I Hirsh

Co A

30th Va Reg

Fredericksburg

Va

1862

HF 76. 570a 90.21.76
FW 74. 341a

Monday Augt 25th 1862

I have been keeping a just account of Events as they happen in another little book but it is full so I will comence in this

Left Camp near Petersburg on the 5th marched 2 miles below Prince Geo. C.H. Bivouaked there that night next morning were drawn up in line of Battle expecting the Enemy as they had made there appearance on the South side of the James River opposite Berckley, went back to the C.H. that night and stayed there until Monday night Augt 11th

when we went back to
Camp on the 16th we
moved our Camp fr
Jacksons Hill to the en
Renchements before
Petersburg about 2 m
from the city, where
had to work every o the
day & nyt 16 we went
to Prince Geo C.H. a
stood all night and c
back next Evening
Sept 20th we had got
Marching order and
left with Knap sacks
but left our tents
behind, at night we
Bivouacked near Pr
Bluff, and the next

Night we Camped
one mile from Richmond
on the Williamsburg Road
I went to Richmond the
same day, and went again
the next day. on the 23d
we moved again while
the Regt moved I was
in Richmond we are
now on the Nine Mile
Road about 3 mile
from Richmond have
been in Richmond two
day since we been near
it except to day. saw
Lt Deeman there yesterday
he says the Yeates Boys took
all his Negros (4) he talk
of mooving to Richmond

Couldnt hear for a
home though, we
expect our Tents to
and expect to stay h
sometime, there are
very few Troops a
here, most of them g
to Jackson who is
after Pope. I hope
he may thrash him
Badly before he is
done with him.
Rapid Ann August 9th 18
We left our Camp Yesterday
morning took the Cars at Ki
for this place, got here last
night about 12 Oclock we
Bivouaked by the Side of
the Railroad the Cars cant
go any further than this

place as the Yankees burnt
the Bridge over the Rapid
Ann River sometime ago.
dont Know how long we
will stay here, but we
expect to go on after Jackson
who is still following Pope
we cant hear much from
there, about 350 Prisoners
passed here this morning on
there way to Richmond
I think they were some of
Pope's Rear Guard.
Mr Pearson came out with
us to Fredericksburg yesterday
which is ten miles from his
House, and walk home from
there, he couldnt come out
any other way as there was
no Regular Trains running

Salt along the Central Rail
the Yankees have made some
dashes at Beaver Dam they
Burnt the Depot with ammuni
and Comisary stores at Tick
hill they burnt some Cars
and tore up the Track.
and here they have burn
the Bridge over the Rapid
This is a Beautiful Count
and a very rich one but
it is a good deal devastat
by the Yankees and our Army
too for our men are some
times as bad as the Enem
pulling down and burning
fences pulling down Corn
and destroying Fruit &
Trees.

Augt 29th

We are still on the Orange side of the Rapidan River Yesterday I went out foraging with Geo Humphries & Ned Stephens we got a first rate Dinner besides a haversack full of Biscuits / Dozen Eggs & a canteen full of Milk which we brought to Camp. all the We got from Mr Jane C. Herndon an old acquaintance her Husband belongs to the Crenshaw Battary. we cant hear much news here there is a Rumor this morning that Jackson had driven the Enemy beyond Manassas and was still pursuing him Also that Fredericksburg

Bees evaporated by the
Evening I hope it may be
so.
On the march left [illegible]
We left Rapidam River
Yesterday morning got to
Gilgal at last night and
encamped about one mile
of the village, We had an
awfull time of it last night
one had hardly slept for
night when it comenced rain
very hard an continuied so
more then an hour having no
Tents or any other Shelter we
got a good drenching we then
build large fires and dried
ourselfs as best we could
about 11 oclock we spread
down our Blankits on the

wet grained and layed down to sleep. the long roll sounded about 3 oclock this morning when we got up packed our knap sacks and about day break we marched again we have got this far and stoped for dinner we have only come 10 miles where we are going to I dont know but I think we are on our way to Manassa. the Drums has just rolled to fall in so I must stop.

Sept 3d 1862

We got as far as Jeffersonton last night Jeffersonton is a little place in Culpepper Co. with some 10 or 15 Houses it is an old dalapadet place. we marched 15 miles yesterday

Started this morning at 5 o'clock
Rose, we crossed the Rappahannock River and got into
Sanguine; we stopped at the
Sanguine Spring to rest about
15 minutes, the Yankees have
burnt the fine Hotel at the
place, it is a pity as it was
a Brick free Hotel.
We 4 o'clock P.M.
We marched through Warrenton
about 2 o'clock P.M. did not
stop there at all. Warrenton
looks like a right thrifty place.
We are now stoping for the
night about 4 miles from
Warrenton, on the Turnpike to Manassas. Over expect
to go there tomorrow.

Sept 5th 1862

Started at the usual time this morning (Sun rise) We sent our Knap Sacks back to Warrenton last night mine contained 2 pair Drawers 1 Shirt 1 pair Shoes 1 Felt Hat, blacking brush 1 bottle Ink and some leather Straps don't know whether I shall ever see it again

We just stopped 12½ M don't know for how long as I have heard no orders yet, since we left Warrenton we passed through a little place called New Baltimore, next was Buckland and the next Gainsville where we are stoping; there is about 200 Prisoners Private & Officers

here waiting to be sent to
Richmond. After we had got fix-
ed the Woods & understood we
were going to stay here till
tomorrow morning - so about
10 pm one Co got permission
to visit the Battle Field
where Jackson gave Pope one
a thrashing on Thursday Friday
& Saturday 27 - 28 & 29th Aug
it is 3 miles from here when
I got to the field where the
fighting commenced as I was
going up the hill I saw an
object laying on the ground
which I at first took to be
a Negro, but when I got
close to it I found it
to be a dead Yankee turned
perfectly black from

laying out in the field so long exposed to the sun. they smelled very offensive but good god they were laying about thick, our men certainly slayed them I counted 88 laying in a line almost as they were coming up in line of battle, all of them just as black as crows and swelled up to twice their natural size some of them had their Pantaloons stripped off of them and I didnt see one of them with a pair of shoes on all of them of them were clad alike in the Yankee Uniform Blue and gineraly had pretty good clothes on

while we were in the field
an old Gentelman came
up and told us to go about
a half mile farther north
of there if we wanted to
see dead Yankees, we went
and such a sight as we
saw nor never want to
see again; it was a field
of about 10 acres, and
it was litarely covered
with dead Yankees, I
was informed that as
Mean were in a Rail road
Cut north of the field
behind them were our Batte
the Yankees were in a line
of Woods East of the fie
and advanced over the f

to charge the Batteries when
our men rose up and fired
loaded and fired again
then left the breast work
and charged and drove
the Yankees before them
slaughtering them as they
went, it is reported that
they Yankees lost twelve
thousand, but one thing I
know there must have been
one thousand dead on
the field they had
2000 wounded taken
Prisoners and about 2000
dead ones our loss must have
been small compared with
them I saw very few
[illegible] where our men were
[illegible] not more than 30 from

While we were there a
Train of Yankee am-
bulances and Surgeons
came in through the lines
by Flag of truce after
dinner we talked
with them very freely, &
we told them under
such circumstance we
met as friends but on
the Battle field we would
have to do the best we
could, we asked them
what they thought of the
fight, as in most case
where we gained a victor
these Generals and paper
generally claimed the Victor
But they said that they
certainly acknowledge

thire defeat here.
and so with all the
Yankes we talked
all as knowledged to
thire defeat I left
the field with a heavey
heart, as I had never
seen the Romance of
War in this shape before
although I have been in
service over 16 months.
It is bad that the dead
Yankes could not be
Burried as I dont like
any Yankee being lay on
the top of the Earth and
Rot, but it is a fit emblem
for the Invader of our Soil
for ~~it is~~ his bones to bleach
on the soil he invades.

especialy of a people that
wish to be let alone, and
settle down to theire own
peaceful pursuits. but
enough of Philosophizing
I got back to Camp a
wiser man than I left
it, and was pretty hungry
so I went to my haver
sack and got something
to eat and than comenced
writing this. it is getting
dark and must stop for
to night. 5. P.M.
Friday sept 5th 62
left Camp this morning at
Sun up. I learnt our
destination was
Leysburg, and from there
to Maryland

after marching about a mile we got to a little place called Haymarket and the next little place was 12 miles from there called Alldea we are now stoping in the Woods about 5 miles from Leesburg we have marched 20 miles to day and I am pretty tired though I have stood the march pretty well the men have gimmicked a gravel dyat to day, as we got only Beef last night, and no flour consequaintly we had no Bread to day but fortunately I have had enough bread in my haversack to last me to day

So I shant suffer
any today. we passed
through a very pretty Coun
try day with a good many
Orchards and good
many Apples on the Trees
We but had Manning
commanding our Brigade
wouldnt let a Man
go to get any, if he
did we was arrested
and Punished. I heard
on the road that Longstreets
Division had crossed
over to Maryland, if that
is the case we will go
there tomorrow, but
I dont like the Idea

as I dont like to
invade anybody's Country
I will have to await
Coming Events. Sept 6th
started this morning at 6 oclock
A.M. passed through Leesburg
about 10 oclock it was 7 miles
from where we staid last
night to Leesburg noticed as
Leesburg as quite a Town
larger than Warrenton from
Appearance it must be an
old Town it is the County
Seat of London County
Suppose it contains about
2000 Inhabitants. as we just
marched through I had no
opertunity of learning much
about the Town.

It is a very Warm day and the men Straggle very much and I am very tired myself more so than I have been the whole time we have been marching we are now about a mile from Leesburg on our way to the Potomac to cross over to Maryland, as another Battle is certainly in the I dont think we will go any to day, but I think we will go to the ford to night which is about 7 miles from here it is now about 12 Oclock and the division is taking a Rest by a large Spring big enough

to supply the whole Confederate army in Water and it is first rate Water too. It is reported in the Baltimore that the Yankees have evacuated Fredericksburg and burnt up the Foundry there also burnt all the Bridges & some Houses in Falmouth how I would like to hear how or if I could only hear from there.

Sept 7th

We started a little sooner this morning than usual we camped 4 miles from where we were on the Potomac we were farther from the Landing Yesterday than we were at first we were we marched about 15 miles Yesterday

We are now at 7 o'clock P.M.
laying in the woods waiting
Crops for some other Regts to
Cross the River before we can
go over, and before another
hour I think we will be
in Maryland so I will bid
Adieu to old Va. for the Present
hoping to come back soon
flushed with Victory and
to our peaceful homes this
County London, has been in the
Possession of the Enemy for more
than six months consequently
the Confederacy could not draw
any Provisions from this Section
and every thing is cheap here
and in Abundance but
since our Troops been moving
in this direction they have

nearly up everything the people had in the neighborhood they moved through, when our army first came here Butter was selling at 10 cts per lb Eggs 10 cts Dry Bacon 10 to 15 cts chickens 15 to 25 cts and everything in proportion while in Richmond and vicinity the above named things would bring 5 and 10 times as much, I went to a Hash last night and got my Supper for which I only paid 25 cts this reminded me so much of the good old times before the War I hope we may soon return to those good old times again which we will no doubt do after we clean out the Yankees

11 Oclock A.M.
We have just crossed the
Potomac and we are now
in Maryland. We all had
to strip to cross the Wat
it was Knee & waist deep
Sept 8th Reveille
We have ban up since
about 4 Oclock A.M. we
We got only 8 m. far last
night which is only 6 mile
from the River, we are now
in front of a little Town
by the name of Buckstown
we are on the way to Frede
which is 6 mile from her
the Country we have passed
through is a very pretty one
Though the People are not
as Enthusiastic as I expe
they would be.

though we saw a good many
Ladies on the Road as we
came along.
5. P.M. We only marched
through Brookeytown to day, and
come about a mile on the Road
to Fredrickcity when we stopd
we are just across the Kanawa
River, Stopping on the north Bank
dont Know when we will move
again, though Suppose in the
morning, as we stoped here
this morning we all stripped
off and went into the River
to Wash, and than I went
to work and washed my two
shirts and two pair Drawers
I Rubbed all the skin off of
my Knuckles and my hands
smart yet

Sept 9th

We started this morning at 7 o'clock A.M. and went with 3 miles of Frederick city where we rested about 3 hours when we were ordered back here again to where we staid last night, we will move again this Evening at 5 o'clock I understand down the Potomac for what purpose I dont know. Our army has not marched much beyond Frederick city yet and have had no fighting yet though I think Jackson will march towards the Relay House

Sept 10th

Yesterday Evening at 5 o'clock we marched again and by 11 o'clock we got within a mile of the Aqueduct when we stopped and I. lay down for the night we send men to the Aqueduct to blow it up, it is said to be a beutifull piece of Masonry build out of solid Rock but it is build so strong that we cauldnt blow it up and had to leave it, but before we left we lost 3 men we send out 2 Pickits who never come back and are supos'd to be taken Prisoners they belonged to a N.C. Regt than a Capt of ours Regt with a Guard went out & when the Capt was shot

and mortaly wounded. me
than moved 2 miles back
again and layed in the
Woods till about 3 oclock
when we again moved back
a mile further ~~Battle~~ when
we stoped till 2 oclock P.M.
and gave the men time to rest
a little while and cook their
Rations. I was pretty tired
as we marched about 19 miles
yesterday and last night and
the Roads are awful dusty
we are now 5 miles from
Boonsboro again resting
and waiting for further
orders it is about 5 oclock
where we will stop to night
I can't tell, I suppose we are
going on toward Frederick City

Sept 14th

I was mistaken last Evening in thinking we were going to Frederick again, about night, we came marched and came back to the Potomac River but not to the same Ford we crossed over, but we took the Road to Point of Rocks we got to Point of Rocks last night about 12 o'clock our Regt was in advance of the Division and we certainly made fast time behind us came the Artillery and Wagon train and it put them up to their best to keep up with us. Point of Rocks is a little Station on the Balt. & Ohio R.R.

it is on the north side of the Potomac the Chesp & Ohio Canal also runs by there and in its good days must have been a good little business place, we had to build a Bridge out of R R Sleepers over the Canal for the Wagons & Artillery to cross on and had to do all that carrying the Sills about 200 yds as tired as we were. after crossing the Canal we stripped to cross the Potomac again and about the time we got over it was day when we came about a mile from the River where our Brigade is now camped

so we are once more in good old Virginia what we will do from here I dont Know though I understand that Jackson has marched on Pennsylvania this has been a ~~Cloudy~~ dreary dry I slept from the morning till 12 o'clock P.M. since when I have been in the little Log Cabin near our Camp where I got my Breakfast & this Evening my Supper so I have fared pretty well to day, it is getting dark I dont think we will march any to night 9 P.M.

I am now sitting in Mrs Lamberts House where I

have been boarding all
day. I have written a letter
Home, but dont know
how to get it there.
Mrs Lambert is a very
nice good lady. her
Husband is in Service
but the Soldiers have
bothered her a good deal
to day, which I have
put her to a good deal
of trouble myself.
well I will quite and
lay down as I expect
to march soon in the
morning.
Sept 13th
It was 8 oclock yesterday
morning before we

left as we were the rear
Guard. I got a first rate
Breackfast at Mrs
Lambert's before we left
in the morning we marched
very slow and rested often
and I felt first rate but
in the Evening we struck
a better road and the Regt
marched very fast so I soon
down and got behind and
my feet being sore I could
not keep up so I stayed
with 3 others in an old barn
last night about 2 miles from
where the Regt Camped last
night, we started this morn
at daybreak, and got to camp
just as Regt was moving off

We passed through a little place this morning called Hillsboro it looks like an old place I supose it has about 50 houses. The men have been trying at every store they came across to get Tobacco, but could not get any but we passed a store yesterday and was fortunate enough to buy 2 lb Smoking Tobacco for 1$ as P was out of it and it is hard to get along without it, But I am grieved to think of it the little blk Gutta Percha Pipe that Ma brought me from home to look & last it to a Man and he

lost it. I wouldnt have taken $10 for it and I miss it very much but I still have I bought me another Powaton Pipe & a Stem so I can smoke again. We are on our way to Harpers ferry. 10 o'clock A.M

we are five miles from Harpers Ferry we expect a fight as we hear Canonading now 6 o'clock P.M

since writing the above we have marched with the 19th A.C. Regt up the Mountain which is called London Heights we had to come about 8 miles up here we have a lovely view in front of us is the Maryland Heights

To the right is the valley of the Shenendoah, it is one of the most prettiest countrys I think I ever beheld, right before us in the Valley is a Yankee Camp it looks beautiful as they are shelling some point now. I suppose the Yankees are about 10000 strong, we saw them surrounded I believe. I see a Column advancing which is said to be Jackson's.

Sept 19th

Last night after we had laid down to sleep, about 9 o'clock we were called up again and marched down the Mountain

it was a hard discussion of about 3 miles when we got to our Waggons where we stopped as I thought for the night, but about 3 o'clock this morning we were waked up again and marched about a mile down the road to report to Genl Manning but I did not go stopped out on the Road and slept in a Hay stack till about 7 o'clock this morning, when I got up and found the Regt had come back again. the artillery carried up 3 rifled pieces to the Mountain and the have been shelling the Enemy all day the Enemy replying pretty

Wesley Lint Roberts son
of Frenches Artillery over
was killed he was a nice
young man. We have
been resting to day.
Sept 15th 10 A.M.
News received here just
now from Harpers Ferry
the Enemy have surrendered
we are going there now.
Sept 16 5 P.M.
We are now Camped in
the Woods on Md. one
& ½ miles the Potomac to us
about 1 o'clock P.M. I thought
we were going to Harpers Ferry
yesterday as one were only two
miles from them but we could
not cross the Shenandoah River
so we had to go back and go round
the Mountain to where we could

Crossed the Shenandoah we crossed it about dark, and Camped on the Jefferson Side, but about 1 oClock AM. this morning the long roll beat and we had to march again since than we have come about 8 miles I did not come with the Regt. as my feet are very sore and I am nearly bare footed so I dropped out and come behind with several others, our forces under Gen'l Longstreet & D. have been fighting with McClellan and Siegel for 2 or 3 days dont know the exact Direction we will be into it before long tomorrow I expect. our Victory at Harpers Ferry is complete we took between 14 & 15 000 Prisoners and about 60 pieces Artillery a good many Stores &c I dont know all the Particulars

Sept 17th 8 P.M.

Started this morning at about 8 oclock marched about 5 miles, we are now on a hill in an open Field awaiting for an Attack Cannonading is going on to left of us, we may get in action any time, I just saw Tom Dick Pulliam & John Morgan of the Mercer Cavalry was glad to see them. I forgot to note down Yesterday that I passed through the Town of Shepherdtown, it is an old fashion place of about 1000 inhabitants has a good many Pretty Girls.

Sept 18th 1862

Yesterday was an awful day for the 30th Regt. after I had written the above

one was ordered to go
to the left which we did
at a double quick for about
3 miles I was barefooted
nearly and my feet very
sore but I ~~could~~ kept up
with the Regt and about 9 oc
Am we got to the Battle
field where our men had
driven the Enemy back, we
advanced through a piece
of Woods in a line of Battle
under a heavy fire of shot
shell Grape & Bullets, when
we got to the Edge of the Wood
we crossed a road then had
to get over a fence we got over
in gallant style at a charge
under a galling fire our men
fell thick and fast

they fell right and left of me, but I went on until we got to another fence when we were ordert to halt & lay down & fire which did so and held our position until ordert to fall back I believe we lost more than half of our Regt. as we were in very bad position and the Enemy in a splendid one on a Hill and we at the foot I only fired two Rounds when the Tube of my gun got stopped up, I tried to pick it, and while doing so, a piece of shell or a spent crape shot struck me on the heel of my right foot which threw me down and stunned me for a minute

lent when I found I wasn't hurt much I got up Capt. Peyton who was laying by the fence somewhat hurt by a fall over the fence in the charge got up and said fall back boys the Regt has fallen back we escaped when I looked the right of the Regt had fallen back a rod or so we fawlowed the Enemy at the same time firing Volly after Volly after us and it is a wonder to me that any of us escaped. I have often heard men talking of a Shower of Bullets, but never saw nor experienced it until yesterday we fell back to the Breastworks where we collected our scattered Regt but never went in no more

Yesterday, to day Our
Regt was collected together
again and carried to the
field, but there has been
no fighting to day I am
not able for duty now as
my head hurts me very
much, I dont think
we gained anything yesterday
it was a hard day heavy
loss on each side & both
Parties held the same
Position last night.
Sept 21st Sunday.
On the night of the 18th we
fell back from Md. to
Crossed the River about day
our whole army was to have
back but we had to

leave the most of our
wounded with the Enemy as
the Enemy were following us
pretty close, followed us to
the River where they shelled
our Rear Guard and Wagons
without doing much damage
myself and 2 more of my
Company after looking for our
Brigade and Regt and not finding
them we went towards Charles
Town, where we got that night
next day we went to
Winchester, and we left
Winchester the morning
at day break and went
one Crossed the Shenandoah
a ford we have been fording
and got in with some empty
Wagons and we shall

15 miles we are trying to get home and with Gods help I think we will get there in 4 days more

8 o'clock P.M.

We are now at a little place called Paris on Tangipoa Co. it looks like an old dilapidated place of about 40 houses we are at the only Hotel at the Place the Paris House we got a first rate Supper here cost only 50cts, we met with Lent Sodrick here he is going home too, he went out this Evening and hired a Wagon

and 8 of us have to pay
$12 to Warrenton. So
by this I think we will
get home a day sooner.
Left 22nd 4 P.M.
This morning one got Breakfast
at the Hotel and while we were
eating the alarm came that
the Yankees were coming as they were
already at Upperville 6
miles from Paris we got ready and
our Wagon was ready to come
got in and went off where
we got 5 miles from Paris we
saw our Cavalry, who went to
meet the Enemy fighting them on
the Upperville Road, our drivers
would not go any further
so we had to get out and walk

but we were fearfull that the Enemy would follow us so we took to the Mountain to keep out of Danger while lying behind some Straw Stacks, the chief Bugler of the 6th Va Cavalry came along nearly out of breath he said his Horse was shot from under him in the fight and that our Cavalry Drove he said it was a disgracefull affair we staid behind the Straw Stacks until we thought it was safe to venture out so we kept the fields until we got about 1 mile this side of Paris when we got into the Road again and went on towards

Salem. we could hear no more
of the Enemy I. suppose they
came no further than
Paris when they fell back
again.

Sept 23d

We came 2 miles this side
of Salem last night where we
Lay dat at some private House
but I forgot to say that in the
fight at Paris one of the
Cavalry Horses came along
running towards the Enemy so
me caught him and have been
riding him along ever since
he is a very good Horse
we came through Salem they
were expecting the Enemy.

Sept 24th 7 A.M.

We came through Warrenton yesterday and last night we came to this place 10 miles this side of Warrenton we staid here last night and are now waiting for a Wagon that will carry us as far as Falmouth which is 30 miles from here I hope we will get home by tonight

Sept 25-72

Got home last night, thank God Home once more

~~Geo C. Humphries~~ Narrator $2.50

E. Stephens $1.00

~~Wm Robbins~~ 2.62

Thos McGill 1.25