

1990

Some of them are buried around here. I've kept the stumps on the home. Nothing in the yard. We got rid of the stumps and put our fence over it. Some of the old ones are still there.

[illegible]

1. The first step is to identify the main topic of the document. This is often found in the title or the first few paragraphs.

2. Next, you should look for key words or phrases that are repeated throughout the text. These can help you understand the main ideas and themes.

3. It is also important to note the structure of the document. Are there sections, paragraphs, or bullet points? This can help you organize your notes.

4. Finally, you should consider the purpose of the document. Is it to inform, persuade, or entertain? This can help you decide what to focus on when taking notes.

1947

RICHMOND DISPATCH WEDNESDAY MORNING, NOV. 27, 1861

ARMY OF THE POTOMAC (OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT)

DUMFRIES, NOV. 22, 1861

LYING IN A SMALL VALLEY WHICH STRETCHES TO THE POTOMAC AND NEARLY SURROUNDED BY A RANGE OF HILLS, IS WHAT REMAINS OF THE OLD COLONIAL TOWN OF DUMFRIES, THE POINT FROM WHICH YOUR CORRESPONDENT IS NOW WRITING. ENTERING ON THE BRENTSVILLE ROAD, ONE PASSED OVER A SANDY AND ROLLING TRACT OF COUNTRY, AND COMES TO A TERRACE, IF ONE MAY SO CALL THE RIDGE THAT RISES ABRUPTLY FROM THE VALLEY, WHICH COMPLETELY OVERLOOKS THE TOWN, AND GIVES A GOOD PANORAMIC VIEW OF THE STREAM UPON WHICH IT IS SITUATED. STRETCHING OUT IN A ~~SOUTHERLY~~ SOUTHERLY DIRECTION, WIDENING GRADUALLY IN ITS COURSE IS QUANTICO CREEK, AND BEYOND IT THE POTOMAC, A SILVER LIKE THREAD OF WATER, JUST VISIBLE BETWEEN THE HEAD LANDS AT THE MOUTH OF THE BAY. STILL FURTHER ON, THE SHORE OF MARYLAND IS VISIBLE, DOTTED HERE AND THERE WITH FARM HOUSES AND PATCHES OF WOODLAND, ITS LINE OF HILLS FORMING THE DISTANT HORIZON. THE LAND AROUND DUMFRIES IS GENERALLY POOR, AND COVERED WITH A DENSE GROWTH OF YOUNG PINES, OR WITH FORESTS OF STINTED OAK, SHOWING IT HAS AT SOMETIME IN ITS HISTORY BEEN CLEARED LAND. COMING IN FROM THE NORTH, WINDING BETWEEN THE HILLS

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AND DASHING OVER THE ROCKS IN HUNDREDS OF
MINIATURE CASCADES, THE QUANTICO ENTERS THE TOWN,
AND PASSES OUT OF IT THROUGH A MARSH, OR MEADOW,
HALF A MILE IN LENGTH. FROM THIS POINT IT GROWS
WIDER AND DEEPER, UNTILL IT RUNS INTO THE POTOMAC
AT EVENS PORT.

THE TOWN ITSELF IS BUILT UPON A SIDE HILL,
WHICH SLOPES GRADUALLY TO THE WATER. COMING
INTO IT, THE FIRST HOUSE VISIBLE IS UPON AN
EMINENCE CALLED "ROSE HILL" FROM WHICH A
SPLENDID VIEW IS OBTAINED. IT IS AN OLD HOUSE THAT
HAS BEEN FOR SOME TIME DESERTED, A LEGEND HANGING
ABOUT IT OF A POOR SUICIDE, WHO BLEW HIS BRAINS
OUT WITHIN ITS WALLS, AND WHOSE GHOST STILL
LINGERS AROUND THE PLACE. EVERY OLD TOWN HAS
ITS HAUNTED SPOT - THE POINT OF INTEREST TO
STRANGERS AND ITS BOBBY FOR CHILDREN - AND
DUMFRIES IS NO EXCEPTION TO ~~THE~~^{THE} RULE. UNFORTUNATELY,
THE ARMY WAS IN NEED OF BOARDS, AND THIS HOUSE
HAS BEEN STRIPPED COMPLETELY, AND NOW LITTLE
BUT THE FRAMEWORK REMAINS TO HOLD THE DEAD
MAN'S SPIRIT. IT WAS NEAR SUNSET WHEN I RODE
UP THE HILL, AND STANDING BESIDE THE HAUNTED
BUILDING GOT AN IDEA OF THE SCENERY WHICH I AM
TRYING TO EXPRESS IN WORDS. THE EVENING WIND
SIGHED THROUGH THE BARE RAFTERS LIKE THE MORNING

OF SOME RESTLESS SPIRIT, AND A NIGHT OWL FLEW OUT OF A BROKEN WINDOW AND FLITTED INTO THE DARK SHADOW OF SOME NEIGHBORING PINES, BUILT BY A MAN OF WEALTH AND INFLUENCE,

"THE HOUSE REMAINED AWHILE,

SILENT AND TENANTLESS - THEN WENT TO STRANGER"

SINCE THEN IT HAS PASSED THROUGH YEARS OF NEGLECT, AND HAS NOW GONE TO RUIN AND DECAY. TO THOSE WHO ARE FOND OF RELICS OF THE PAST THE SPOT WAS OF INTEREST, AND ONE COULD IMAGINE MORE OLD WIVES' TALKS HANGING ABOUT IT THAN PINE CONES IN THE FOREST. STANDING BESIDE IT, MANY A DELICIOUS MEMORY FLOATS THROUGH THE MIND LIKE THE DREAM OF SOME LONG-FORGOTTEN MELODY, AND THE BRAIN IS FILLED WITH WEIRD AND MYSTICAL RECOLLECTIONS OF LONG AGO.

ABOUT A THOUSAND YARDS BELOW "ROSE HILL" THE VILLAGE COMMENCES. A SINGLE STREET BORDERED ON EITHER SIDE BY HOUSES IN EVERY STATE OF DILAPIDATION - ~~BELOW~~ HALF RUINED STORES AND TOPPLING BARNs, THAT ONLY MAINTAIN THERE EQUILIBRIUM BY THE AID OF SUNDRY RAILS PROPPED AGAINST THEM; SOLITARY CHIMNEYS STANDING UP LIKE "SACRED TO THE MEMORY," BROKEN STONE FENCES; HALF A DOZEN SUBSTANTIAL BRICK BUILDINGS THAT HAVE BEEN ELEGANT IN THEIR DAY; FIFTEEN OR TWENTY WOODEN ONES ALMOST IN RUINS,

A NUMBER OF SHEDS WHOSE ROOFS HAVE FALLEN IN ARE ABOUT ALL THE VILLAGE CAN BOAST.

THERE IS SCARCELY A HOUSE ENTIRELY COVERED WITH WEATHERBOARDING OR SHINGLES; THE SASH IS BROKEN, AND IN THE PLACE OF GLASS A BUNDLE OF RAGS OR OLD CLOTHES GLARES IN THE FACE AT EVERY STEP. BUT FEW OF THE FORMER RESIDENTS REMAIN IN THEIR HOUSES, NEARLY ALL OF THEM BEING OCCUPIED BY SUTLERS OR SOME KIND OF TRADESMEN.

LOVE'S HOTEL, A TWO STORY BRICK BUILDING WITH A BASEMENT, IS THE LARGEST HOUSE IN THE PLACE, AND DECIDEDLY THE MOST MODERN OF ALL - IN IT ARE GENERAL WIGFALL'S HEADQUARTERS, THE OFFICERS OF HIS STAFF, AND THE DEPARTMENTS OF HIS FAMILY. IN THE UPSTAIRS, CORNER ROOM, IS THE TELEGRAPH OFFICE, WHERE THE CLICK, CLICK, CLICK OF THE BUSY INSTRUMENT CAN BE HEARD FROM MORNING TO NIGHT. AT THE OPPOSITE END OF THE TOWN IS THE COURT-HOUSE, OR WHAT WAS THE COURT HOUSE BEFORE THE COUNTY SITE WAS REMOVED TO BRENTSVILLE. IT IS A STRUCTURE OF PECULIAR ARCHITECTURE, BUILT OF IMPORTED BRICK, WITH GRANITE CORNER-STONES AND CORNICES. THE FLOOR IS FORMED OF QUADRANGULAR FLAG STONES NICELY FITTED TOGETHER, MOST OF THEM WORN AWAY BY THE SHUFFLING OF MANY FEET, AND THE BENCHES AND THE BAR, CONSTRUCTED OF HEAVY OAK, HAVE GROWN ROTTEN AND WORTHLESS WITH AGE. NEAR BY THIS IS THE OLD COLONIAL COURTHOUSE,

A SMALL ONE STORY COTTAGE, NOW OCCUPIED AS A RESIDENCE BY THE ONLY PERSON BORN IN TOWN NOW LIVING IN IT.

THE DATE OF THIS HOUSE I CANNOT ASCERTAIN; NO ONE HERE REMEMBERS TO HAVE HEARD, BUT I PRESUME THE TOWN RECORDS WILL TELL. THAT IT IS OLD ENOUGH, THERE ARE SUFFICIENT INDICATIONS—THE WEATHERBOARD HAVE GROWN THIN UNDER THE STORMS OF MANY WINTERS, AND ITS SIDES AND ROOF ARE COVERED WITH MOSS. TWO OR THREE YARDS FROM THE HOUSE IS THE OLD JAIL, A SMALL BUILDING MADE OF HEAVY OAK TIMBER, STILL WELL PRESERVED, WITH ONE WINDOW AND A STRONG DOUBLE DOOR, THE ORIGINAL BOLT AND HINGES AND GRATING ACROSS THE SINGLE WINDOW STILL REMAIN AS EVIDENCE OF ITS ANTIQUITY. NEAR BY THIS IS A BRICK MANSION NOW USED AS A HOSPITAL. IT IS OWNED BY A MAN FROM NEW JERSEY WHO HAS BEEN SOME SEVENTEEN YEARS IN VIRGINIA, AN IGNORANT AND NOT VERY BRILLIANT INDIVIDUAL, WHO SPENDS HIS TIME IN GENERAL LOAFING AND IN SWEARING AT LINCOLN AND SEWARD, HEARING ME MAKING INQUIRIES ABOUT THE TOWN HE CAME FORWARD AND OFFERED HIS SERVICE. TAKING US AROUND THE HOUSE HE POINTED TO A BASE-STONE SUPPORTING ONE OF THE PILLERS OF THE PORCH—“THERE'S A CURIOUSITY,” SAID HE, “COME FROM THE THEATRE.” IT WAS A SQUARE BLOCK OF GRANITE,

UPON WHICH WAS THE FOLLOWING INSCRIPTION:

"WAITE

FECIT

1755"

"THERE IS THE NAME OF THE MAN WHO BUILT THE THEATRE" SAID OUR INTELLIGENT CICERONE: "WAITE FECIT"

WE LAUGHED.

"I KNEW A FAMILY OF THEM FECITS IN NEW JERSEY." CONTINUED HE.

"WHAT BECAME OF THEM?" ASKED THE DOCTOR.

"SOME OF THEM ARE BURIED AROUND HERE; I'VE SEEN THE NAMES ON THE STONES."

SMILING AT THE ABSURDITY, WE COPIED THE INSCRIPTION AND BID OUR GUIDE ADIEU.

SEVERAL OF THE BUILDINGS IN THE VILLAGE HAVE BEEN TAKEN FOR HOSPITALS, AND ALL THAT ARE SUITABLE, I BELIEVE, HAVE BEEN PUT TO THAT USE. THE SURGEON OF THE POST IS DR. A. S. GARNETT, OF THE CONFEDERATE NAVY, FORMERLY IN THE UNITED STATES SERVICE AS A MEDICAL OFFICER. HE HAS ALL THE HOSPITALS UNDER HIS CHARGE, AND NOW HAS THEM ORGANIZED AND IN VERY GOOD CONDITION. HALF A MILE BEYOND THE TOWN IS A MILL WHICH WAS BEGUN A FEW YEARS SINCE AND NEVER COMPLETED. THIS HAS BEEN FITTED UP, AND IS NOW KNOWN AS THE "MILL HOSPITAL." IT IS UNDER THE IMMEDIATE

CHARGE OF DR. WM. GEDDINGS, OF CHARLESTON, S.C., ASSISTED BY DRs. DE WILTON AND SNOWDEN.—TWO FLOORS OF THE BUILDING ARE NOW IN USE, AND THE THIRD IS BEING PREPARED, AND WILL SOON BE READY FOR THE RECEPTION OF THE SICK. THE BEDS ARE ARRANGED VERY CONVENIENTLY, WITH ONE ROW AROUND THE OUTSIDE AND TWO DOWN THE MIDDLE LEAVING SPACE ENOUGH FOR AISLES. IN BOTH ROOMS THERE ARE ABOUT SIXTY BEDS, ALL OF WHICH ARE CONSTANTLY FILLED. THE BASEMENT IS USED AS A KITCHEN, BUT A SMALL HOUSE IS BEING BUILT, DETACHED FROM THE MILL, AND NEAR BY ANOTHER, TO BE USED AS A DEAD-HOUSE. THE WATER-POWER IS USED IN VARIOUS WAYS—IN WASHING, BATHING, CLEANING SINKS, AND IN CARRYING OFF ALL EFFLUENT MATTER.

TAKEN ALL IN ALL THIS IS ONE OF THE BEST HOSPITALS I HAVE SEEN, AND IT REFLECTS GREAT CREDIT UPON THE SURGEONS WHO HAVE PLANNED IT.

HOSPITAL NO. 1 IS UNDER THE CHARGE OF DR. W. R. JOHNSON. IT IS IN THE BRICK-HOUSE ALREADY MENTIONED, AND CONTAINS ABOUT FORTY-FIVE BEDS. THE ARRANGEMENT OF THIS IS ALSO VERY FINE, THERE BEING EVERY CONVENIENCE FOR THE SICK THAT COULD BE EXPECTED IN SUCH A PLACE AS OUMERIES. HOSPITAL NO. 2 (CHURCH HOSPITAL) IS UNDER THE CHARGE OF DR. WM. P. HILL. IT HAS ABOUT FORTY BEDS, AND THERE ALSO ARE CONSTANTLY FILLED. OTHER MINOR BUILDINGS IN THE VICINITY ARE USED AS DISPENSARIES AND

MESS-ROOMS, OR KITCHENS, WHEN THE COOKING IS DONE.
I HAVE SELDOM SEEN A MORE PERFECT ARRANGEMENT FOR
THE CARE OF SICK AND WOUNDED MEN, AND BEING IN
CHARGE OF SKILLFUL AND ENERGETIC PHYSICIANS,
EVERYTHING IS DONE THAT IS POSSIBLE TO DO.

THE PRINCIPLE DISEASE WHICH COME UNDER THE
CHARGE OF THE SURGEONS ARE MEASLES, AND THEIR
———: CAMP FEVER, OF A TYPHOID CHARACTER, THE
RESULT OF EXPOSURE TO THE DAMP AND MALARIOUS
ATMOSPHERE OF DUMFRIES: INTERMITTENT AND
REMITANT FEVER, AND PNEUMONIA AND PLEURISY
HAVE LATELY COMMENCED TO APPEAR. — THERE HAVE
BEEN A FEW SURGICAL CASES, THE RESULT OF
ACCIDENTAL SHOOTING, TREATED SUCCESSFULLY IN
THESE HOSPITALS. THE PERCENTAGE OF DEATH,
AS I HAVE BEEN INFORMED IS QUITE SMALL, NOT
ABOVE FOUR OR FIVE PERCENT OF THE NUMBER
ENTERED. THUS FAR THE HOSPITALS HAVE RECEIVED
BUT LITTLE SUPPORT — THERE BEING BUT ONE
LADY WHO HAS SENT IN ANY CONTRIBUTIONS AND
THAT WAS MISS VIRGINIA TAYLOR, LATE OF
WASHINGTON BUT WHO NOW RESIDES IN FREDRICKSBURG.
—— TWO MORE LINE ILLEGIBLE ——