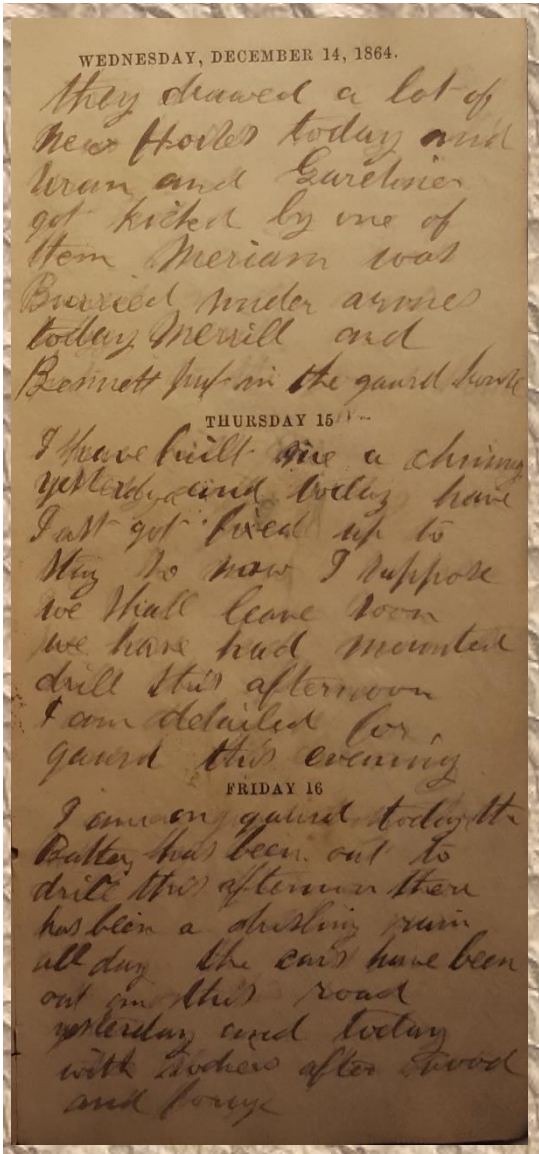
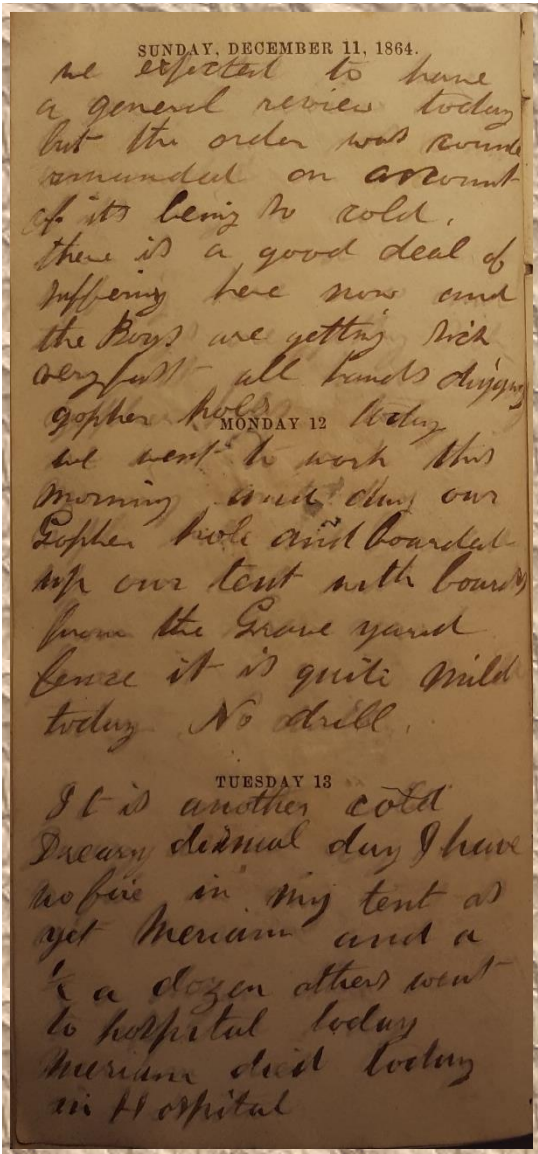
We expected to have a general review today, but that order was countermanded on account of its being so cold. There is a good deal of suffering here now and the boys are getting sick very fast. All hands are digging gopher holes today.

Monday, December 12

We went to work this morning and dug our gopher hole and boarded up our tent with boards from the graveyard fence. It is quite mild today. No drill.

Tuesday, December 13

It is another cold, dreary, dismal day. I have no fire in my tent as yet. Meriam and a ½ a dozen others went to hospital today. Meriam died today in hospital.



Wednesday, December 14

They drewed a lot of new horses today and [Illegible] and [Gardiner] got kicked by one of them. Meriam was buried under arms today. Merrill and Bennet put in the guard house.

Thursday, December 15

I have built me a chimney yesterday. And today have just got fixed up to stay so now I suppose we will shall leave soon. We have had mounted drill this afternoon. I am detailed for guard this evening.

Friday, December 16

I am in guard today. The battery has been out to drill this afternoon. There has been a drizzling rain all day. The [carts] have been out on this road yesterday and today with soldiers after wood and forage.

Saturday, December 17

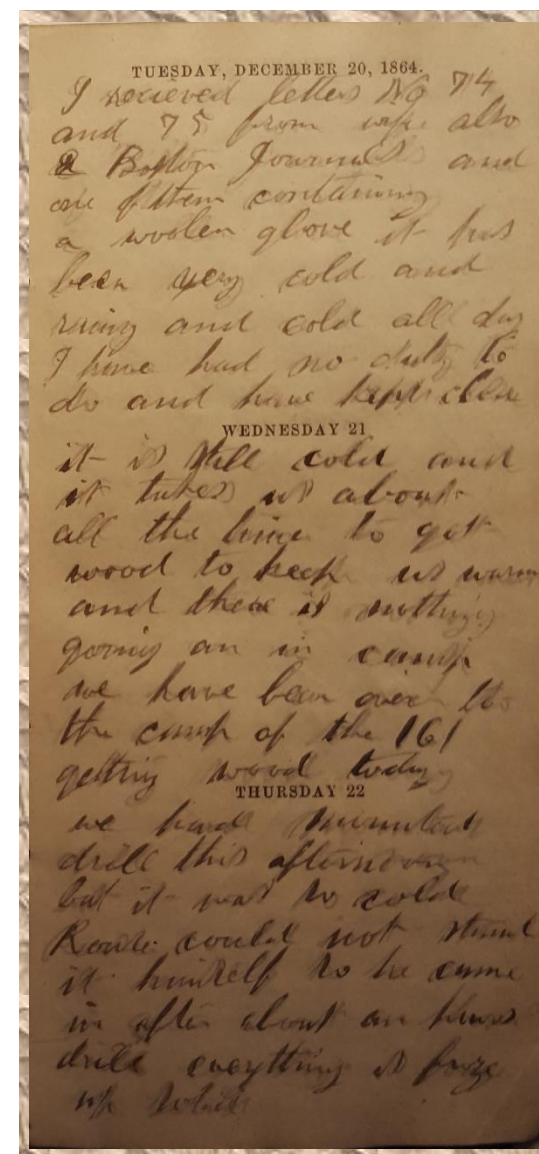
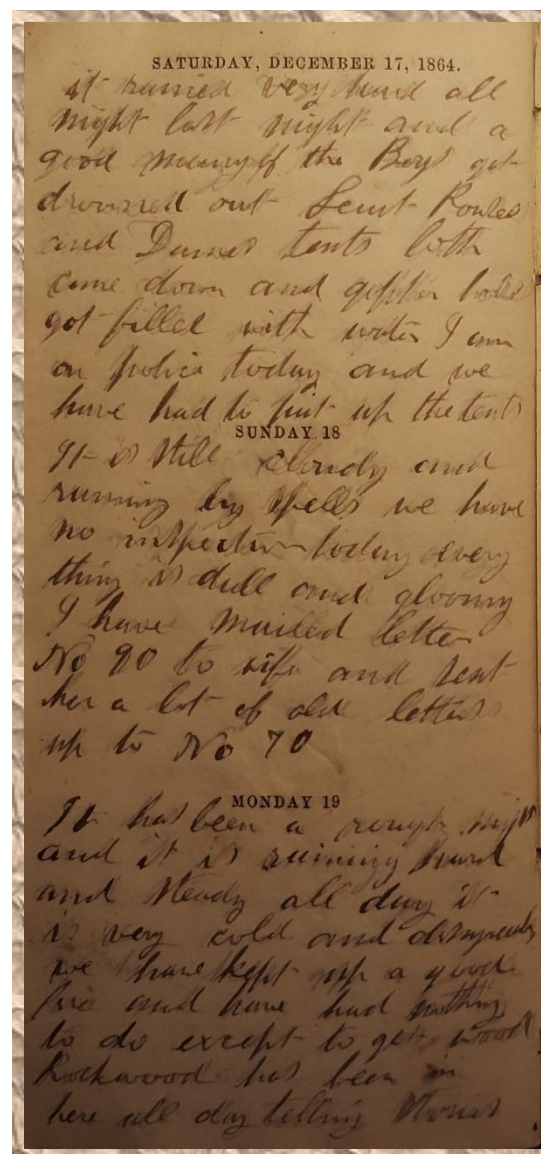
It rained very hard all night last night and a good many of the boys got drowned out. Lieut. Rouse's and Dame's tents both came down and gopher holes got filled with water. I am on police today and we have had to put up the tents.

Sunday, December 18

It is still cloudy and raining by [spells?]. We have had no inspection today. Everything is dull and gloomy. I have mailed letter No 90 to wife and sent her a lot of old letters up to No 70.

Monday, December 19

It has been a rough night and it is raining hard and steady all day. It is very cold and [illegible]. We have kept up a good fire and have had nothing to do except to get wood. Rockwood has been in here all day telling stories.

**Tuesday, December 20**

I received letters No 74 and 75 from wife. Also, a Boston Journal and one of them containing a woolen glove. It has been very cold all day. I have had no duty to do and have kept close.

Wednesday, December 21

It is still very cold and it takes us about all the time to get wood to keep us warm. And there is nothing going on in camp. We have been over to the camp of [161?] getting wood today.

Thursday, December 22

We had mounted drill this afternoon, but it was so cold, Rouse could not stand it himself, so he came in after about an hour's drill. Everything is froze up solid.

I received letters No 74 and 75 from wife. Also, a Boston Journal and one of them containing a woolen glove.

Friday, December 23

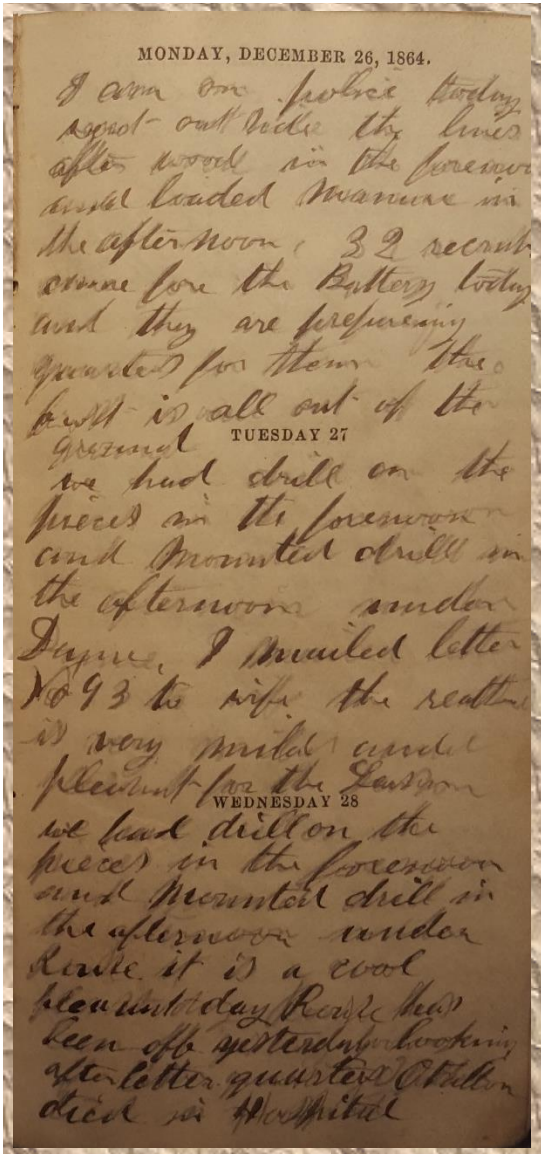
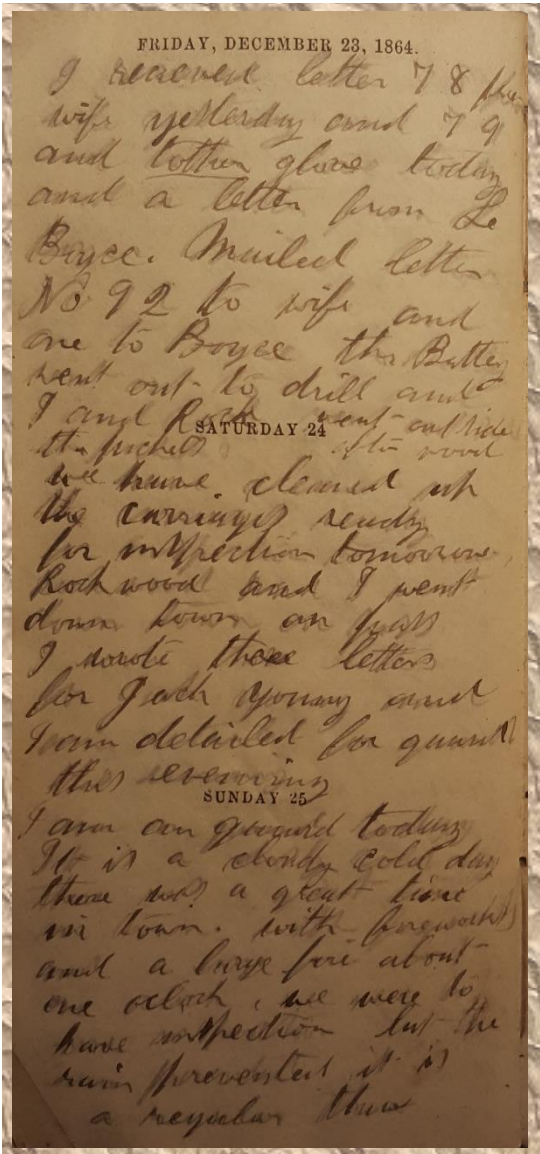
I received letter No 78 from wife yesterday and 79 and [other] glove today. And a letter from [L?] Boyce. Mailed letter No 92 to wife and one to Boyce. The battery went out to drill and I and Rockwood went outside the [pickets] after wood.

Saturday, December 24

We have cleaned up the carriages ready for inspection tomorrow. Rockwood and I went down town on pass. I wrote three letters for Jack Young and I am detailed for guard this evening.

Sunday, December 25

I am on guard today. It is a cloudy, cold day. There was a great time in town with fireworks and a large fire about one oclock. We were to have inspection, but the rain prevented it. It is a regular



Monday, December 26

I am on police today. Went outside the lines after wood in the forenoon. And loaded [manure] in the afternoon. 32 recruits came for the battery today and they are preparing quarters for them. The [frost] is all out of the ground.

Tuesday, December 27

We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and mounted drill in the afternoon under Dame. I mailed letter No 93 to wife. The weather is very mild and pleasant for the season.

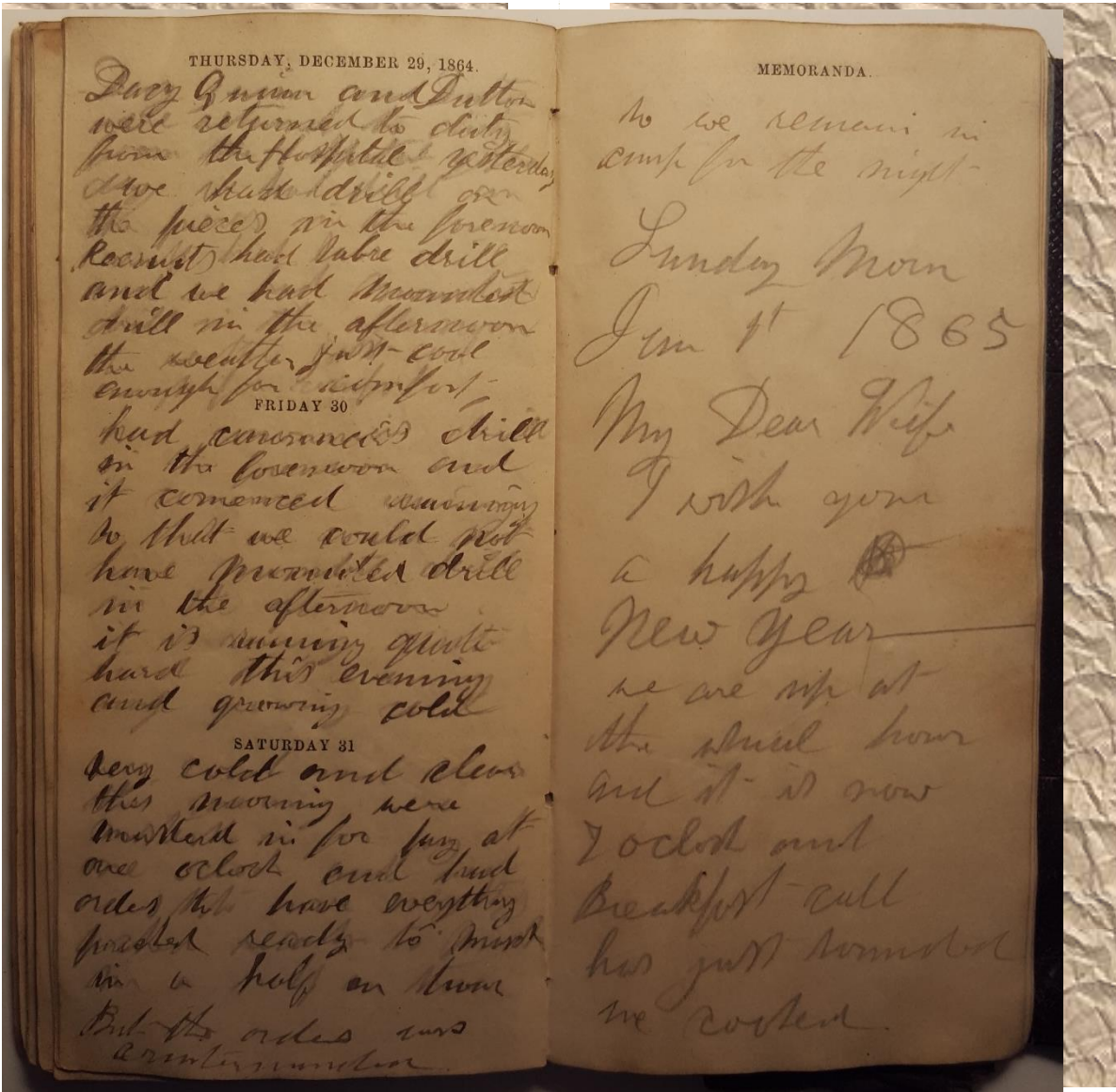
Wednesday, December 28

We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon and mounted drill in the afternoon under Rouse. It is a cool, pleasant day. Rouse has been off yesterday looking after [better] quarters. Fallon died in hospital.

Thursday, December 29
Dacy, Quinn and Dutton were returned to duty from the hospital yesterday. We had drill on the pieces in the forenoon. Recruits had sabre drill, and we had a mounted drill in the afternoon. The weather just cool enough for comfort.

Friday, December 30
Had [Cannoneer?] drill in the forenoon and it commenced raining so that we could not have mounted drill in the afternoon. It is raining quite hard this evening and growing cold.

Saturday, December 31
Very cold and clear this morning. Were mustered in for day at one oclock [and] had orders to have everything finished ready to March in a half hour time, but the order was countermanded, so we remain in camp for the night.



Sunday morning, January 1, 1865

My Dear Wife
I wish you a
Happy New Year

We are up at the usual hour and it is now 7 oclock and breakfast call has just sounded...

According to The Regimental History from a Compendium of the War of the Rebellion by Frederick Dyer, the regiment was moved to Kennersville, LA on New Years Day, 1865.

On April 7, just weeks before Lincoln's assassination and General Johnson's surrender to Gen. Sherman, George was severely wounded at the Siege of Fort Blakely, Alabama. His military records show that he remained in the hospital at the time his regiment mustered out of service in August 1865.

...had orders to have everything finished ready to March in a half hour time, but the order was countermanded.

FAMILY INFORMATION FOR REFERENCE:

George Royal Comey [George B. Comey on Nebraska military record]
b. February 2, 1834 – d. November 26, 1870 [age 36, died several years after the war as a result of injuries suffered in the Siege of Blakely, Alabama]

George’s Immediate Family

Please note that there are two “Alberts” and two “Celindas” in George’s immediate family.

Father: Albert Comey [lived to 77, married twice. Had five children by his first wife, and two by his second wife in Rhode Island]

Mother: Celinda (Barton) Comey [of Medway, died two months after the birth of her fifth child, when George was 6]

Older Brother: Albert Barton Comey [was one of the “Eight Cousins”]
Younger Sister: Ann Eliza Comey [married George W. Temple of Hopkinton]
Younger Sister: Marietta Comey [married Henry L. Stearns of Hopkinton]
Younger Brother: William Macher Comey [was one of the “Eight Cousins”]

Wife: Celinda Comey

George married his first cousin, Celinda, in 1863 [George 29 and Celinda 21]
[Celinda was Hiram Comey’s daughter, She died at age 26 leaving a 4 year old daughter and 2 year old son]

Daughter: Achsah (Axie) Comey born 9/15/1864 [was adopted by James and Sabrina Palmer, in Hopkinton, then she married Frank G. Proctor, of Ashland.]
Axie and Frank had 3 children: George Ainsworth, Gertrude Sabrina and Caroline Kimball.

Son: Walter Lawson Comey born 9/28/1866 [1880 census shows Walter living in Hopkinton with James and Sabrina Palmer. Later records show that at 16, he was a boot maker in Milford, MA. He married Lizzie Dyer in Framingham, MA, on June 29, 1891. They had one child, Harvey Dyer. Walter and Harvey established Assabet Fur Farms in Hudson, MA, (where my mother, Sandra, was born).]

Grandfather: Royal [lived on Whitehall Pond – this house was given to him by his father, Jonathon, and is still a home maintaining many of its original characteristics]

Uncle: Hiram

Uncle: Elbridge Gerry (EG)

Uncle: Dexter

George’s first cousins eligible for duty

Alphonso Comey [son of George’s uncle Hiram/Celinda’s brother]
Lawson Comey [son of George’s uncle Hiram/Celinda’s brother]
James Knox Polk Comey [son of George’s uncle Hiram/Celinda’s brother]
Henry Newton Comey [son of George’s uncle Elbridge]
Manlius Comey [son of George’s uncle Elbridge]

FIFTEENTH MASSACHUSETTS BATTERY LIGHT ARTILLERY – SOLDIERS REFERENCED IN DIARY

Excerpted from Massachusetts Soldiers, Sailors and Marines in the Civil War
Compiled and Published by THE ADJUTANT GENERAL, Vol. V
Norwood Press 1932 Pages 533-545 - The following is not a complete roster.

Anderson, John; Priv.; Res.; mariner; 40; enl. Dec. 8, 1862, at Boston; must.
Feb. 17, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865.

Anderson, Thomas; Priv.; Res.; occu.; 41; enl. Aug. 31, 1863, at New Orleans,
La.; must. Sept. 2, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865.

Bagshaw, George; Priv.; Res. Lowell; spinner; 24; enl. and must. Dec. 21,
1863; transf. to 6th Battery, Jany. 14, 1865. See 6th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.; and
U. S. Navy.

Bates, Amos R.; Priv.; Res. Hopkinton; bootmaker; 38; enl. and must. Dec. 29,
1863; must. out Aug. 4, 1865.

Bennett, George A.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; carpenter; 23; enl. and must. Dec. 28,
1863; must. out June 22, 1865, at Philadelphia, Penna.

Brady, John; Priv.; Res. New York; laborer; 21; enl. and must. Dec. 8, 1864;
deserted Jany. 21, 1865, at New Orleans, La.

Brady, William G.; Priv.; Res. Tewksbury; manufacturer; 44; enl. and must.
Dec. 30, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865, as Sergt. See Co. "D" 6th Mass. Inf. (9
mos.).

Briggs, James; Priv.; Res. Boston; shoemaker; 30; enl. Dec. 27, 1862; must.
Feb. 17, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865, as Sergt. See 8th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.
(6 mos.).

Carey, Patrick; Priv.; Res. Lowell; laborer; 21; enl. and must. Dec. 28, 1863;
transf. Jany. 14, 1865, to 6th Battery. See Co. "G" 16th Mass. Inf.; and 6th
Battery Mass.

Continued- The following is not a complete roster.

Carroll, Daniel; Priv.; Res. Boston; blacksmith; 22; enl. Jany. 2, 1863; must.
Feb. 17, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865, as Artificer.

Cheever, James P.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; blacksmith; 38; enl. and must. Dec. 15,
1863; must. out Aug. 4, 1865.

Cheney, Charles A.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; painter; 29; enl. and must. Nov. 28,
1863; transf. Jany. 5, 1865, to 6th Battery. See 6th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty. Had
prior service in Co.

Cochran, Russell; Priv.; Res. Dracut; paper maker; 26; enl. and must. Dec. 12,
1863; must. out Aug. 4, 1865. Had service in Co. "H" 14th Conn. Inf., as James
Cochran.

Colton, Charles C.; Priv.; Res. Maiden; student; 26; enl. and must. Dec. 4, 1863;
disch. March 22, 1864, for promotion. See Officer U. S. Colored Troops; and
Co. " F " 8th Vermont Inf.

Comey, George R.; Priv.; Res. Hopkinton; bootmaker; 29; enl. and must. Jany.
1, 1864; wounded April 7, 1865, at Blakeley, Ala.; must, out to date Aug. 11,
1865, at Boston.

Cook, Francis; Priv.; Res. Boston; mariner; 23; enl. Jany. 23, 1863; must. Feb.
17, 1863; deserted July 27, 1864, at New Orleans, La.

Cook, James T.; Colored Cook; Res. Lowell; barber; 24; enl. and must. Jany. 7,
1864; must. out Aug. 4, 1865.

Croxford, John F.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; merchant; 31; enl. and must. Nov. 27,
1863; must. out Aug. 4, 1865.

Dacy, Timothy; Priv.; Res. Lowell; laborer; 28; enl. and must. Dec. 28, 1863;
died June 6, 1865, of disease, at Mobile, Ala.

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Dame, Lorin L.; 2d Lieut.; Res. Lowell; occu.; 24; comm. and must. Feb. 19, 1863; comm. 1st Lieut., Sept. 27, 1863; must. Feb. 24, 1864; must, out Aug. 4, 1865, as 1st Lieut.

Dane, Joseph'; Priv.; Res. Billerica; laborer; 18; enl. and must. Dec. 14, 1863; transf. Jany. 14, 1865, to 6th Battery. See 6th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.; and U. S. Navy.

Devine, Timothy; Priv.; Res. Boston; stonecutter; 32; enl. Dec. 24, 1862; must. Feb. 17, 1863; died Nov. 13, 1864, of disease, at Duvall's Bluff, Ark.

Drew, John W.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; dyer; 20; enl. and must. Dec. 24, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865, as Corpl.

Dutton, Alvin P.; Priv.; Res. Billerica; blacksmith; 18; enl. and must. Dec. 19, 1863; must. out Aug. 4, 1865.

Dyer, Albert A.; Priv.; Res. Chelmsford; carpenter; 36; enl. and must. Dec. 29, 1863; must. out Aug. 4, 1865, as Corpl. See Co. "E" 6th Mass. Inf. (9 mos.).

Eccleston, Edward; Priv.; Res.; occu.; 26; enl. Aug. 20, 1863, at New Orleans, La.; must. Oct. 21, 1863; died July 10, 1864, of disease, at New Orleans, La.

Edwards, John C.; Priv.; Res. Boston; seaman; 38; enl. and must. Jany. 27, 1864; disch. July 5, 1864, for disability, at New Orleans, La.

Everest, Henry M.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; shoemaker; 27; enl. and must. Jany. 1, 1864; de-serted Aug. 19, 1864, at New Orleans, La.

Continued- The following is not a complete roster.

Everleth, John; Priv.; Res. Lowell; mechanic; 42; enl. and must. Nov. 28, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865.

Fallon, Patrick; Priv.; Res.; occu.; 44; enl. July 7, 1863, at New Orleans, La.; must. July 18, 1863; died Dec. 24, 1864, of disease, at Memphis, Tenn.

Gaymond, George; Priv.; Res. Lowell; machinist; 18; enl. and must. Dec. 4, 1863; transf. to 6th Battery, Jany. 14, 1865. See 6th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.

Griffin, Arick M.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; carpenter; 29; enl. and must. Jany. 4, 1864; transf. Jany. 14, 1865, to 6th Battery. See 6th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.

Griffin, Patrick; Priv.; Res. Lowell; laborer; 18; enl. and must. Dec. 23, 1863; transf. Jany. 5, 1865, to 6th Battery. See 6th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.

Grush, Joseph S.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; book agent; 44; enl. Dec. 10, 1862; must. Feb. 17, 1863; prom. Sergt., date not shown; comm. 2d Lieut., Sept. 27, 1863; must. Feb. 21, 1864; must, out Aug. 4, 1865, as 2d Lieut. See Co. "M" 3d Mass. Cav.

Hall, George B.; Priv.; Res. Maiden; teacher; 23; enl. and must. Dec. 2, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865, as Sergt. See 13th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty. True name George W. Beardsley.

Hamilton, Alexander; Priv.; Res.; laborer; 30; enl. Feb. 17, 1863, at Boston; must. March 2, 1863; transf. Feb. 20, 1865, to 13th Battery. See 13th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.

Hammond, Charles; Priv.; Res. Watertown; farmer; 18; enl. Feb. 3, 1863; must. Feb. 17, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865, as Bugler.

Hand, John; Priv.; Res.; gardener; 28; enl. Sept. 21, 1863, at New Orleans, La.; must. Sept. 23, 1863; deserted Oct. 23, 1864, at Vicksburg, Miss.

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Hill, John; Priv.; Res. Lowell; tailor; 20; enl. Dec. 19, 1862; must. Feb. 17, 1863; died Oct. 7, 1863, of disease, at New Orleans, La.

Hill, John A.; Priv.; Res.; oceu.; 36; enl. July 6, 1863, at New Orleans, La.; must. July 18, 1863; disch. to date June 23, 1865, under Act of Congress.

Kelly, Daniel, Jr.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; mechanic; 44; enl. and must. Nov. 25, 1863; prom. Qr. Master Sergt., Feb. 22, 1864; must, out Aug. 4, 1865. Had prior service in Ist Battery New Hampshire Vols.

Keniston, Henry; Priv.; Res. Lowell; stonemason; 44; enl. and must. Dec. 23, 1863; must. out Aug. 4, 1865.

Kenny, Patrick; Priv.; Res. Billerica; laborer; 33; enl. and must. Dec. 29, 1863; transf. Jany. 14, 1865, to 6th Battery. See 6th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.

Loughlin, Thomas; Priv.; Res. South Andover; laborer; 21; enl. and must. Jany. 5, 1864; must, out Aug. 4, 1865.

May, Alonzo B.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; grocer; 21; enl. and must. Dec. 26, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865. See Co. "G" 33d Mass. Inf.

Mayberry, Benjamin B.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; machinist; 38; enl. and must. Dec. 29, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865. See 1st Co. Mass. Sharpshooters (attached to 15th Mass. Inf.); and Co. "M" 3d Mass. Cav.

McCabe, James; Priv.; Res.; occu.; age; enl. Sept. 28, 1863, at New Orleans, La.; must. Oct. 3, 1863; died July 7, 1864, of disease, at New Orleans, La.

Continued- The following is not a complete roster.

Meriam, John W.; Priv.; Res. Tewksbury; farmer; 20; enl. and nmst. Dec. 12, 1863; died Dec. 13, 1864, of disease, at Memphis, Tenn.

Morrill, Edward D.; Priv.; Res. Lawrence; mechanic; 25; enl. Dec. 10, 1862; must. Feb. 17, 1863; comm. 2d Lieut., from Qr. Master Sergt., Sept. 27, 1863; must. Feb. 21, 1864; must. out Aug. 4, 1865, as 2d Lieut.

Morris, James; Priv.; Res. Boston; hostler; 26; enl. Jany. 19, 1863; must. Feb. 17, 1863; admitted to hospl., Dec. 31, 1863; furloughed April 8, 1864; deserted June 9, 1864.

Munsey, Alfred T.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; cordwainer; 39; enl. and must. Dec. 9, 1863; transf. Jany. 14, 1865, to 6th Battery. See Co. "C" 30th Mass. Inf.; 6th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.; and Co. "G" 1st La. Inf.

Nevens, William L.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; tanner; 43; enl. and must. Jany. 5, 1864; transf. Jany. 5, 1865, to 6th Battery. See Co. "I" 9th Mass. Inf.; and 6th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.

Noyes, Gilman C.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; painter; 30; enl. and must. Dec. 7, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865. See Co. "C" 33d Mass. Inf.

Putnam, Alonzo; Priv.; Res. Lowell; machinist; 31; enl. and must. Jany. 2, 1864; died March 5, 1864, of disease, at New Orleans, La. See Co. "H" 6th Mass. Inf. (9 mos.).

Quinn, Patrick; Priv.; Res. Lowell; operative; 21; enl. Jany. 8, 1863; must. Feb. 17, 1863; transf. Jany. 5, 1865, to 6th Battery. See 6th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.

Reardon, Joseph; Priv.; Res.; occu.; 29; enl. Oct. 8, 1863, at New Orleans, La.; must. Oct. 10, 1863; deserted Feb. 20, 1865, at New Orleans, La.

Robertson, William; Priv.; Res. Peterboro, N. H.; laborer; 30; enl. Dec. 8, 1862; must. Feb. 17, 1863; transf. Feb. 20, 1865, to 13th Battery. See 13th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.

FIFTEENTH MASSACHUSETTS BATTERY LIGHT ARTILLERY – SOLDIERS REFERENCED IN DIARY

Excerpted from Massachusetts Soldiers, Sailors and Marines in the Civil War
Compiled and Published by THE ADJUTANT GENERAL, Vol. V
Norwood Press 1932 Pages 533-545. - The following is not a complete roster.

Scully, Edward; Priv.; Res. Lowell; painter; 35; enl. and must. Dec. 20, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865, at Boston, Mass.

Simons, Charles; Priv.; Res. Boston; shoemaker; 21; enl. Jany. 23, 1863; must. Feb. 17, 1863; died Sept. 30, 1863, of disease, at New Orleans, La.

Simons, Nicholas; Priv.; Res.; laborer; 32; enl. June 22, 1863, at New Orleans, La.; must. June 29, 1863; transf. Jany. 5, 1865, to 6th Battery. See 6th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.

Small, Frederick J.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; manufacturer; 24; enl. and must. Dec. 19, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865, as Sergt. See Co. "H" 6th Mass. Inf. (3 mos.); and Co. "G" 6th Mass. Inf. (9 mos.).

Southwick, William S.; Priv.; Res. Charlestown; upholsterer; 42; enl. and must. Feb. 5, 1864; transf. Jany. 5, 1865, to 6th Battery. See 6th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.

Stackpole, William T.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; merchant; 18; enl. and must. Dec. 28, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865. See Co. "B" 6th Mass. Inf. (9 mos.).

Stone, Reuben E.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; teamster; 36; enl. and must. Dec. 23, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865.

Thomas, John A.; Priv.; Res. Charlestown; plumber; 23; enl. and must. Jany. 5, 1864 deserted Aug. 19, 1864, at New Orleans, La.

Continued- The following is not a complete roster.

Tibbetts, Charles G.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; manufacturer; 35; enl. and must. Dec. 31, 1863 must, out Aug. 4, 1865.

Tibbetts, Henry W.; Priv.; Res. Lowell; blacksmith; 27; enl. and must. Dec. 12, 1863 apptd. Corpl., Feb. 25, 1864; must, out Aug. 4, 1865, as Private. See Co. "E" 6th Mass.

Walcott, Albert; Priv.; Res. Stow; farmer; 18; enl. and must. Jany. 5, 1864; disch. April 25, 1864, for disability, at New Orleans, La.

Walcott, Charles; Priv.; Res. Stow; farmer; 42; enl. and must. Jany. 5, 1864; must, out Aug. 4, 1865.

Webber, Wallace; Priv.; Res. Canada; farmer; 21; enl. and must. Dec. 3, 1863; must, out Aug. 4, 1865.

Whipple, Daniel; Priv.; Res.; farmer; 21; enl. and must. Dec. 17, 1863, at Westford; transf. Jany. 14, 1865, to 6th Battery. See 6th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.

Wyman, Charles F.; Priv.; Res. Boston; cabinet maker; 22; enl. Jany. 30, 1863; must. Feb. 17, 1863; deserted Oct. 18, 1864; enlist. Nov. 1, 1864, under name of John P. Oldberg, as a Substitute, in 16th Maine Inf.; was apprehended March 1, 1865, as Charles F. Wyman, a deserter from 15th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.; tried by Genl. Court Martial, and dishonor- ably disch. Aug. 4, 1865, as of 15th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty. See Co. "D" 1st Mass. Inf.; and Co. "B" 32d Mass. Inf., as Charles F. Batchelder.

Young, James H.; Priv.; Res. Billerica; farmer; 18; enl. and must. Dec. 5, 1863; transf. Jany. 14, 1865, to 6th Battery. See 6th Battery Mass. Lt. Arty.

Young, John; Priv.; Res. Hopkinton; sailor; 33; enl. and must. Jany. 2, 1864; must, out Aug. 4, 1865. See U. S. Navy.

TWENTY-SIXTH REGIMENT MASSACHUSETTS
VOLUNTEER INFANTRY – HOPKINTON SOLDIERS

Excerpted from Massachusetts Soldiers, Sailors and Marines in the Civil War
Compiled and Published by THE ADJUTANT GENERAL, Vol. III
Norwood Press 1932 Pages 63-118 - The following is not a complete roster.

- Coleman, Reuben C. — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 40; teamster; enl. and must.
Jany. 5, 1864 disch. for disability, June 27, 1864.
- Dignan, Patrick — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 42; bootmaker; enl. and must. Jany.
5, 1864 must, out Aug. 26, 1865. See Co. "K" 28th Mass. Inf.
- Gamage, Henry R. — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 25; shoe cutter; enl. and must.
Jany. 4, 1864; killed Sept. 19, 1864, Winchester, Va.
- Graves, George W. — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 18; bootmaker; enl. and must.
Jany. 5, 1864; disch. May 20, 1865.
- Hogan, John — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 20; bootmaker; enl. and must. Feb. 13,
1864; prom. CorpL, July 1, 1865; must, out Aug. 26, 1865
- Jenkins, Robert G. — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 34; bootmaker; enl. and must.
Jany. 1, 1864;wounded Sept. 19, 1864, Winchester, Va.; disch. Feb. 11, 1865, as
Corpl. See Co. "F"
- Leonard, John — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 24; shoemaker; enl. and must. Feb.
13, 1864; must. out Aug. 26, 1865.
- Madden, Thomas — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 19; bootmaker; enl. and must.
Feb. 13, 1864; must, out Aug. 26, 1865.
- Newton, Edwin A. — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 21; shoemaker; enl. and must.
Dec. 29, 1863 must, out Aug. 26, 1865.

Continued- The following is not a complete roster.

- Nugent, Michael — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 19; bootmaker; enl. and must. Feb.
13, 1864; must, out Aug. 26, 1865.
- Phillips, Charles C. — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 25; last maker; enl. and must.
Jany. 4, 1864 killed Sept. 19, 1864, Winchester, Va. See Co. "H" 42d Mass. Inf.
(9 mos.).
- Reiley, Patrick — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 19; bootmaker; enl. and must. Feb.
16, 1864; must. out Aug. 26, 1865.
- Riley, John A. — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 29; bootmaker; enl. and must. Dec.
29, 1863; must. out Aug. 26, 1865.
- Woods, Marcus M. — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 21; bootmaker; enl. and must.
Jany. 4, 1864; disch. for disability. May 13, 1865, at Boston, Mass.
- Sanborn, George L. — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 27; tack maker; enl. and must.
Jany. 4, 1864; prom. Corpl., Jany. 1, 1865; must, out Aug. 26, 1865.
- Seaver, Augustus — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 21; laborer; enl. and must. Jany.
4, 1864; prisoner Oct. 19, 1864, Cedar Creek, Va.; exchanged Feb. 22, 1865;
prom. Corpl., July 2, 1865; must, out Aug. 26, 1865.
- Ward, Ferlorous — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 21; last maker; enl. and must. Jany.
18, 1864; must, out Aug. 26, 1865.
- Ward, Simeon — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 31; bootmaker; enl. and must. Jany.
4, 1861; prisoner Oct. 26, 1864, near Newtown, Va.; died Dec. 12, 1864, at
Richmond, Va., a Prisoner of War.
- Ward, Willard L. — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 20; farmer; enl. and must. Jany. 4,
1864; prisoner Oct. 26, 1864, near Newtown,
- Woods, Charles A. — Priv. — Res. Hopkinton; 39; laborer; enl. and must. Jany.
2, 1864; must.out June 3, 1865..

Excerpted Regimental history from *Massachusetts Soldiers, Sailors, and Marines in the Civil War*, compiled and published by the Adjutant General:

Fifteenth Battery Massachusetts Volunteer Light Artillery
(George Comey mustered in at Boston on 1/1/1864, arrived in New Orleans on 2/6/1864)

The 15th Batty. Mass. Vol. Lt. Arty, was recruited during the winter of 1862-63. partly at the Fair Grounds in Lowell, Mass., and partly at Fort Warren, Boston Harbor.

The men were mustered in on various dates, the greater number on February 17, 1863.

On March 9, under command of Capt. Timothy Pearson, it left Boston on the ship zouave and, after touching at Fortress Monroe, proceeded to New Orleans to join the expedition commanded by General Banks.

Disembarking April 9, it was quartered at Apollo Stables. By May 15 it had been partially equipped as light artillery, but on the 20th it was ordered to turn in its horses and equipment and proceed to Brashear City. After about a week at this place it returned to New Orleans, and on June 3 it was sent to garrison two small forts on the road and rail- road to Lake Ponchartrain. Here the detachments remained until December 29 when they left the forts and proceeded to Lakeport.

George Comey joined the company at Terrell's Press on March 5, 1864

On January 2, 1864, the battery embarked on the steamer Kate Dale and went on an expedition to Madisonville near the northern boundary of Lake Ponchartrain. After six weeks spent on this steamer about February 15 the battery returned to Lakeport and thence to New Orleans. From May 5 to October 17 the battery was at Terrell's Press.

Fifteenth Battery Massachusetts Volunteer Light Artillery (Continued)

On or about the last named date it proceeded under command of Lieutenant Rowse up the Mississippi to the mouth of White River, Arkansas, and thence on November 7 up the White River to Duvall's Bluff where it remained twenty days. It was then transferred to Memphis, Tenn. where it spent the month of December. About this time, having received a large number of recruits, the surplus was transferred to the 6th Battery.

From January 5, 1865, to February 13 the battery was stationed at Kennerville, La. Toward the last of February it was transferred to Barrancas, Fla., where it was assigned to the 2d Division, 13th Corps which was to join General Steele's expedition against Mobile. Proceeding to Pensacola, March 11, on the 20th the movement toward Mobile began. The 15th Battery participated in the siege of Fort Blakely from April 2 to 9 when the stronghold surrendered, and Mobile itself soon fell into the hands of the Union forces.

George Comey was injured at the Siege of Blakely on April 7.

On April 20, 1865, the 2d Division, of which the 15th Battery formed a part, proceeded by transports to Selma, Ala., near the centre of the State, where it remained until May 11, then returned to Mobile. Remaining here for about six weeks, on June 30 it turned in its guns and horses and proceeded to Fort Gaines on Mobile Bay. On July 20 it was ordered to Massachusetts. Reaching Readville, Mass., August 1, on the 4th of the month the men were mustered out of the United States service.

George Comey mustered out of the 15th Battery Mass. Volunteer Light Artillery in August 1865.

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Contributor: Walling, Henry Francis
Source: Library of Congress
<https://www.loc.gov/resource/g3763m.la000316/>

Map of the Pony Express Route in 1860
Contributor: William Henry Jackson
Source: Library of Congress
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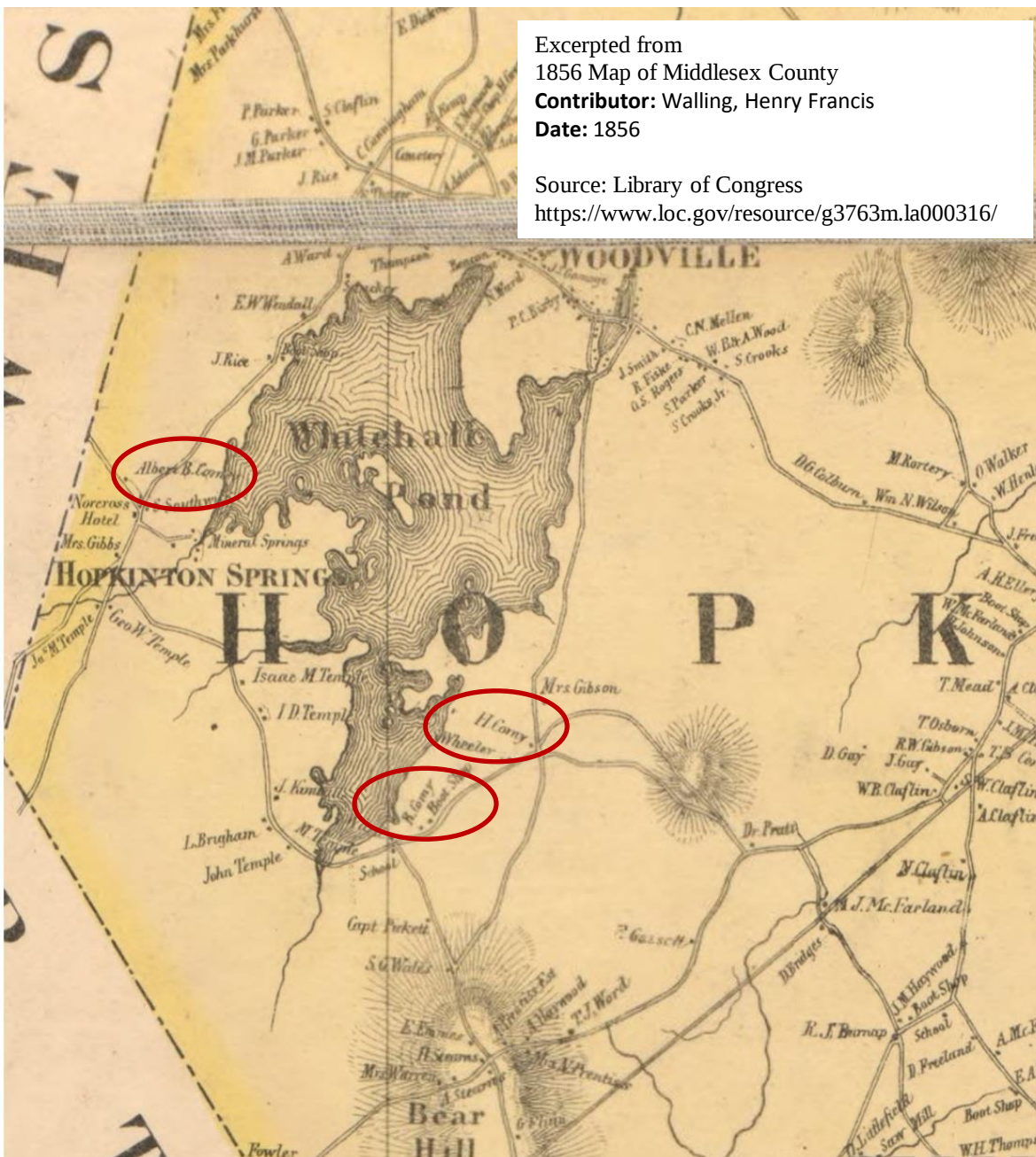
Panorama of the Mississippi Valley: and its fortifications
Contributor: Charles Magnus, F. W. Boell
Source: Library of Congress
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*George Royal Comey –
Hopkinton, Massachusetts
1864 Pocket Diary –
15th Mass Battery Light Artillery
As transcribed by Jane Hallett © 2018*

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