

He didnt want me to Leave, Said if I Staid he would Promote me to 1st. Sergeant of the Co. I told him that that wouldnt do - as I was young & those who were already Sergeants would have it in for me all the time, seeing it was of no avail - he got hot & Tried to scare me, well I told him I guess I would go. went to my tent - & Started for Chattanooga. I had quite a walk but got there all O.K. I here met quite a few more that were there for the same purpose, and we soon got somewhat acquainted, we were here a few days - took examination & then Started back to our Commands, My Capt was quite Grouchy towards me - but it didnt last long, well after several days months ~~the~~ Div. was ordered to get ready for a move, so had to leave our good Shanties & go elsewhere, we went up as far as to Chattanooga on our way to Cleveland Tenn. about 30 miles east of ~~Chattanooga~~ Chattanooga, we went into Camp near Orchard Knob for over night, & in the morn I got my orders to appear at Thomas Head quarters for Signal Duty, signed by the Sect. of war; well this meant I had to leave the Boys, I really did hate to leave

52} The Boys that I had been with so long,  
but others did the same thing; so I bid them  
good Bye & went over to Chattanooga to  
Signal Corps Hd. quarters; where we were on  
Drill for quite a little while; we had a  
Station on Missionary-Ridge one on Lookout Mt.  
& one on Walden's Ridge (which is north of the  
River) so we had plenty to do, they Brought  
our Horses finally, then came the Drawing, the  
Sergants had 1<sup>st</sup> Choice, then came the Privates,  
when they drawed I was on duty, when I  
got to Camp I had to take Hopkins's choice,  
between & old Raw Boned fellow & a Pony  
Horse, well I took the Pony, I called him Billy,  
he was stiff in his front feet, so no one wanted  
him, well I took good care of him & it wasent  
long till most of the Boys would of liked to  
of owned him, indeed I was afraid to slick  
him up to much-else the officers might take him  
away from me, while laying here I went up to  
Cleveland Ferry to see the regimental Boys, also  
E. S. was up there on duty, I remember when  
I came back the Train ran off of the Track,  
while in camp here they use to send us out with  
Teams to Missionary Ridge for wood, well  
it usually took us all day, as our axes

were as dull as they could be; I remember when in camp here, ate early, bunked together, also that when the 49<sup>th</sup> Ohio got back from their furloughs & went into camp here that my Bro John came over to see me, also Henry Stover & John Cartwright; Since that time I have revisited Chattanooga twice & from a little hamlet it has grown to be quite a city with its many monuments, looming up in every direction, certainly is a historic place while we were camped here my Bro C. S. J. H. & I had our pictures taken; about this time Gen Sherman was getting things together, ammunition, clothing, rations &c for his army for a move on the Rebel Army now camped in and about Dalton Ga. now commanded by Gen Joe Johnston a very able commander, General Sherman's Army was divided in 3 different commands, the left wing called the Army of the Ohio commanded by Gen Schofield, the center = called the Army of the Cumberland commanded by Gen Thomas, the right wing called the Army of the Tennessee commanded by Gen McPherson; all commanded by Gen Sherman, he also had some Cavalry all told he had an army of about 70,000

man all told. of course this includes all  
 of the Geamsters of all kind &c. Gen. Grant  
 who was now with the Eastern Army = planned  
 to have all the different Armies to move on  
 the Rebels at about the same time, the most  
 of them did, but some failed = which showed  
 poor Generalship, but we got off on the  
 schedule time, Shermans men <sup>1st</sup> engaged  
 them near Dalton, soon found that their  
 Fortification were so Extensive & Strong that  
 to try to take them would be a wonderful  
 Sacrifice of men; a Range of Hills extending  
 way back possibly at least 20 miles gave  
 the Rebs a Big advantage, some 20 miles  
 back down the m<sup>t</sup> was what was known as  
 Snake Creek Gap; Gen Sherman ordered  
 Gen McPherson by force March to proceed to  
 the gap which he did, forced his way ~~it~~  
 through it & pressed on to close Resacka,  
 which was Directly in the Rear of Johnston's  
 Army, after he had seized the Pass, Gen  
 Schofield & also some of Thomas's men  
 were Rushed down to the support of Gen  
 McPherson, it is said that had McPherson  
 Pushed ahead when he <sup>1st</sup> got over, with  
 his whole force & got to the R.R. we would

of no doubt captured a good many Prisoners,  
 however he possibly did not know how many  
 of the Rest of our Troops were in touch with  
 him as it would be almost certain that the  
 whole Rebel army would be on him, it is  
 Reported that Gen Sherman told him it had been  
 the opportunity of his Life; well he did not  
 go to the R.R. so missed the opportunity of his  
 Life. Most of our army were close by - to of  
 helped him, a day later & it was too late. yet  
 part of Hookers Corps & part of the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Corps made  
 a charge on their works, but were repulsed with  
 considerable loss, amongst them was the 118<sup>th</sup>.  
 John Shearer was here Instantly Killed, I had  
 been intimately acquainted with him when a  
 Boy; but Johnsons army retreated & we after  
 think that here we Pushed them on to Kingston  
 and beyond, here again Sherman left the R.R.  
 & Turned to the Left & found Johnsons army  
 at & in about Burnt Hickory or Ebenezer Church  
 here they had entrenched & we had some hard  
 fighting mostly on the Right wing of the  
 army. later we marched to the Left & found  
 them heavily entrenched at & about Kennesaw  
 Mountain, here occurred some hard fighting.  
 Sherman moved to the right on and around

The Mountain opposite Marietta: Sherman concluded to try & Break the Line here & do some effective work in a short matter - but the charge failed owing mostly to some of the Leading men being shot down before they got to their line, amongst them was Gen Harker who had been Col of the 65<sup>th</sup> regt, also Col Dan McLook, here some of the 65<sup>th</sup> Boys fell with whom I was well acquainted, viz Henry Hollenback, Si Whaley &c. We in the Signal corps did not have much to do only orderly duty. I remember that about this time a dispatch was to be carried to Gen Joe Hooker, the rest of the Boys put it onto me to go thinking that old Joe as we called him was a Starchy old fellow & they dreaded to go, so I went way over to our left, got off of my Horse, went up to the Guard (who was always Pacing back & forth at all Head quarters) asked him if the Gen was in - he said yes. I started for the Tent & out he came, I Saluted him & handed him the message I carried for a Receipt for my Message, he saw me standing & said orderly take a seat & rest yourself; which was the 1<sup>st</sup> up to that time of any one telling me to do so, it made me have a warm heart over

after for Gen Joe Hooker, I told the Boys  
when I got back of the Incident; a little while  
before this our Signal Corps was divided &  
about half of them sent back to Chattanooga,  
E. S. was one of the no. I was one of the Lucky  
fellows, and was allowed to go on, at the  
Incident Reford, to above about the Battle & of  
our Repulse. There was an armistice of two  
hours & both sides took care of their wounded  
also Buried their dead. Union & Confederates  
mixing together, at the end of 2 hours, every  
one hunted their holes again, ready for the  
Gray, on about the 2<sup>d</sup> or 3<sup>d</sup> of May Johnson  
Evacuated again & we after, and occupied  
Marietta, Drove them South about 4 miles &  
here he made another Stand, and so it  
went till we got to the Chattahooche River, here  
there was again some hard fighting. Sherman  
sent some of the Corps up the River & crossed  
and resulting in the Rebs getting back  
across the River; our men pressing them all  
the time, the Signal Corps here had a Station  
on a large Hill called Vining Station. here  
Gen Sherman has his Head quarters in the  
day, we watching all the time to see what  
we could see, we could see them working

58) on their Breastworks, one day I took a stroll down the Hill & there amongst the rocks hung a man by the neck, a Southerner; some where here John Morrell was killed, I use to know him quite well when a Boy, he belonged to the 21<sup>st</sup> O.V.I. some where here e.s. got his Discharge & went home; after we got across the River, our army had a terrible Battle at what is known as Peach tree Creek, our men held their Ground However & Gradually closed in on Atlanta, quite a few of us in the Signal Corps were here sent back to Chattahoochee to draw our pay, and while there the Battle known as the Battle of Atlanta was fought, Gen. McPherson was here killed, Gen. Howard took his place, about this time Gen. Hood of the Rebel army superseded Gen. Johnson & he was known as a fighter from way back, they handled our men pretty rough, they had marched all night & got on our left flank & had it not been for the 16<sup>th</sup> Corps marching to the left to help McPherson (which was sorely pressed) they would of made much more trouble, as it was they struck the 16<sup>th</sup> Corps, who drove them back & restored the line, this was on the 22<sup>nd</sup> day of July.

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But as it was the Rebels failed & lost a lot of men killed & wounded, we to lost heavily. especially so when we lost McPherson. Two days later they attempted the same thing on our extreme Right, but failed again. but lost very heavy. we had got our pay & returned just as the fighting was over. Gen Hood was of the fighting kind of fellows; & there being a good bit of complaining of Joe Johnson all the time falling back, he felt as though something must be done, hence was somewhat excusable, we signal men had a station way up in the top of a pine tree from which we could see quite plainly the Rebs in their works. Sherman had sent different cavalry raids around Atlanta, he sent Gen Stouman, who asked of Sherman a special Request to give him the Cavalry & he would liberate our prisoners at ~~the~~ Andersonville, but which resulted in a miserable failure, Gen Stouman himself giving up & by with part of his command surrendered. but the most of them made a charge, cut their way out & returned to us after lots of privations &c. this angered Gen Sherman very much, he concluded that it was simply murder to charge the strong works in and about Atlanta.

So the army to the south to learn more of  
their position, which he did by taking the army  
right out of their works, move back & down to  
the right, while the 20<sup>th</sup> A.C. fell back to the  
Chattahoochee River, the Rebels thought that we  
had retreated & there was great rejoicing in the  
city. but I remember we marched to the right  
like as though we were on a race, Gen. Schofield  
with the 23<sup>rd</sup> Corps in the lead, getting around  
on the Railroad & commenced tearing up the  
Track. the rest of the army continued down further  
& finally all swung in at Goldsborough where we  
had quite a hard fight with Gen. Hardee  
who commanded a Corps of Rebels; we here  
should of captured the most of that Corps.  
and I believe would of captured them if  
it hadnt been for the slowness of Gen. Thomas.  
I had to take a dispatch from Sherman to Gen.  
Howard on the right & by the time I got back  
the fighting had got on in great style, on  
the way back, I watched two Batteries - letting  
loose on the Rebel works; it was a sight  
not often seen, one of the Batteries were alone  
for a little while & then from the right came  
another as light as the horses could run, &  
how they did pop it at the Reb's. ~~~~~

It was about 3 P.M. when our men made the Final Charge, and took their works, but not without losing quite a few men, well regd especially I remember, that was the 17<sup>th</sup> N.Y. Squares, night coming on & the darkness being intense closed the Battle, the next day (or morn) I rode with the Captain & he was with Gen Sherman, as we got into town, he stopped where gen Thomas was, he having preceded us. I remember quite well yet of Gen Sherman going into the yard to where Gen Thomas was sitting; he said to Gen Thomas well Papa they got away as usual, it seemed a kind of Ruffled Gen Thomas; and indeed I think it always stuck to him, the Rebels had the Town full of Wounded in the Town, our men that day passed the Rebels on down the R.R. Close to Lovejoy Station, here they again had strong works, that night we heard some tremendous Explosions, in the direction of Atlanta, which was significant to us, of what was going on, we that day got the news that the 20<sup>th</sup> A.C. were in the City of Atlanta, which caused lots of rejoicing in a day or so after the army was marched back to and around Atlanta, we here

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had a good long rest, we camped on Peach Tree St. we here did a good bit of Drilling, also went out to see John Henry also Jerry Bolton of the 21<sup>st</sup> O.V.I. I remember here - about 8 of us in a mess. got a Woman to do our Cooking. She was a good Cook - one day we got Marching orders. & on Enquiry found Gen Hood had crossed the Chattahoochee River with his Army & were in our Rear. I got Permission to go out & see the 49<sup>th</sup> O.V.I. Boys; I got on my Horse & out I went & when I got there - the Boys were cutting logs & Building Huts; I remember I said what in the world are you fellows doing I then explained that we had Marching orders & that Hood was in our Rear with all of his Army. They couldnt hardly believe me; as none of them had heard of it. well I said it was only to true & you fellows had better get at Cleaning your guns than what they were doing. I remember they told their Capt. & the Capt. told the Col. and I began to get scared a little, thinking may be I had exceeded my authority & might get me into trouble, however I said you'll see you will get orders mighty quick and so they did. for the next day every thing

was alive with Troops, we to were on the  
move; the 20<sup>th</sup> corps if I remember right =  
staid in Atlanta, but the rest of the army  
was going north. Seemed all so peculiar, that  
now we were marching north after the Jubilee,  
it seems while we were lying at Atlanta, Hood's  
army was in and about Rough & Ready. I  
must here relate an Incident worth mentioning.  
There were 500. of our Union officers exchanged  
for 500. of their men, their men all looked well  
but ours were a sight to see, so emaciated  
& thin, many hardly able to walk, with hardly  
enough clothing to hide their nakedness, while  
I was there Gen Sherman came down to see them.  
They gathered around him & called him by name,  
he didnt know them, having long hair & Beard  
& when they told him their names he couldnt  
hardly believe his eyes, he couldnt force  
back the tears as they gathered around him, he  
couldnt stand it any longer & left; they looked  
like so many walking skeletons, and knowing  
that the officers (as a rule) were treated better  
than the Privates, I said then & there = if they were  
got me it would be that I was badly wounded  
or seen there was no earthly use of trying to  
get away, and I surely would of done so.

Now to resume - while Hood's Army was at  
 Rough & Ready, <sup>President</sup> Jeff Davis came down to see  
 him & they no doubt planned & outlined the cam-  
 paign for the Confederate Army, as we learn  
 since - he made the Soldiers a Speech telling them  
 of what was about to happen; well Gen. Hood  
 did cross & get into our rear, got onto our line  
 of communication's tore up the R.R. Burned the  
 Bridges wherever he could, Destroy trains &c.  
 but Sherman's Army was on his tracks, and what  
 he did had to be done quickly; at Allatoona  
 Pass we had a lot of Provision stored. The  
 Rebels tried very hard to take the place, but  
 we had a lot of men there that stood right by  
 it. Some of our Regts had what they called  
 the Henry Rifle. (afterwards the Winchester, a Repeating  
 Rifle & they used them on the Johnnies with deadly  
 aim & my oh my how they did slaughter them.  
 Sherman with his Army had gotten in and  
 about Marietta & Kennesaw Mt. I remember that  
 we went with the Capt & he with Sherman  
 up on the Mountain, where we had a Signal  
 Station Waving the large flag all day. (we  
 helped the Boys) to get communication with  
 Allatoona, about 3 P.M. we got a message  
 from Gen. Course that he was Holding the

Fort. Sherman sent message back to  
 him telling him to hold the Fort for I  
 am coming, which afterwards was suited  
 to Sacred Music & Song in all the land,  
 as soon as he got his message through he  
 left the Mt. we with him down to what they  
 called Sand or Lost Mt. there we were ordered to  
 call up Gen. Cox of the 23<sup>rd</sup> corps, I remember  
 quite well that some of the Infantry Boys crowded  
 around us so much that it was difficult to get  
 in communication with the other fellow. I remem-  
~~ber~~ Gen. Sherman telling the Boys to stand back,  
 that it might save them a long march: the Boys  
 of course got back, and we soon got in com-  
 -munication with Gen. Cox who was ordered to  
 push on to Altoona with all his might, but  
 the Rebels had given up their job, and retreated  
 next day we got there, I remember going with  
 Phillip Roland to the Hospital, on a hunt of  
 a Relative of his belonging to some Ill. Regt.  
 we found him & pretty badly wounded to. ~~we~~  
 our Troops kept right on after the Rebs. Gen.  
 Sherman sent Gen. Thomas back to Chattanooga  
 to take charge of all the Troops in and about Chat.  
 while he Sherman would take care of Hood, all of  
 Remnants of Soldiers here & there centered at Chattanooga.

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So that Gen Thomas had quite an Army. Gen Sherman's Army following Hood to a Town called Graysville on the Coosa River: where we stopped to see which way Hood & his Army drifted to. It became quite evident that it was Hood's Idea to draw Sherman & his Army northward by a Bold Stroke; well it didn't work; Sherman now felt that a long coveted Idea had come & made arrangements accordingly; it seemed certain now that Hood was breaking north trusting to Luck to get out all O.K. = So Sherman put Thomas in Command of all the forces in the Middle West to take care of Hood, giving him the 4<sup>th</sup> Corps. The 23<sup>rd</sup> Corps. also of A. Smith from Memphis was ordered to reinforce Thomas. While at Graysville I was detailed to carry a Dispatch over to Rome Ga. Capt. Martin (who was from Findlay) came to me & asked me about my Horse. My Weapons &c saying it was a dangerous trip & I had better take his Horse. So I got his Horse ready, also my Revolvers & started, but finally got word I didn't need to go, it was all of 30 mi. across and infested with Rats; in later years I found out that Sam<sup>l</sup> Moore of Findlay was detailed & made the Ride. He was accompanied with ease and not near as dangerous as represented, as we marched the same road a few days later.

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It was now evident that something more than usual was turning up, as the 4<sup>th</sup> Corps & the 23<sup>d</sup>. were pulling out & going north while the 14, 15, 17, & 20<sup>th</sup> Army Corps were kept together, so that the Army that its troops had been together so long were now separated. My Regt the 99<sup>th</sup> O.V.I. was in the 23<sup>d</sup> Corps, the 49<sup>th</sup> where my Bro John belonged was in the 4<sup>th</sup> Corps, so that separated us for quite a while, we staid at this town for about a week & then with Gen Sherman and his Staff started for Rome Ga where Gen Coates was in charge of the Post. I well remember the ride as at about midway Shermans little mare got a little unbully for some cause or other & their being a Cavalry Hd. quarters some off of the Road, he made a circuit up near their Tent-till she quieted down & she summed all right again, we got over to Rome in the eve. Staid here for about a week, this is a nice Country, here Gen Sherman gave almost his last orders for the General Disposition of things, the Troops began to move South again and it certainly was plain to all that something was going to be did, we got back to Atlanta again only to stay there temporary

all the noncombatants that wanted to go south were given Transportation & all those who wanted to go north were provided likewise, and orders were given for the destruction of Detroit & all other Government Buildings. Let me here say that here was the 1st place where I saw a nice elevated platform specially built to auction off the colored men (Slaves) no doubt thousands of Slaves were here sold to the highest bidder, a young, large, well developed, sound Negro. Brought as high as \$1500 to 2000, also young girls who were nearly white brought a big price; the women who were darker from 800, to 1000 dollars. here also I saw where the Mitchell Raiders (8 of them) were Buried, after being Hung, also a lonely grave of Andrews their Leader. The Railroad Back of Atlanta to Chattanooga were all destroyed & the last orders given & we then were again isolated from the north. The last letters were written & sent home, in the destruction of works in and about the city, quite a good part of the city caught fire & indeed looked bad for the city. Desolation seemed to Reign, but now was another Problem, we with 60,000 men were to go through a

Country that as yet hadnt seen & felt was in its real Reality, the Troops had now nearly all left & Sherman & his Staff were amongst the last to leave, I and one of the other Boys were with the Captain, that eve when we went into Camp raining & bad = I took charge of the Horses, I was called over to help put up the Capt's Tent & in my few minutes absence some one stole Capt. Bachtells Rubber overcoat which had been Strapped on behind the Saddle, my how I did hate that, but it was gone & never Returned, we were now with the 20<sup>th</sup> a.e. the next day I was free & went ahead to forage, got to a (this was about the middle of Nov) small town by the name of Madison, I went into a drug Store & I remember took charge of a canteen full of Peach Brandy (of which I had no more use than I had of Adams off ox. I Rode out in the country away & met two Infantry boys who said that the folks at the Plantation had moved out on a By road across an old Ricketty Bridge & off to the left in the woods; they had some mules and some Horses, and wanted me to go along & capture the stuff = so I said all right if they would consent to stay right by it if we got into a fight, which they promised to do, so out we

Went crossed this old Ricketty Bridge & then  
over into the woods, here sure enough was the  
wagon, some women, but no man, I said  
where are the Mules & Horses, well they wouldn't  
tell, I saw the Tracks & said to one of the Boys  
you go with me & the other one stay here I started  
across a Swale. I told him to go on that log,  
we hadn't gone but a little distance that the  
old man jumped up out of the Tree tops & gave  
himself up, as he did he throwed something  
under a log, I told the Boys & it turned up to  
be a Revolver; we then went further out got a  
couple Mules & a Horse, which I appropriated,  
he was in color a Gray, a Pacer, the Boys & I  
then looked over the stuff, got some Hams &  
some butter and left, we had to go by the  
way we came & when we got back to the House  
some of the Buck negroes and also women were  
determined to go along, I told the women that  
they couldn't go, but that the 2 darkies might  
go along, as we needed Teamsters, before we  
went one of the darkies wanted to know if I  
hadent something to drink, well yes I said  
I had, my Canteen being buckled to my Saddle  
well he took a Big Swigg, & then wanted me  
to let his wife to have some, which she

did in good style, we then started back to the Road where the Troops were marching. The Niggers both had a mule, by the time we got to the Road the Brandy had its effect & he with the excitement of Troops & also of becoming first Rode up & down on this mule like a common Indian & the Boys yelling, when he came down the line again I ordered him to haul & go along Peaceably or I'd take the mule away from him. He promised to be good & was soon in camp. well my Nigger got sick & crawled in or out of the Waggon & Spued all over it, that made the Boys mad & they hustled him out & told him to go, which he did, but he soon got a position and was a good teamster, I seen him frequently afterwards, well so much for the Peach Brandy. The objective point was Millersville the then Capital of Ga; I said we were with the 20<sup>th</sup> a.e. but it was the 14<sup>th</sup>, the 14<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> a.e. composed the Left wing of the Army, commanded by Gen Slocum, the 15<sup>th</sup> & 17<sup>th</sup> a.e. commanded by Gen Howard the Right wing, the Cavalry under Gen Killpatrick, was subject to Sherman's orders & if there ever was an army that felt its weight Sherman's Army did; we could see their Papers every day, their Congressmen,

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w Their Senators, their Congress, their President  
appealed to the people in frantic terms to now  
since Sherman had cut loose from his Base of  
Supplies & they now had him at their Mercy if  
they only would now help, burn Bridges, cut  
down trees, remove all Stock, Provisions & every  
thing to impede his march, too not lose heart  
Keep Cool, Keep up Courage, not to falter he  
well indeed it was amusing, in fact we had  
it all our way, took our time to it, foraged,  
well it certainly was a great Day for the Union  
Army; our Trains (Covered Wagons) stretching out  
for miles, the Troops taking their time, having a  
Detail out of every Co & Regt to do foraging, and  
the way they did it was a Caution, it was not  
long till nearly all were mounted, & in the early  
morning they got out in front, on By ways, on  
roads leading parallel with the road the army  
was marching. Each Corps had a road, to as  
to make it plain, for Instance the objective  
Point being Fort Wayne or Chicago, the 14<sup>th</sup>  
Corps being on the road at Melout, the 20<sup>th</sup>  
on the road going by our home place, the 15<sup>th</sup>  
in and about Bluffton & the 17<sup>th</sup> in and about ad  
all heading for Chicago, our Cavalry was divided  
one half on the outside of the 17<sup>th</sup> Corps the

73) other half on the flank or outside of the  
14<sup>th</sup> Corps. So that a corps going through our  
Town would have the right & left to forage from,  
and we certainly did; in the Signal Corps we  
had about 3 or 4 wagons, all the army corps  
had their Ensign, for instance, the 14<sup>th</sup> a.e.  
had the Acorn, the 1<sup>st</sup> Division a ~~white~~ red  
acorn, the 2<sup>d</sup> division a white acorn & the 3<sup>d</sup> Div.  
a Blue acorn, the 20<sup>th</sup> Corps had the Star,  
the 15<sup>th</sup> Caterage Box, the 17<sup>th</sup> an arrow, also  
all their Wagon Covers, had this or, also as  
to whether it was an ammunition wagon or  
Supply wagon, so with our Signal Corps wagons,  
and they always were with the Head quarter  
wagons which usually had the Right of way  
on the March, the wagons all being marked,  
and in that way we marched through Georgia.  
There were always some of the Boys had to stay  
with the Trains, so if they stuck in the mud or  
any thing else, they were helped out, well some  
of the Boys didnt like to forage, well it  
just suited me to be out from the Trains, and  
I usually came in loaded, Chickens, Hams &  
Shoulders, Hams were preferable, to either of  
the other two, well the officers soon found  
out that I was pretty successful in the

Business. So use to have me take their cooks along, which I usually did, in one way & the other I accumulated Keys, so that there wasent scarcely a Smokehouse but that would soon open its doors, and lots of them full to the Brim; I remember one day being alone off quite a ways by myself, I rode up to a house, a frame house, the women came out, I told them I wanted some meat, they wouldnt unlock, so I said = see here you women dont know what you are doing, that we were Yankus & living off of the Country & I told them they had better just submit tamely & not make any of our men cross or they would just strip them of every thing. I got off of my horse, unlocked Smokehouse & there it was full, I took all I wanted & then I said you women had better go at it right off and hide a lot of your meat way up in the loft or some where else, beause these Foragers would no doubt soon strike you & take every mouthful youve got, here is the 1<sup>st</sup> time I ever saw women dip snuff, which seems to be a custom amongst them, as I rode away I looked back & saw they soon got busy, I often wondered how they came out, and such was the almost every few days history, but to the

75 Forager that was in the Rear, he might as well stay with the Train, many & many a time did I ride for 6, 8 or 10 miles before there seemed to be a chance to get any thing, then if we were lucky, we would strike for the road the Troops were marching and await the Yeans, of course it wasnt always that we were successful, as some other fellow had got there ~~1st~~ or may be the Rebs were in our front; well now to return to our March, in a few days we were nearing Millgeville, the Gov. (Brown) and their Legislature took train & left = leaving us in Possession of the City, I went with some of the Boys to the Capitol Building & there found a lot of our men (mostly officers) having a Mock Legislature in Session, they had lots of fun in introducing Bills &c. we here destroyed their Arsenal, Mint &c. lots of Confederate Money, and we appropriated a lot of it & used it in Buying Stuff; ere we got here the officers had procured a negress wench to do their cooking & on the road ere we got to Millgeville an old colored man & his Daughter fell in with our wagons & at Millgeville, Sherman Issued orders not to allow any old man or woman to cross on a pontoon Bridge that crossed

The Oconia River, this cook of the officers and also this girl, were dressed ~~as~~ in mens clothing & got through all O.K. The officers Cook however was of such a feminine features that they soon had her to put on a dress in Womans attire, but the other girl (which we called Gabe) just looked like a young Boy. as we had no need of her. She got a position of taking care of some of the artillery officers Horses; Both of them got through to Savannah. The one we called Gabe, was I think a nice girl, the other one I never thought much of her, only I guess she was a good cook. I am simply speaking of this as it showed how anxious they were to get free; our next objective place was Millen, here the Rebels had had a Prison Pen for a lot of our Prisoners, but all were moved away in we got there. The Prison Pen was out or up the R.R. about 5 miles I didnt go up to see it, which I have always regretted, about this time Sherman sent Gen Killpatrick to make a quick move towards Andersonville, but when he got within 10 ms or so he learned they had shipped all of our men away, so he started to return & had a pretty tough time in getting back.

773  
But Gen Killpatrick was made up of the right stuff & drove Gen Wheeler back at different times with a good many Prisoners. till he got in touch with our Infantry when he was all O.K. again. From here Sherman had his men to threaten Augusta, Macon & had the Rebs guessing all of the time, but going right along. as we neared Savannah the Country became quite Barren, nothing but Georgia Pine; Finally about Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> we were nearing & approaching Savannah Ga. I remember going along the R.R. leading into the city that some Infantry Boys ahead of me exploded some Torpedoes that the Rebs had planted. I then rode over to the road & as one of our regts was marching along. the Rebs let loose with one of their Big Guns & mowed right lengthways through their ranks; Killing quite a few & wounding quite a lot of them; it plainly told us to look out. The Army now gradually closed in on the City, the 20<sup>th</sup> a.e. being along the River next to their Right the 14 a.e. then the 15 a.e. then the 17 a.e. then to the Rear & down towards the Coast Killpatrick's Cavalry; on the Savannah River there were a couple Rice fields, they were taken possession of & the Rice

78 Issued out Systematical; also on the  
extreme Right there were 2 or 3. They to were  
taken in charge & it helped out amazingly.  
we use to go down in the rice fields and  
gather it in little Boats (it was standing  
in shocks like our wheat) & load up & bring  
it out to the Road & then load it on the  
Wagons & bring it to the camp & feed our  
Mules. also Hulled it for our own eating. Sherman  
was however eager to get in communication  
with the outside world, so we could get  
Rations &c. Fort McAlester below on the same  
was in the Rebels hands & it must be taken  
Possession of it. So as to get up Supplies &c  
Shermans Hd quarters, was well to the right  
& he conceived the Ide that may be our  
kibbels below the fort might be attracted by  
placing a large Signal Corps Flag on top  
of one of those Tall Pine trees, so he ordered  
Capt. Bachtell to put up a flag; they called  
for Volunteers but no one Relished such a  
job; the Sargent (Hays) came to me & said I  
had to go up. I said no, but he said the  
orders were Imperative & that I would have  
to go. I went to the Capt and asked him  
to let me off - but to no avail, so I gave him  
my letters &c if in case something happened  
we got a long Pole - put it up to a dead

Limb. I tied a Rope around my waist and then began the Hardest job I ever undertook to do; why we had no Climbers I dont know, but I Started up - got to this dead limb and not knowing the strength of it, kept aloof of it. from there came the Tussle of my life. The Tree was a large one & as smooth as an eel. at first I thought I couldnt make it, but soon discovered that I was making some headway. I kept on till I reached the 1<sup>st</sup> limb then rested some, then at it again till the limbs were closer together, well there I was. There was a little wind & the old Tree would go back and forth - of course I knew what it was. I well remember I didnt look down much. I looked over on the other side of a Bayou. (a small body of water) I could see the Rebels lounging around. Some this some that, they had a Battery on each side of the road that led through there. I pulled up the flag by the Rope, fastened it & then started down, which was no trick at all, this was in the forenoon sometime, after I was down, I knew later in the day some one would have to take down the flag. so I went & saddled my horse & took a Skedaddle, I went away.

80)  
over to the Left to where the 20<sup>th</sup> a.e. corps  
laid & by the bye I went back again and  
lo and behold every thing was commotion, after  
I had gone a little while = the Johnnies discovered  
the flag & they everlastingly sent the shells  
over there, a Field Back of us, was full of our  
Supply Trains, they all had to get out, they  
had Gen Sherman & his Staff, and all of the  
other fellows hugging the Pine trees; they finally  
let up & Sherman got out, he had Business  
Elsewhere, But now I was back again & nothing  
but I must go up & get the flag, at first I  
Refused, but the Captain was good to me & asked  
me to go up again, which I did successfully.  
I dont think it did a partacle of good, I  
think it was the Hardest thing I ever did, I  
yet today feel the chills run over me when  
I think of it, or talk about it, I should of  
stated that while we were over near the River  
one morn<sup>g</sup> while eating our Breakfast, there  
was a Gunboat tried to run our Batteries also  
a Steam boat, our men soon Brought the  
Steamboat to time & brought her over to  
Shore, the Gunboat had some big Guns on  
her, as when they shot it made a Terrific  
noise, But our Batteries were rushed up

to the River bank & if they didnt pour  
the shot into her its curious, she was only to  
glad to get back and out of reach; while  
~~the~~ laying at our camp where I climb the Trees,  
I took my horse & went down to where the tide  
came up & somehow I got or had a fish hook  
and line & managed to get some worms & cast  
in my Hook & to my surprise in a minute or  
so the eel would bob up & down - finally down  
she went, I pulled her up & behold I had  
something like a Black Snake about 2 1/2 or 3  
feet long at my mercy, well how to get my  
Hook out of its mouth was a puzzler to me,  
well I began to examine my Prey pretty closely,  
I had oft heard my Father & Mother talk of  
Ells in the Susquehanna River in Penn & oft  
to the expression (as Slippery as an Eel) so  
I got hold of the line with one hand - and  
with the other = the animal, and sure enough  
out she went out of my hand, I then was  
satisfied that my Catch was an Ell, so I took  
more courage, got my Hook loose & again  
tried my luck - and again got same result.  
So I had two Ells & struck for camp, when  
I got there I showed the Boys my catch,  
and to my surprise none of them would

823

helps me; we had in the Signal Corps  
men from nearly every State & now to think  
none of them knew any thing of what I had  
well I took the hide off & spiced my catch,  
& believe me I had a mess all to myself.  
Some of the Boys said if I lived through it,  
then they would help me later, well I lived  
through it and they were mighty good, it was  
now Shermans Effort to get in touch with the  
outside world, he sent Hazens Division of  
the 15<sup>th</sup> Corps to go and take Fort Mcalister  
which they did in good shape, however not  
without some loss, that being out of the  
way, he soon got in touch with our Gunboat  
& then our supplies & also our mails, the  
latter was quite a treat to all of the Boys, &  
now every one got busy writing to friends  
in the North; while we were now in touch with  
the outside world, and we got plenty of rations  
Savannah was yet in the hands of the Johnnies  
I remember about this time Gen Sherman and  
his Staff went over to our Right near the  
R.R. and near the Savannah River, some of  
us Signal Corps boys went with the Captain,  
Gen Sherman sent a flag of Truce over  
to the Rebels to Gen Hardee & demanded

83/ The Surrender of his army. Stating that he had his army surrounded &c. I remember I thought how curious it all was, as the Rebels had simply to cross the River & get over into S.C. & get away. (which they did later) it was said at the time & History says it, that John A. Logan commanding the 13<sup>th</sup> corps, offered and wanted Sherman to let him cross the River & march down on the South Carolina side and prevent Hardee & his army from making their escape, I believed then & believe now had Sherman done so, that we would of captured all of their forces, in fact we ought to of bagged the whole thing. It was said that Sherman was preparing for a Grand Rush & capture the city, but he delayed a little to long and Hardee was gone, had it of Ben Grant they never would of gotten away; as it was we got a lot of Big Guns, Cotton, and the city of Savannah, which opened the River to the coast, and it wasnt but a short time till our large Boats came in along the wharf; There was a Special Detail made here of the Signal Boys to run a Station on an old Cotton Mill or Store House to watch the Rebels also to do Signal duty.

When we <sup>first</sup> went on duty there the Rebs. had a Gunboat beyond an Island, about midnight they blew her up; we continued to do duty here for quite a little while, Lieutenant Yaracre & Howgate were the officers in charge. Here I quite frequently went over to see Byron Moffitt, who belonged to the 29<sup>th</sup> O.V.S., they belonged to the 20<sup>th</sup> A.C., and did guard duty in the city; I remember that every Sunday we used to go to church, I think it was a Presbyterian. Gen. Sherman, Gen. Howard & the most of the prominent Generals attended this church, one thing that was a draw to us—they had a very large Pipe organ & had some dandy music, while here—Gen. of war (from Washington) Sec. Stanton came to see us; he reviewed the most of the army when here; It however soon became evident that we were not to rest here much longer, Grant <sup>first</sup> wanted Sherman and his army to come by vessels around to City point and they together would do up Lee's army. But Sherman thought he could march across better & do a lot of damage to the Rebs. and get in touch with Gen. Grant; with that object in view—he took the 17 & 15<sup>th</sup> corps around by boat to Pocotaligo, which is up

The coast towards Charleston, while the left wing of the army under Gen Slocum, went up 50 miles to Sisters Ferry & there crossed with the 14<sup>th</sup> 20<sup>th</sup> a.c. & Killpatricks Cavalry. Threatening Augusta up the River; a Gunboat was to go up the River. Lieutenant Horace, and two men up the Signal Corps; which fell on Pete Greene & myself. So we got our traps ready and to the Gunboat we went, which was a new thing to us, we had our Bunks down with the Marine Boys. I remember going up the River 4 or 5 miles in the Eve, they Stopped & anchored for the night; the River now was getting very high as we had lots of rain, the next day started again & I remember that I never saw so many wild Ducks—as there was along the River, well we got to within a couple miles of the Ferry & anchored; awaiting the army, we got permission to go on shore; we were told by the colored people of a certain Judge who lived about 2 miles away, also that the Rebels had a picket Post up on the road near the Ferry consisting of about 16 men, there were 6 of us agreed to go that night and capture them, when we got ashore we thought we would go and get the Judge

80 First, they in the latter part of the night go after the picket, so we went but surely he must of got wind of us, as we couldnt find him at his home; so some of the Colored folks told us of some Confederates who were home on Furlough: so we decided to after them first & then go over to the Picket Post, well it was farther than we thought for & diddnt get over to where they were till after Break of day, at the 1<sup>st</sup> house one of the Boys went in at the front door while the rest went to the rear part of the House to watch, well we got our fellow, we then Hurried to the other house, the boys made me go in in front, I waited a little for them to get around the House, I then stepped up to the door & Rapped, with my Revolver pointed for action should the occasion require it, a young Lady opened the door, it nearly took her Breath, nearly fainted, I said Lady we are not going to hurt you, you just sit down on that sofa & keep quiet, by this time the other Boys were coming in from the rear, one of our fellows was a very tall fellow & he got into the old Lady's Bed room, well she soon was up and came into the room where we all were in & the way she did Lecture us was a Caution

87 I am persuaded that she did that in order to mislead us, which she did; I said to one of the Boys: See here there is no one watching the Stairway. I said come on, so he did & we started up Stairs, as we were going up we could hear quite a commotion up Stairs, I expected every moment that they would let loose on us, one room was to the right the other to the left, so I motioned him to go to the left & I to the right, which we did, as he went into the room he yelled Surrender, but I couldn't see no one to Surrender to me, only that the Bed had been occupied, so I turned & went back to help the other fellow if need be, but he was lining them up so I went back to my room again & I noticed a pile of corn with some husks on and I had remembered hearing some one making a noise in the corn, I now knew that my man was there some where, and that he must be behind the head of the Bed. So with my revolver ready I walked up towards the head of the Bed, finally I could see him and I demanded him to come out, which he did. but in doing so, I thought I noticed a false move & I came very near shooting the man. I told him I did. I said why didn't you

883  
hold up your hands, then I would of  
known; well I had him to put on his duds.  
he had a good pair of Spurs on, I said I  
guessed he wouldnt have any use for those  
and to give them to me, which he did, we  
then 4 Prisoners to see after, one was a Pilot  
on a Gunboat & was to of Been Married the  
next day, he wanted Permission to write a  
note to his Intended - which we granted, he  
was so storry slow & Poky about it, I said  
see here you get down to business there or  
come with us, he then got at it & soon had  
it written & we Marched them off, we now  
give up going to the Picket Post, as we marched  
them to the Gunboat I & one of the Prisoners  
got quite a good ways ahead, he told me  
he had come home purposely to see after his  
Family, I certainly did pity him & I think  
if I would of had a good chance I would  
of let him go, indeed we talked about it  
and I said the war wasent going to last  
long & then he could go home in Peace, other-  
wise if his men caught him, they might  
shoot him, so I told him he had better go  
with me, well we got our men on the Boat,  
then got Breakfast & then the officers

893 Concluded they would take enough men  
and go up & capture the Picket Post that I  
was talking about, well we got out in line  
and marched up there, well of course they  
seen us coming & they skipped up the road  
and as soon as we retreated, they came  
after us: I thought it was about as foolish  
little move that I had experienced: it now  
still kept raining & the River was very high,  
the Boat laid in its old position, we boys  
would go out foraging, one day I & one of  
the other fellows went out alone, afterwards  
6 more went out and the Rebels captured  
them, we were at the other house close by  
when they were captured but didn't know  
it at the time, we took a citizen into the Boat  
because he had been shooting at some of  
our men when on the way to Savannah—and  
one of his negroes followed our men to Savan-  
nah: during our stay there he went up to where  
we now were at after his wife, this old fellow  
heard some how that he was back & with a  
Double Barrel Shot Gun laid in wait & found  
the colored man, took him out, made the other  
negroes whip him nearly to death, then he march  
them all out in the edge of the woods and

907 Made the Niggers tie him hand & foot.  
Then they had to dig a grave & put him down  
face downward & at the Point of his Gun  
made them fill the Grave; the colored people  
told us about it. Said that after they got the  
Grave about  $\frac{1}{2}$  full he cried for Mercy, but  
Mercy wasent to be had, I seen the Grave.  
when we went there to get him he wasent at  
home, but a Colored Man told us about where  
he had gone to in a Cornfield, so out we went  
and sure enough we found him, Took him  
completely by Surprise, he denied the act of  
the Negro, I drawed my Revolver to shoot him  
right there & possibly would of, had it not been  
for my Comrade, I was Glad afterwards that  
I diddent, as I think I would of always felt  
I done wrong; we however marched him down  
to the Boat & put him in the Hold where the  
Rest of them were; I think the next day his  
Wife & couple more women came to see the  
Prisoners; we now had been up here for a week  
or more, and were waiting for the Left wing  
of the army to come up; I remember the <sup>and</sup> ~~him~~  
made us climb up on a Rope Ladder to the  
Mast & there keep watch, we took it turnabout,  
I diddent fancy the job one bit and Pete

91) Greiner Relished it less than I did; as it was when we got up to the mast we had to wiggle around in there so as to get a seat, I tell you it was no fun, it was fun to see the officers drill those Sailors, one of their stunts was to climb those Rope ladders, up one side & down on the other - one of the fellows couldn't do it, and he begged of the officers for god sake not to make him go up; about this time the advance of the army came along, then we moved with the Boat up to Sisters Ferry; in a day or so we moved up the River about two miles to a landing on the S.E. side of the River, also some of our Transport's who unloaded Rations there, the River now was very high, the <sup>pt.</sup> step was to get a Pontoon Bridge across the river, one Eve the officers took one of the Life boats to go down the River (to I suppose) to see Gen Slocum, I got Permission to go along, we went down the River in fine shape, those Sailors certainly knew how to handle oars, when they got down to where they were Building the Bridge, our Pontoon men couldn't put their anchors out, (the water running so swift) so they got the Capt. of the Boat let his Sailors put them up, well they did it in fine style, they however



93) The Rebs had captured some of our men and made them walk in on a log over a Big pond & when they got about half way over they would shoot them & they would fall over into the water; it so enraged Sherman that he ordered 12 of their men taken out & shot. I remember yet quite well of the Incident. They allowed their men to draw cuts, which they did & amongst them was a tall Alabamian, he cried like a good fellow, said he had been forced in the army & that he had a wife & 11 children at home. well it seemed very hard & I never could hardly make myself believe that Sherman was justified in so extreme measures; but it checked their cruel Dealings with our men, however quite a few of our men no doubt afterwards met similar fate. The feeling amongst the Troops had got at a high pitch & in a measure our men were justifiable in Retaliating; The Left wing of the Army & the Right wing soon got in touch with each other & then headed for the Capital of the State (viz Columbia) The Cavalry was kept well on our flanks; many were the Incidents connected with this March; we had quite a few Rivers to cross, some were quite wide we soon began to feel the effects of more Rebels in our front & we soon learned that they had evacuated Charleston

and some more sea port places; I was out foraging nearly every day; The army finally closed in and about Columbia, S.C. I came with the capt as far as the River (Congaree) the River ~~had~~ <sup>was</sup> very high & the Bridge was Burned, we could however see right over into the city, burned only about 2 miles over, Sherman sent some of our men up the River & crossed on some Pontons & got a Lodging on the other side. The Left wing of the army were sent down the River about 12 miles & crossed the River there, we rested there for couple days, I remember that I had to go out foraging with the Yeans, while I was gone some of the officers went back up the River to Columbia, Pete Guimer went with them; I regretted that exceedingly as I would of liked to of seen the capitol of South Carolina, but we could see the smoke & the light of the fire, seems the Reds had fired some cotton, also Sulfuric & it being windy it spread & burned a good part of the City, I dont doubt but that some of our fellows helped it along, while the rest of them were trying to put it ~~out~~ a couple days Rest & we again were on

953 The Moore. we had a good Bit of Trouble  
in Crossing the River, as the water had  
swollen the Stream so that the River was very  
angry. our Pontoon Broke several times. besides  
the Rebs came in on us & made it pretty  
Lively for us. but Bye the Bye we got across  
and then we had to march like every thing  
to catch up with the Balance of the army. I  
often wondered why Sherman Started with  
the Balance of the army till he had all across  
the next objective point was Fayetteville N.C.  
here the Rebs had an Arsenal. think the Govern-  
ment had built one there before the war; here as  
usual the Foragers were in Advance & quite a  
few went ahead to far & were Captured. but the  
Scorpas were soon there. the Rebs however Burned  
the Bridge across Cape Fear River; soon after we  
Signal Corps Boys got in. I looked around for  
some place & I met a citizen - who wanted  
protection. Stating that he had one of men (who  
had been a Prisoner) hid up in the Loft of  
his Shop. well if you have - Show us. He  
Took me down. opened a ~~sort~~ sort of a Transom  
put up a ladder. Crawled up & told the  
man to come out. which he did to soon. I took  
them down to Main Street where our troops

were & went up to one of our Generals & told him of the Circumstance & also that the Man wanted a Guard - which he gave the man and he went home, at one time before down in Ga not very far from Savannah. I was out ahead of the Army Foraging. it was in the Pineris; I came to an old Darkeys house. he came out. he says. be you a Yankee. I said yes. well sah the Lord Bless you all. and say Massa Sage got one of yourins Men down here in dem Woods. well I said where is he. down there in Dem woods. well I said lets go & see. we started & went a little ways & the man seen us coming & he came running to meet us. I got off of my Horse & say but he did Hug me. Joy isent the word he felt in his heart. I said lets go back to the road as the head of the Column wasent far off. so back we went & to our Surprise. the 1<sup>st</sup> Regt that came along was his Regiment, at 1<sup>st</sup> the Boys didnt know him, but they soon found out & my oh my How happy he was. I omitted this so I now write it, now to get back to the street in Fayette; The Troops were passing through the City good part of the day. while here a Steam boat came up the River. I think it brought

973  
Up the mail for the Army, which was  
always quite an event - as all the Boys liked  
to hear from Home, and also from the Girl he  
left behind, I think we were given a chance  
to write some & the Boat took them down & out,  
we remained here but a day or so, Sherman seen  
that Arsoal & the Like was Destroyed, also he  
sent all noncombatants down to the coast, after  
we were all across, the Left wing of the  
army took up Cape Fear River towards Reelbraugh  
the Right wing with the most of the Wagons went  
almost direct towards Goldsborough; we pushed  
the Rebs back but not without some pretty  
hard fighting, after we had drove them back  
up the River about 40 miles, Sherman turned  
to the Right & moved towards Goldsborough,  
he left our Left wing & went over to the right  
wing, some of us Signal Corps Boys went out  
foraging, we crossed a deep wide Swale -  
went out 3 or 4 miles, got some Meat, Meal &c.  
I remember John Paton & I went up to a house  
the women came out, seemed awful defiant  
one had a Butcher Knife in her hand & dared  
us to come in, I joked them, John P. Rode down  
to where an old Darkey was & the old Darkey  
told him that Massa Bragg & his men were

all night long on dat Road down yonder  
pointing the direction, John rode back to me  
and told me: I said just wait a little till I go  
to Top of Hill & see, well to my Surprise the  
top of an old wagon & some Troops (Seemingly  
Stragglers were Marching down to Bentonville,  
I rode back, I said to John Cooly come on & further  
down, Geo Butterfield fell in with us, now I said  
boys we may not be able to get back, because  
Wheders Cavalry certainly was in here somewhere  
we Rode quite fast till we got back to the  
Swale, where we crossed, about Midway in  
Killpatrick had a vidette Stationed & he  
was Surprised nearly to pieces, as he thought  
the Rets were just over the Swale, & indeed I don't  
doubt but that in a derry short time they were,  
so that we felt awful good to get back as we  
did, we reported what we had seen to Gen.  
Killpatrick, about this time some Severe Fighting  
was going on to the Right=on the road our  
Troops were Marching, The Gen & his Staff  
got on their Horses & told us to Follow, and how  
he did Ride, I remember Butterfield lost his  
meat, by the time we got over there, it indeed  
looked mighty Seary to me, as there was  
only one division of our men in front

993 Then came the Train, wagons lots of them, and only a narrow road for the train. They ordered the roads cleared for troops but just as soon as the wagons left the main road they mired right down. The ground was perfectly soft, made so by the rain. We Signal Corps boys took care of our own wagons, about this time the rebs were pushing our men back and the artillery kept pouring it into them with Grape & Canister, and got them checked. By this time the 20 a.c. boys came in & took position & then it was too late for the fornicus. I remember that some of our troops were so badly discomfitted that they thought the whole thing was gone. I remember seeing the 21<sup>st</sup>. O.V.I. come out of the woods badly demoralized, I was standing by the road holding the Captains horse when they came out, amongst them that came out close by me was Dave Green (an old acquaintance) I yelled at him, he had lost his hat, his long hair all in the air, he surely looked as though he had been roughly dealt with, he answered me, is that you Sam, I said yes. he was nearly crying. Further to the right to our men officers & all came out of the woods in droves. I remember we told them

100) to stop & form a line right there behind  
these logs. I said that the 2<sup>d</sup> Div of the 15<sup>th</sup> a.c.  
was just back here & they did not need to fear  
also that the 20<sup>th</sup> a.c. was now up & were ready  
to take a hand in it; well we got them to  
stop there & formed a line & the rebs never  
got any farther; about this time or before Gen.  
Slocum sent a dispatch with Lieut. Howgate &  
Patterson (one of our boys went with him) to Gen.  
Sherman telling him of the situation &c. Sherman  
told Lieut. Howgate to go back & tell Slocum to  
push on - that it was nothing but cavalry.  
nothing but cavalry & to push on to Goldsboro<sup>th</sup>  
when he got back - I and reported I was right  
there & I tell you if there wasent some tall  
swearing done I never heard it before. he  
immediately wrote another dispatch or message  
& sent our Lieutenant Foracre, accompanied  
by Pete Greiner right back with more full de-  
tails of what was going on & back he went  
to Sherman, who was with the 15<sup>th</sup> a.c. on  
the right. they finally overtook him & gave  
him the message. he read it & said it was  
impossible that Johnson's whole army was  
in our front. But Foracre told him we  
knew better, that we had captured quite

A Few of their Men & they all tell the Same Story: just then the Rebels made their heavy Charges & to the Thundering of the Artillery he listened a little & then ordered the 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> corps stopped & turned them to the Left & marched right in on the Rebs., of course that gave the Rebs something else to do & it relieved Gen Selocum some, however about dusk they made another Charge, but it failed. I remember we were camped that night right behind Killpatrick's Cavalry, & it was as dark as pitch; they <sup>the Rebs</sup> didn't try it any more; the next day we laid on our oars, but we could hear of the Cannons going off way to the right, = turned out later that the 17<sup>th</sup> corps had got around & in their Rear & took a lot of prisoners & I guess if Gen Mowery had been supported we would of nearly captured Johnsons whole Army, but he was recalled & that left a gap for Johnsons men to get out, which they did & we then were free to go on to Goldsborough; so the next day we started. I said to the Boys - we are going into camp at G. & we had better go out & see if we couldnt get something. So John Paton, Gen Butterfield & I went out a mile or so from

1033 The road - and went up to a house  
and found in another old house, a room  
full of Tobacco. I said to G.W. Butterfield say  
lets hitch in that Buggy there & fill it with some  
of the Tobacco, we did so, I said wait & I'll go  
to the other House up the road & may be we  
can take two loads in. Sure enough they had  
an old Buggy. I got some harness, went back  
& we filled it to with the Tobacco, before we  
left a Young Lady came out & turned to me  
and said and thee what might be thy name,  
I gave her some nick name, she then turned  
to Butterfield and said = and thee what might  
be thy name, he to gave her an assumed name,  
she turned to John Paton = and thee what might  
be thy name, he gave his true name, she looked  
at him a little & then said & thee = Thy countenance  
Indicates Deceit, well that was a good one  
on John, well we started for Goldsborough,  
on the road I broke my Buggy, so I Borrowed  
another & we loaded the tobacco & started,  
& got into Goldsborough all o.k. and soon the  
whole army was in and around Goldsborough,  
the 23<sup>d</sup> corps from Nashville, after they helped  
drive out Hood & his army, went by rail  
around to Baltimore Md: then by boat came

To Newburn N.C.: here they drove the Rebs out & drove them before them all the way up to Goldsborough, the Boys said they could hear our Cannonading at Bentonville and that sent fire to them = to get with their old associates once, again. So that they really kept the Rebs on the Run, but they came no farther than Goldsborough. also the 10 a.c. came up from the coast, after taking Fort Fisher, under the command of Gen Terry: we now got plenty of Rations; we Signal Corps Boys had but little to do. after we got into G. about the 1<sup>st</sup>. thing after we got settled down was to go over to see my Regimental Boys, who were in the 25<sup>th</sup> Corps. I remember it was after dark & they were just got into Camp: I was mighty glad to see the Boys, we Signal Boys got some old Lumber & made ourselves good Shanties, we here sold & gave away our Tobacco, so that we had plenty of Pocket Money. It had now become evident to all that now soon = at our next move would take us to Richmond or rather Petersburg, to Grant's large Army & then something would happen, Sherman left our Army in the hands of Gen Schfield while he himself went by water around to see Gen Grant & make final arrangement for

what they knew must come; Sherman now  
 had an Army of 90,000 men who were all trained  
 Soldiers, and he says in his Memoirs that he  
 expected Lee to slip away from Grant & by hard  
 marches unite with Johnson's Army now before us,  
 and then pounce down on us & he was determined  
 to be ready for them. Grant said if Lee only  
~~waited~~ waited a few days longer till Sheridan with  
 his Cavalry got around which he said were now  
 crossing the James River. that he then intended to  
 move on Lee's lines, and then if Lee should  
 happen to give him the slip, that he Grant  
 would be right on his heels; Sherman then also  
 but President Lincoln & they three talked things  
 over. Sherman rejoined us & then commenced  
 getting ready to move, this was about the  
 last day of March 1865; about the 10<sup>th</sup> of April  
 he expected to move - and a little later got  
 word from Grant that they had Lee on the run  
 & were doing him up in great shape. so then  
 every thing now was & must be ready to move.  
 The Army pulled out on the roads for Raleigh N.C.  
 I think the 1<sup>st</sup> day out. I rode about a mile to the  
 left of the 14<sup>th</sup> a.e. with a view of getting some  
 forage. as I turned up a road or Lane - I noticed  
 some one riding horseback & seemingly coming

Up towards the House, I Supposing that it  
 was one of the Boys coming up to the House for  
 some Grub - (as they nearly of them) (the Citizens) hid  
 their Stuff in the woods. So I said may be I'll get  
 a good Horse, so I rode up slowly. got behind some  
 Rail Corn Cribbs full of corn & then proceeded toward  
 the House which had a palings fence in front of  
 it. I had to open a pair of Barrs. which I did  
 as quietly as possible, then Rode up in front of  
 the House, with my Revolver drawn when the fellow  
 showed up. just then he came in from Behind.  
 beheld I noticed he was a Confederate Soldier.  
 I ordered Hands up. which he did. I had him  
 Dismount & to disrobe himself of his firing arms,  
 Saber &c. & then to step to aside which he did. just  
 then a man came out of the House & I diddent  
 know what he might do. So I too kept him in front  
 of me, he told me he had some Contraband  
 message with him. which I noticed in a large  
 Envelope, it was for Gen. Wade Hampton. who  
 was in our front, I then ordered him to mount on  
 his Horse & go ahead & I followed, we took the  
 same road that I came in on, I rode pretty fast  
 for a little bit as I diddent know but some of  
 their Cavalry might be Lurking about. he said to  
 me = that there was no need of Riding so fast

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was there? Well I said I was doing it & for  
him to keep right on, Mean time my Revolver was  
ready for Instant action, just then I could hear  
the crack of our Musketry in our left front, I  
then know our men were driving their men back.  
well I said well not Ride so fast, I said  
do you hear that Shooting over there, he quickly  
Spoke up = what does that mean, well Sir I said  
it means that our men are driving your men  
right Back, he Hesitated a little & said, well  
that means I am <sup>done</sup> gone, Yes Sir = I said you are  
my Prisoner, he then Spoke up & said = that he  
had one request to make of me & I said what  
is it, he said he didnt want me to place  
him under Colored Troops, why I said = God  
Bless you we have no Colored Troops, why he  
said he thought we had lots of them. (I was  
however mistaken as there was one die in the 10 a.C.)  
well I said you need not fear, that we didnt  
treat their prisoners like they did ours; well  
we soon got to the Road that the Troops were mar-  
=ching on & I said now Ill take the lead and you  
follow me, if the Troops or Boys yell at you, dont  
let on but follow me, well he did = & the Boys  
would yell out where I got my Johnny, Hello  
to my de, I rode on as I had this dispatch,

and I wanted to Deliver the Message to Gen  
Slocum. we soon got to a large House (where  
we had been Breaking for to Gen Wade Hampton  
we Hitched our Horses went in, I noticed Gen  
Baird of the 3<sup>d</sup> Div of the 14<sup>th</sup> a.c.; I Stepped up to  
him, or rather he Gen us & approached us, I said  
Gen Baird can you tell me where Gen Sherman was,  
he said he was with the 20<sup>th</sup> a.c. well I said  
where is Gen Slocum; he turned to his Staff and  
asked & they said he hadnt come up yet, well  
said Gen I just about 30 minutes ago captured  
this man & he had a Dispatch for Gen Wade  
Hampton & I guess I'll turn it over to him; he  
took it, read it & then turned to his Staff & told  
them to stay there till he rode back to see Gen  
Slocum, he then told us to mount & go with him  
including his Ordely, we started back on the road  
and didnt go far till we met Gen Slocum and  
his Staff, he gave him the Dispatch, Slocum got  
off of his Horse, sat down on the fence, then called  
me up & asked me how it all happened & how  
long ago, I told him, he then called up my Pris-  
-oner & asked him some questions & then turned  
to Gen Baird & said Gen you move immediately  
on to the River, with all your might & save the  
Bridge across the River if possible, & told me

and I wanted to Deliver the Message to Gen Slocum. We soon got to a large House (where we had been Breaking for to Gen Wade Hampton) we Hitched our Horses went in. I noticed Gen Baird of the 3<sup>d</sup> Div of the 14<sup>th</sup> a.c.; I Stepped up to him, or rather he saw us & approached us. I said "Mr Baird can you tell me where Gen Sherman was" he said he was with the 20<sup>th</sup> a.c. well I said where is Gen Slocum; he turned to his Staff and asked & they said he hadnt come up yet. well I said Gen I just about 30 minutes ago captured this man & he had a Dispatch for Gen Wade Hampton & I guess I'll turn it over to him. he took it, read it & then turned to his Staff & told them to stay there till he rode back to see Gen Slocum, he then told us to mount & go with him. Including his Ordely, we started back on the road and didnt go far till we met Gen Slocum and his Staff. he gave him the Dispatch. Slocum got off of his Horse, sat down on the fence, then called me up & asked me how it all happened & how long ago. I told him. he then called up my Prisoner & asked him some questions & then turned to Gen Baird & said Gen you move immediately on to the River, with all your might & save the Bridge across the River if possible. & told me

To take care of my Prisoner, which I did all day. I remember as we rode forward again, and Bairds men were moving on, (who had been parked in a field) and other Troops coming up he made the Remark (Mighty=what men) well the Troops lit out & soon the crack of the Rifle could be heard again. They soon had them on the Run & got to the Little town on the River, called Smithfield, but the Rebs Burned the Bridge all the same. They were those days nothing but Wooden Bridges, & they had Pine rails all split up & strewed all along on each side of the Bridge and then Tarpapered & Rosined them. So that when the match was applied = it was all ablaze in a minute. I remember I had the Prisoner with me till after we went into camp. He was a South Carolina Soldier, rather Intelligent. He showed me a letter he had written to his wife, stating in that letter that every one killed from now on out = would be held accountable. Knowing that the jig was up, we had an old Iron Baking oven & we had a colored fellow to make some Biscuits & we had some good old Ham & we had some good coffee & we asked him to set up & eat with us, which he did & we all enjoyed our meal, especially did our Prisoner. He claimed it was the 1<sup>st</sup>.

Coffee he had drank for 2 years: after  
Supper the Captain (Bachtell) sent word for me  
to come up to his Tent. I did & he told me to  
take my man down the road to the 1<sup>st</sup>. Division of  
the 14<sup>th</sup>. a.c. Head quarters, on starting I felt like  
asking Pete Grimer to let him have one of our com-  
=forters & take along to sleep under, but I was  
afraid Pete wouldnt like it. so I said nothing.  
But Pete told me afterwards. why didnt you  
say something. I always felt bad about it. —  
another thing I always felt like kicking myself  
was = I didnt take his name. Oh how often these  
Past years have I wished that I knew his name  
and Regt., also his address: I think his name  
was Johnson but not sure; I have in different  
ways tried to find out who he was. but failed.  
I took him down as ordered & turned him over to  
a Captain who had charge of a lot of Prisoners.  
as I marched him in there were some who knew  
him yelled at him. I took a Receipt for him &  
then left my man and went back & gave the Receipt  
to capt. Bachtell, well the next morn we got the  
news that Lee had surrendered to Gen. Grant.  
it was almost unbelivable, but it came  
from Gen. Sherman to the Troops, which was  
read to I suppose every Regiment in our army.

Smithfield N.C., Apr 12, 1865.

110) It Read as follows — The General Comm-  
anding announces to the army, that he has official  
notice from Gen Grant that Gen Lee Surrendered  
to him his entire army on the 9<sup>th</sup> of Apr. at approx-  
-mattox Court House Va.;

Glory to God and our Country, and all honor  
to our Comrades in Arms towards whom we are  
Marching.

A little more Labor, a little more Toil on our  
Part. The great race is won, and our Government  
Stands Regenerated, after four years of war,

Signed W. G. Sherman

Major Gen. Commanding.

I gave it verbatim as he has it in his Memoirs,  
This news created immense rejoicing, hats,  
Blankets, Knapsacks & almost every thing else  
was up in the air, of course we all knew that  
The End had come at Last; The next day, their  
being two Pontoon Bridges laid across the River  
we began to cross over & marched on towards the  
Capitol, I remember that at every little Stream  
The Rebels had fell Trees, &c to Impede our  
March & thus we had quite a little Brush  
with them before we could Proceed. I rode off  
to the Right about a mile to see about some

(111) Forage, came to a large house, but there were too many ahead of me. So I went up through the woods parallel with the road our men were marching on. I crossed a little creek & kept on a little ways. when I could hear men talking on my right & knew they were crossing this same little Ravine, and by their talk or Brogue I was sure they were Johnnies. So I concluded I had better draw over towards our Road & as I went I remembered that I hadnt heard any shooting on the road at this little Ravine. So I pulled in straight for the Road & hadnt gone far till in front of me a mule began to Bawl & I looked & there were 3 mules hitched, with Saddles on, of course I knew then I had rode in a Hornet nest. I had my Revolver ready for Instant work. I rode about 2 or 3 rods further & here were 3 Johnnies sitting & talking, one an officer had his Back to me, another one a little to his left. & then the other one with his Back to a large pine tree, with his face towards me. I remember my ~~first~~ impulse was to make a rush on them, but as quick as a flash I thought that there necessarily be another Post close them & I concluded if they left me alone I would them. So I turned my Horse, put in my Spurs, laid flat on my Horse & got out of there.

am sure that when I turned that the man next to the tree seen me, but they never shot at me, as I soon in the brush got out of their sight: I then breathed easier, and soon got back to the house I came from. How often I have I thought of the episode, I am sure had I rushed on them, I could of got all three, before they could of got ready & their hands would of went up in a hurry, but I would of been in the same position of the man that <sup>had</sup> hold of the bear, he had to get help to let loose; but time & time and again have I thought over that incident, what would of been the outcome had I rushed on them, ~~when~~ I got back to the road again minus forage, so I slipped off to the left of the road & got some little forage. That eve after we got into camp there was a train came in from the south, it kept whistling so much that every one knew that something was up: Killpatrick's cars were in advance. They let them through to where Sherman had his head quarters, it was the Mayor & some of the prominent citizens of Raleigh N.C. to offer to surrender the city &c. don't just now remember the results; next morn we were on the move, and against 10 o'clock we

113) were in ~~Raleigh~~ Raleigh; The Capital  
of the State of North Carolina, a nice place.  
Here we went into Camp; and soon negotiations  
were on for the Surrender of Johnston's army,  
which kept up for several weeks, owing to the  
fact that the Papers had to go Back to Washington  
for approval. - as it Included in the article that  
of some Civil affairs, the authorities at Wash-  
ington did not approve of it, so we had orders  
for a move, but was Reinded & again the  
negotiations were on & culminated in the Surren-  
der of Johnston & his Army, which had now  
diminished down to a small Army: every one  
felt a relief however that the thing was actu-  
ally over with. Gen. Grant came down and  
dictated the Terms: at Washington such  
men as Gen. Hallack, Sec. of war Stanton &  
now President Johnson condemned General  
Sherman in the most Bitter Terms, so much  
so that Sherman afterwards Publicly resented  
the Insult; while here at Raleigh we often  
went down to the Blind asylum, which were  
close by us, & heard them sing &c. well  
it was quite a treat to us all & the House  
was full nearly every day: one night just  
after the Surrender I got Permission from

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The Captain to fire off some Rockets,  
we had run out of Sticks, so I was all after-  
noon whittling out Sticks, there was a Field  
just back of us, where the Teams were Parked  
I went to them and told the Teamsters what  
I was going to do & that they had better be  
with their Teams; never mind the Teams-  
just go ahead & shoot off all the Rockets  
you want, well see to Teams, so when it got  
Real dark I commenced & now I want to say  
if the Mules didnt Prick up their Ears its a  
Curious thing; there was always 6 Mules hitched  
to the Tongue of the wagon 3 on one side & 3 on  
the other & there they fed; well it went on all  
O.K. till one of the Sticks fell over, & away it  
went Right over & amongst Mr Mule, well  
that was to much for them & away they would  
go with the wagons, & such a mix up of  
things I hadnt seen for a good while,  
by that time the Teamsters just begged at  
me to hold up; You alive - I tell you,  
well in due time we got marching orders to  
go to Washington - by the way of Richmond &c.  
The 14. 20. 15 & 17 ac. the 23<sup>d</sup>. corps was left  
under Gen Schafeld to Parol Johnstons army,  
and other duties as they might come up.

Part of his command (amongst them my old Regt. 99.0.V.D.) went up to Saulsberry N.E. where the Rebels had one of our Prison Pans: They Buried, or rather Reburied our men who died there & were only half Buried; they got their Discharge here, but wasent mustered out of the Service till they got back to Columbus. Right here let me say - that our Regt. & the 50<sup>th</sup> O.V.D. after the Battle of Nashville, were consolidated & they then composed the 50<sup>th</sup> O.V.D. & Captain Pope became Lieutenant Col. of the Regt. well we (the army) started at slow marches across the country. I remember just after we started we got the news that President Lincoln had been assassinated, I remember I was with the Capt. & he with Gen. Slocum, we were about the last to leave Raleigh, when we got out 3 or 4 miles we overtook some fellow. (I suppose Reporter) who had a wagon load of Papers. I think the New York Herald, with the news of the death of the President, and Slocum fearing the Results of what might happen - ordered the man to dump them out & Burn them up, which he soon did. There was also a good bit in the Paper of the Sayings of Gen. Halleck of the affair of the Surrender of Gen.

116) Sherman which would of Enraged the  
Soldiers to that extent that they would of  
Been Ready for most anything: My Horse had  
The Distemper bad & on our way over to Rich-  
mond I traded Horses: I got a Dandy Mare,  
at the Crossing of the Petersburg R.R. a confede-  
rate officer offered me \$200. if I would  
bring her up to Petersburg the next morn. like  
a June I dident, he said the 13<sup>th</sup> a.c. was  
passing there & you could fall in with them. & further  
that when I got to Washington I would simply  
have to turn her over to the Government; which I  
had to do. I often wished I had of Bought her  
home with me, well we soon got over to the  
Famous City of Richmond. made so-by the many  
Incidents that happened in and about it. the  
Army was however Camped South of the City.  
Slocums Hd. quarters. was in a little town opposit  
Richmond by the name of Manchester. old Gen  
Halleck was here in this department of the  
army just now & he wanted to be the whole  
Push. (Gen Sherman went back from Raleigh to  
the coast & gave Directions to the Troops under  
his command) Gen Halleck. (who Succeeded  
Slocum) ordered the 14<sup>th</sup> a.c. to get Ready for  
Review. just then Sherman came to us & he

Being Hot all over, because of the Treatment he had received at the hands of Gen. Halleck, ~~he~~ ordered the Review stopped at once. Gen. Halleck had his Troops, or rather a heavy line of Guards around the Town of Manchester, so as not to let any of our men into the Town, also at the Pontoon Bridge that crossed the James River into Richmond, Right by Libby Prison, well our Boys stood at the 1<sup>st</sup> day, but the 2<sup>d</sup> day they gathered there by the thousands & you could very readily see there was something coming. Shortly they brushed the Guard to one side & up the street they came, clearing out our Sutter Ranch after the other, by that time Gen. Sherman, Gen. Howard, Gen. Slocum, Gen. Jeff. Davis & others were out trying to stop the boys and promised them if they would stop they would see that they would get passes over into Richmond, Gen. Halleck at 1<sup>st</sup> refused but he found out what was coming & then yielded, so by the next day we went over by the Doves, well its a beautiful City, we signal boys made use of the time mostly in visiting, Historic Places; Such as Libby Prison, Castle Thunder, Belle-Isle &c. where thousands of our boys perished in one way or the other, also went to see their

Cemetery in which some of our noted men are buried, I believe President Monroe was one amongst them. The lot seemed poorly kept. However things during the war was all in a turmoil in and about the city: we saw the hole where our men came out - when they jumped out of Libby Prison, on over the other side of the street; also Jeff Davis' mansion, where General Halleck now had his head quarters, also a statue of Geo Washington, also the church where President Jeff Davis attended & where he was when he got the word from Gen. Lee that his lines were broken by Gen. Grant & that he must get out as soon as he could, which he did, and the people with him, and every thing was all confusion in a few minutes. Just an hour or so they had the news that Lee had smashed Grant's line & the preacher prayed mightily to the God of Heaven & Earth for what he had done for them, & it all turned out the other way; it was now a race to get away, which he did & was captured by our men down in Georgia; we started now for Washington D.C. I remember of our men marching through Richmond, a prouder day I think ever they saw before or after. in fact we all

119) Felt Elated; in going from there to Washington we passed over & through some of the Hardest fought battle fields that ever was fought, as we neared Spottsylvania it was Sunday & there was a church close by the Road. The House was full of People, we met an old Citizen close by & we told him that the 14<sup>th</sup> & 20<sup>th</sup> corps. were just beyond the River and would soon be done with their Pontoon Bridges & they would be here by the thousands & that we thought best if the people would get to their homes. well we went on & he to = I often wondered whether or not they didnt disband pretty quick. well we camped in and about Spottsylvania, which now consisted of Court House & one or two more Buildings. we went down to the place where Gen. Hancock's Corps Broke their line at what is known as the Angle & where there was one charge after the other made to dislodge them, but were failures: The Rebs here lost a pile of men. you could see the Bows of Hands, legs, and in fact all kinds. — Sticking out of the Ground, also I seen where some of our men laid just as they fell, with their Knapsacks on their Backs, at another place where about a doz of our men laid

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Ready for Burial (but never Buried) also  
the frame house (one story) that was close the  
angle & the woman & children had got  
into the cellar. I talked with the woman.  
It was just one year to the day that the  
battle had been fought; and later we came  
to Chancellorsville where Gen Hooker had  
such a fearful slaughter. Saw & was in the  
House called Chancellorsville House; we next  
day crossed the River the Rappahannoc. & came  
on, went through & over the Battle of Bull Run  
There was no special land marks here, only  
the little crooked Run; we came on till  
we finally came to Alexandria. here we went  
into camp, here saw the stairs that Col.  
Ellsworth went up to take down the Confed-  
-ate flag & was shot in so doing. This was  
right in the beginning of the war. The army  
of Meade & of Sherman all under Grant, now  
got ready for a Grand Review. = on the  
23<sup>d</sup> of May 1865. on wednesday I think the  
army of the Potomac passed in review, they  
all did well, then on Thursday May 24<sup>th</sup> the  
army of Shermans, marched. The Capt. said  
we could do as we pleased, march or not  
so we concluded not to march, but we

121) Went over from Alexandria in a Steamer  
& Saw the Parade, Shermans men did well,  
and thus ended the Grand Review of the  
Army & now to Camp in and about Washington  
D.C. till one by one Regiment after the other was  
sent to its State to be mustered out, we  
soon moved over into the Suburbs of the  
City. Turned over our Horses, Saddles, weapons  
&c. also bid adieu to our colored Teamsters  
who were Grand good fellows. how often have  
I wished I had gave them my address & may  
be some day they could write me; what  
became of them God only knows, well we here  
staid in camp for several Weeks. we got Passes  
to go down into the City nearly every day. The  
Smithsonian Institute especially was a very  
interesting place to go, also the Treasury Bldg  
the Capitol, the Arsenal, Ship yard where so  
many of our vessels now lay which showed some  
hard Knocks. amongst them some Monitors.  
I have always Regretted I didnt go over  
to see Washingtons Tomb while there, there were  
many other Places of note but cant here relate  
well finally Sherman & his Hd. quarters were  
sent down to St. Louis Mo. we went over to  
Parkersburg Va on the Ohio River. I think part

(122) This or part of the country was certain-  
=ly an awful forlorn country. From Parkers-  
=burg we boarded a vessel & came down the  
Ohio River, when we got to Cincinnati we felt  
as though we were getting into Gods Country  
again. I remember here one of our Headquar-  
Guards, who was on shore, got into a Saloon  
and a man slipped up behind him and  
stabbd him in the Back, they caught the  
man & jailed him. thats all I have ever heard  
of it. we took our man on down to St. Louis  
and what became of him I dont know. at  
St. Louis they Put us in the Barracks, every one  
had a Bunk to himself, well about midnigh-  
one after the other begin to yell, and such  
a Bed Bug place you never seen. we got up  
them with candles & then with Poison & soon  
got away with them. We laid here for about  
3 or 4 week when an order came to make  
our Discharges. I was discharged on the  
10<sup>th</sup> day of July 1865, having been in the  
Service of Uncle Sam. for 2 year 11<sup>th</sup> mo  
up here bid adieu to the Boys. Some  
thisway & the other the otherway. possi-  
never to see each other again. I stop-  
off in Ill. & went to Martinsville

(123)

See my Bro R. H. & C. J. Bolton.  
Staid with them a few days. R. H. thought  
as I had never Baptized that I must be  
baptized. which I was by an old Preacher.  
who lived in that country; by the name  
of Rauch — a few days here & then  
started for Home. got home on Sat Eve I  
think about the 18<sup>th</sup>. I walked from Columbus Grove.  
when I got up to where Halls Lived the girls  
were out milking close by the Road. I remem-  
ber yelling at them. They both Matilda & Anilla  
Came running to the fence to shake hands.  
Then also Mr Hall & wife. They wanted to bring  
me home but I said no. So I came home &  
I crawled in the Barn 1<sup>st</sup> to see if I couldnt  
slip into the House unobserved & take the  
folks by surprisid. I went to the House  
around the Back way & just as I stepped  
on the Kitchen Porch = Mother = with her face  
up to the window Pains spied me & yelled  
there is Sam & of course all was off. Pa  
had walked out on a stroll. Paulina Dearing  
was making a fire in the Kitchen stove.  
of course we had a good Supper. Ben.  
(my Bro) had gone over to Levi Hummons.  
so he didnt get home till Sunday eve.

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when he came home on a rush. Monday  
Morn. I took Paulina over to her school, and  
on the way back stopped at our own old  
School House where the Girl I left behind  
was teaching; well I soon fell into line &  
went to work to help Pa out; the 49<sup>th</sup> or so  
went down to Texas so that my Bro John  
didnt get home till New Years night.  
in the year 1866 the Girl above spoken of  
& I were married. have had 9 children  
& are now living. Nellie Grace died in Infancy.  
they are Mary Elisabeth, Cora O, Ella E,  
~~Ella~~ William, Elva, John, Elmer, Lloyd Blain.  
Today is Sunday Feb 14<sup>th</sup> & Ma's Birthday is  
68 years old. I was 69 the 10<sup>th</sup> of Jan. we  
both feel the weight of age &c. The above  
Narrative I have written so that those who  
may come after me may know of my Army  
Life. There were many-many things that I  
omitted that no doubt would be interesting  
but this ~~was~~ was all written from Memory.  
This last fall I was down to Chattanooga also  
about 25 years ago. I got to see the Monum-  
ent Erected on the Battle Field of Chicka-  
mauga, its on the Lafayette Road about 1/4 mi  
from Lee & Gordons Mill, also several of

Nov. 1988

This was in Carl N. Edie's belongings - a copy <sup>made</sup> evidently of memoirs written by Samuel Bolton a McComb "old soldier". I remember my great grandfather Reuben Smith being a Civil War vet & friend of Sam Bolton. As a child I remember "names" listed as his children.

Carl Edie was son of G. P. Edie a Civil War vet. (G. P. Edie had several brothers in Civil War) He belonged to sons of Union Veterans & I feel he got this through that or his father. Boltons lived on the street in McComb near the High School, on East side of street about 3<sup>rd</sup> house South of present McComb library. - (Year 1990)

The last page is missing.

Betty (Rader) Edie (from McComb)  
daughter in law of  
Carl Edie

992.54.1