

[Henry Van Aernam also served, prior to the war, as an elected state assemblyman. He enlisted and held several posts including Surgeon-in-Chief of both the 1st and 2nd Brigades. He was discharged for disability, November 5, 1864 and three days later was elected to the U. S. House of Representatives where he served two terms. He was re-elected to Congress in 1878 and again in 1880. Henry died in June of 1894 about 3 years after the proceeding pension statement was written]

MARCH 1863

SUNDAY Mar 1st

This morning I feel that I am regaining my health slowly.

MONDAY Mar 2nd

I do not know as I am any better to day although I may be. At the present I am at the Emory Hospital Ward 19 Washington D.C.

TUESDAY Mar 3rd

To day I am feeling a little better though it is slow that I am getting well. This morning it is as pleasant as in summer but before noon it thickens up and begins to thunder and lightning and snows as hard as I ever saw it snow.

WEDNESDAY Mar 4th

Today I am not feeling as well as I did yesterday on the account of a severe fit of vomiting that I had last evening

THURSDAY Mar 5th

To day I feel better again and I am in hopes that I shall be able to get around in the course of two or three weeks but not able for duty short of two months.

FRIDAY Mar 6th

This morning it snows and blows very hard but at the present time which is twelve oclock it has stopped snowing but it still continues to blow very hard. This afternoon it does not blow quite so hard as it did this forenoon.

SATURDAY Mar 7th

Today I am feeling about the same as yesterday. It is fair today untill evening when it clouds up and rains very hard.

SUNDAY Mar 8th

This morning it is a wet rainy morning but before night it clears up and looks quite pleasant.

MONDAY Mar 9th

Today I am feeling pretty well though I am still very weak. It is pleasant to day as in summer.

TUESDAY Mar 10th

Today I do not feel as well as I did yesterday. Two men in my ward got their discharge and have gone home. The weather today is quite cold so much so that it snows a little but it soon turns to rain.

WEDNESDAY Mar 11th

To day it is very pleasant although it snowed last night. It is clouding up for another snow again. I should think no more today.

THURSDAY Mar 12th

Today it is rather squally. first it snows and then the sun shines and so the day has gone.

FRIDAY Mar 13th

This morning it is fair and at noon it snowing pretty smart and then in the afternoon again it is fair again.

SATURDAY Mar 14th

Today I am not much of any better than I was two or three days ago. It is pleasant to day nothing more of note than this to night. As I was sitting by the stove I looked up and Harrison Campbell stood by me and I was very glad to see him.

SUNDAY Mar 15th

This morning it is pleasant but before noon it begins to snow and at about five O'clock it begins to thunder and lightning and snow very hard and it continues to storm untill after I go to bed.

MONDAY Mar 16th

This morning it is cold and stormy. Harrison is still here but at the present time has gone to the City. It has cleared off and it is a little warmer than it was this morning.

TUESDAY Mar 17th

Went to the City to day and had a very good time a visiting the east room of the White house, and also exploring the halls of the Capitol which to me were very magnificent with its marble pillars and statues and also its pictures of great men that now are known only in history. When I got back to the Hospital I was very tired as this was the first time that I had been to the City since my illness as I am very weak yet.

WEDNESDAY Mar 18th

This morning I am feeling pretty well and I have got my pass and have gone down to the City with W.H.H. Campbell and he and I visit the Smithsonian Institute where in the Museum we find all kinds of natural curiosities such as birds, Foreign and domestic Animals S\_\_\_\_\_ Shells, Eggs and finally all kinds of curiosities both from Foreign Countrys and also of this country.

THURSDAY Mar 19th

Today there has nothing of any consquence occured. I have been in the Hospital all day with the exception of going to my meals. I am feling well as usual with the exception of being a little sore from my yesterdays trip.

FRIDAY Mar 20th

The weather to day is pretty good as it is clear. I have been in the ward all day there fore I have nothing of consequence to write.

SATURDAY Mar 21st

To day I thought of getting a pass and going down to the city but it is so stormy that I gave it up and I am very glad that I do so as I have felt very bad all day.

SUNDAY Mar 22nd

Today I feeling better than I did yesterday. We have had an inspection to day. It passed off in a very few minutes with out a word of fault.

MONDAY Mar 23rd

It is very pleasant to day. Harrison and John left here to day for their Regts or the convalecent camp.

TUESDAY Mar 24th

This morning the winds are high and cold and feels like snow but it turned warmer and is raining at the present. I have just received a letter from Miss Lucy Campbell.

WEDNESDAY Mar 25th

Today I have a pass and am going down to the city to see if my box has arived yet. It has not come and I am going to the Patent Office to the different kinds of machinery that is in the united states. The patent Office is a very large building and this as well as the Capitol is built almost entirely of stone and brick.

THURSDAY Mar 26th

To day it is said that we are to be paid here at the Hospital. The time has come for to pay and so has the paymaster and some of the boys have got their money but as I did not sign the muster roll I have not got any as yet. The weather to day is cold and it snows a little.

FRIDAY Mar 27th

To day is clear and pleasant and nothing has transpired as worthy of note but at the dinner table it was announced to all that had not signed the pay roll to go and sign so as to draw our pay.

SATURDAY Mar 28th

To day it is very rainy and the consequence is that it is very muddy under foot therefore we have to stay in the ward to day.

SUNDAY Mar 29th

To day it has cleared up again and is pleasant. We had an inspection in the ward to day at ten Oclock that passed off very soon and now it is nearly time for meeting which I mean to attend.

MONDAY Mar 30th

To day it is very pleasant as much so as though in summer. They are whitewashing our ward. I have received my pay to day. I got \$52. Nothing more today.

TUESDAY Mar 31st

This morning there were between two and three inches of snow and the day is very stormy. They have finished whitewashing to day.

APRIL 1863

WEDNESDAY Apr 1st

Today I have got a pass and am going to the city. I go and send \$40 home by the Adams Express. I found Lieutenant Avery there and had a good visit with him.

THURSDAY Apr 2nd

It is pleasant to day here and the artillery is drilling out here and it is a very splended sight as there is several batteries and they are all brass cannon. I have a severe head ache to day.

FRIDAY Apr 3rd

To day it is a very nice day and pleasant and the grass looks as green and nice can be.

SATURDAY Apr 4th

To day it very \_\_\_\_\_ like winter as it is quite cold and at night it snows as fast as any day this winter. I sent to the city to day for my box but it was not there and I do not think I ever shall find it.

[This was probably a box from home he had been told had been sent. One of the things a soldier anticipated most was a box from home filled with all kinds of delicacies such as pies, cookies, etc.]

SUNDAY Apr 5th

This morning the snow is as deep as it has been here any day this winter so the attendants in the Hospital tell me it is from six to eight inches deep. It is Easter Sunday to day and the boys are having fine times eating their eggs. This evening the snow has mostly gone off.

MONDAY Apr 6th

To day I have got a pass and I go down to the city. I go in to the Capital and in to the Hall of Representatives and from there I go back to the Hospital and here I find a letter from home awaiting me, and I assure you that it is a welcome guest.

TUESDAY Apr 7th

This morning I began to think about my box as my letter that I got last evening had the receipt for it. I went and found it to the commissary department. I have found it and had a good dinner and supper from it. weather pleasant.

WEDNESDAY Apr 8th

There has nothing worthy of note taken place to day. The same old routine as usual. There was one occurrence this evening that was this. When the Dr came in this afternoon he told them to put me down for my Regt as fit for duty.

THURSDAY Apr 9th

This morning I expected to go to my Regt but for some cause or other I did not go. The probability that I shall go to morrow. The weather today is as nice as any day in summer.

FRIDAY Apr 10th

I have been down to the city today and made the Smithsonian Institute and also the Capital. I went up top of the dome and here had a nice view of Washington and vicinity. In the distance I could see Georgetown and Alexandria. I was also in the Senate Chamber and Hall of Representatives.

SATURDAY Apr 11th

It is very pleasant today but nothing has transpired as yet that is worthy of record.

SUNDAY Apr 12th

This morning we have an inspection at eleven O'clock. It has passed off, and in the afternoon I am detailed to stand guard around the hospital here.

MONDAY Apr 13th

This morning the weather is quite cold I have to stand guard from seven until nine O'clock after which we are to be mustered. that has passed off and we are to go on guard again 8 O'clock and stand until four

TUESDAY Apr 14th

It is very foggy here this morning at five o'clock at which time I go on guard and stand until seven, go on again at eleven and stand until one O'clock and then again at five and stand until seven. The weather to day is very pleasant.

WEDNESDAY Apr 15th

This morning it is very wet and rainy and I have to stand guard but we have sentry boxes therefore we do not get wet. It has rained steady all day today.

THURSDAY Apr 16th

The rain has not stoped yet it is a very wet morning this morning and as yet it has not stoped and it is now five Oclock in the afternoon.

FRIDAY Apr 17th

On guard today the same as usual. Weather today is fine after the storm.

SATURDAY Apr 18th

This morning it is nice. The sun comes out as though we were going to have spring once more.

SUNDAY Apr 19th

To day has been nice and fair and while off guard took a stroll down to the cemetry and had a pleasant time strolling a round among the homes of the dead and viewing the marble monuments that their friends have erected to their memory.

MONDAY Apr 20th

To day it is cold and stormy and I give up the idea of going to the city as I had intended. It has rained nearly all day and it has got quite muddy again.

TUESDAY Apr 21st

This morning I got a pass and went to the city and had my picture taken and sent it to my mother. I visited the east room of the white house in company with Mr Weeks from New Hampshire.

WEDNESDAY Apr 22nd

This morning before I went on guard, Mr Montgumry and myself went down to the cemetry and made that a visit. Also went down to the United States Test batery and there we saw a cannon that carried a ball that weighs one hundred and thirty lbs. This evening had to take a man that was drunk down to the Central Guard house to the City.

THURSDAY Apr 23rd

It has been raining all day to day and about half past ten the guard is take off and we do not have to go on today again.

FRIDAY Apr 24th

This morning it is raining and it has continued to do so up to the present time which is six Oclock. We are on guard for the first time to day.

SATURDAY Apr 25th

Cold and windy to day but pleasant. I am now standing guard and stand till noon. At four Oclock we go again and stand untill six. nothing of importance to day.

SUNDAY Apr 26th

This morning weather is fine. go on guard at eight Oclock and stand till ten. After dinner I go down to the bank of the Potomac at which place I am at present seated up on a grassy plat viewing the beauties of nature but I must return for I have to go on guard at two Oclock and stand untill four after which I go to the city to meeting at the Presbyterian Church and hear a sermon preached from the first Psalm and

the first and second verses.

MONDAY Apr 27th

Go on guard this morning at half past five and stand untill half past seven. We then go on again at twelve and untill three Oclock after which Corporal Sawdy and I go down to the Navy yard and we get back at eight Oclock and go on guard again at twelve oclock.

TUESDAY Apr 28th

This forenoon the weather was quite pleasant untill about eleven when it clouded up and looked very much like a storm. We have been to dinner and now we are called up to be mustered for pay after which we go on guard for three hours. It has began to rain and it looks now as though it might all the afternoon.

WEDNESDAY Apr 29th

This morning the storm has subsided and it bids fair to be a nice day. On guard the same as usual.

THURSDAY Apr 30th

This is the day that is appointed by the President for fasting, humiliation and prayer there fore after coming off guard at three Oclock P.M. I went and heard a good serman from our Chaplain. then took supper after which went down to the first baptist church to the city for prayer meting.

MAY 1863

FRIDAY May 1st

Weather pleasant and very warm. Nothing of importance today. on guard to day the same as usual.

SATURDAY May 2nd

The day is very nice, too warm though to be comfortable. on guard from twelve Oclock untill three after which I go down to the Navy Yard where I see some of the largest cannon that I ever saw one of which carried a solid shot weighing four hundred and thirty pound. Here I also saw some of the most beautiful brass rifled guns that I have ever seen.

SUNDAY May 3rd

This morning we are to have an inspection of our quarters and also of our arms. I am on guard at the time but I understand that it is quite rigid. After supper I go down to the city to the Presbyterian Church and hear a sermon from the Reverend Mr Ghurley text found in the fourteenth Chapter of the book of John and the eighteenth verse.

MONDAY May 4th

On guard from three Oclock untill six A.M. the weather is fair .After sun set I attend the burial of Brigadier General Plumer and it was a solumn time to to see the Regt march with their arms all reversed. After the coffin was lowered down in the grave the brass band struck up and played a solumn tune after which the Regt. fired three volleys over his grave and then returned to their quarters.

TUESDAY May 5th

Get up and go on guard at three and stand till six Oclock. Take break fast and in the afternoon go over to Georgetown.

WEDNESDAY May 6th

This morning when I arose it was raining and up to this time which is three Oclock P.M. it has been very stormy and it is also very cold for

this time of year. I am on guard at the present. The news is this evening that the rebel General Lee is taken prisoner and is here at Washington.

THURSDAY May 7th

It continues to storm yet and looks as though it might all day. I am on guard from three oclock untill six P. M. nothing more of importance to day.

FRIDAY May 8th

It is cold weather here this morning so much so that if it should clear up very suden I think there would be a hard frost. The weather is a little warmer this afternoon when I go on guard which is three Oclock.

SATURDAY May 9th

It is warm and pleasant and nothing of importance has ocured worthy of note today. I am on guard.

SUNDAY May 10th

It is said that there is to be a Major General to be buried today in the Congressional cemetry which only a little ways below here. It is evening and for some cause the General has not been buried. I am on guard to day from three Oclock untill six.

Monday May 11th

This morning I go on guard at six Oclock and stand untill nine A.M. The weather is warm and it is a growing time here. Went in to the East branch of the Potomac this evening a batheing. The water was quite cold but nevertheless had a good swim.

TUESDAY May 12th

It is very warm here to day. I am on guard this week from six untill nine Oclock morning and evening.

WEDNESDAY May 13th

Went to the city to day a long with Gabriel Misner who joined his Regt which was going home. The boys felt well and looked the same. After leaving him I went to the Patient Office, after which went to the Soldiers free Library and spent an hour or two very pleasantly from here went to the Capitol and up on the dome from which I had a good view of the city. At four Oclock started back to our quarters and got caught in a drenching shower of rain. Stood my tour on guard and finally at half past nine Oclock retired for the night.

THURSDAY May 14th

It is quite cool this morning after the rain of last night. To day I have pitched my tent which by the way is a good large sybly. We have a good floor in it which makes it very comfortable. We had a very hard storm of wind and rain this afternoon which blew down three of our tents. Our Major was up to see us to day and make some arangement about the guard.

FRIDAY May 15th

This morning it is so cold that some of the boys that go on guard put on their overcoats. The day has turned out to a very pleasant one after all. This afternoon while strolling below the poor house I found a young lady with whom I had a very pleasant chat. On guard this evening from six untill nine Oclock.

SATURDAY May 16th

This morning we hear that we are to sign the pay rolls, but we are not

called to sign them untill after dinner. I go down to the city this afternoon and go in to the Capital library and in to the presidents room, both of which are very nice. I also go down to the white house and in to the east room of it.

SUNDAY May 17th

This morning it is very pleasant and warm. This morning we have an inspection of arms by the Lieut of the guard. He has inspected us and we return to our quarters. It looks now as though it might rain before morning. It has began to rain already though I think it is of short duration.

MONDAY May 18th

This morning stand guard from nine untill twelve Oclock. Take dinner and then go down to the city to the post office. from there to the Soldiers free Library. read there untill twenty minutes past four when I return to camp. It was said that we get our pay today but like all other pay days they have failed.

TUESDAY May 19th

Nothing of importance has occured to day. The weather is warm, nay I might say hot. I am on guard to day the same as usual. It is five P.M. and as yet we have received no pay.

WEDNESDAY May 20th

The day is plesant and very warm. It is very dry at present and we stand in need of rain. Stand guard today from nine untill 12 Oclock morning and evening.

THURSDAY May 21st

Nothing of importance has occured today. The weather is good. To day I am off guard.

FRIDAY May 22nd

It is very warm here and dry. The thing need rain very much. To day I have charg of the second and third releif in corporal Young's place as he is unwell, so I am on duty 12 hours to day in place of six.

SATURDAY May 23rd

The day is warm as usual and nothing of importance has occured that I know of more that this. We went on guard twenty five minutes to nine P.M. and stood untill ten minutes of one A M and this was on the account of our Corporal being drunk. his name I forbear mentioning as he is a first rate sort of a fellow.

SUNDAY May 24th

I go on guard at nine Oclock A M and it is so warm that the sweat just drops off of me siting here in the shade. It looks this afternoon as though we might get some rain.

MONDAY May 25th

It is quite cool this morning and looks as though we should get some rain before night.

TUESDAY May 26th

To day is is warm and pleasant. We are to be inspected by the Major for to see if any of us are fit for provost duty, which duty is to be done in the city. The inspection is passed and we know nothing what it was for more than what we heard about doing duty in the city.



WEDNESDAY May 27th

The weather continues warm and dry. I am not on duty today. As yet we have received no pay but the talk is that the paymaster come to morrow.

THURSDAY May 28th

This morning I go on guard at eleven and stand two hours on and four hours off for twenty four hours. It is one P M and as yet no pay master and I do not think he will be here to day.

FRIDAY May 29th

Bunker and myself gets a pass to go to the Navy Yard but before we get away we hear that the paymaster is coming therefore we stop at the reading room and in the course of an hour he makes his appearance. We get our pay about three O'clock P M after which we go down to Washington.

SATURDAY May 30th

This morning we had a slight sprinkle of rain though not enough to do much good. I am on duty to day and go on guard at eleven O'clock, and now it is dry and dusty as it has been for several days. I am on duty two hours and off four, after coming off guard at seven, Jones and myself goes down to the Navy Yard to get some ice cream.

SUNDAY May 31st

It is warm as usual to day. I am relieved from guard at nine O'clock after which we have an inspection. Nothing nothing more worthy of record.

JUNE 1863

MONDAY June 1st

Today it is as warm as usual though it is very windy and the dust flies so part of the time that we can hardly see. I am on duty to day.

TUESDAY June 2nd

I am off duty to day and therefore have nothing to do. I should go to the city to day but I have sore lips at present and they pain me so that I guess I will stay at home. Weather continues pleasant.

WEDNESDAY June 3rd

This morning before I arose we had a little rain just enough to lay the dust. This morning it is a little cooler than it has been for some considerable time past. To night the Officers have a dance at the Chapel rather a curious place for a dance I should think.

THURSDAY June 4th

I have been relieved from guard at seven A M and therefore have nothing to do until eleven A M to morrow. This afternoon had a nice dish of strawberries.

FRIDAY June 5th

I am excused from duty to day. nothing of importance to day, hot and dry as usual.

SATURDAY June 6th

Went down to the city to day, made the soldiers free library a visit also went to see the Government printing establishment. Took dinner down to the market. At the present I am in my tent and we are getting a smart little shower which at the present is very much needed.

SUNDAY June 7th

This morning it is pleasant notwithstanding the shower of last night. We are to have an inspection of arms by the Lieutenant of the guard after which we are to be inspected by the Surgeon in charge. This is passed and nothing worthy of notice has passed since Corporal Young and my self took supper up to the dining room of the hospital this evening.

MONDAY June 8th

The wind has been very high and cold for the time of year. Nothing to do to day and I am not on duty.

TUESDAY June 9th

This morning I go on guard at eleven O'clock and stand two hours on and four off. My last trick being to morrow morning from five until seven.

WEDNESDAY June 10th

I am not on duty to day therefore I go over to the Brewery along with Sergt Le Craith, Sergt Barns and Mr Bunker and take dinner after which we play Bagatelle for the beer. My side is the lucky one. We go back to the camp about 2 O'clock P.M. In the evening they have a free concert for the Emory Hospital at the Chapel. I attend this also and enjoy myself pretty well. This singing is good and so is the music which is most delivered by the 34th Mass. brass band.

THURSDAY June 11th

It is warm and looks as though we might get some rain before night. The Sergt told us this morning to prepare for an inspection by the U S Gen inspector but for some cause he had not come.

FRIDAY June 12th

I learn this morning that the inspection that we was to have is to be a Medical examination to see who is fit to go to their Regts and those that are fit to go will have to go and those that are not will join the Invalid Detachment. The Surgeon in charge has sent off 13 to day at one P. M.

SATURDAY June 13th

Today we have the examination that I spoke of yesterday and I am one that is to go to my Regt. When I shall go I can not tell. I am on guard to day. The weather is pleasant.

SUNDAY June 14th

Last night about Sun set there was about fifty patients came into the Hospital. about nine O'clock there was in the neighborhood of two hundred more. all from the front near Fredricksburg. To day I come off guard at seven O'clock A. M. & after inspection, Mr Bunker and myself goes down to the city. While there attend a temperance Meeting. The Speaker was Gentleman from New York.

MONDAY June 15th

This morning I go on guard again. At eleven A.M. and I am post four which is near the Sartler Shop and as the patients are nearby all new ones, I have all that I can do to keep them in. The weather is very warm. I have sent a box home this morning containing my over coat, also a few other things. There was something like a hundred more men came in to the Hospital this morning and this after noon the Surgeon sent off over one hundred to the convalescent camp.

TUESDAY June 16th

This morning I come off guard at seven O'clock A.M. and Mr Bunker and I gets a pass and goes to Georgetown and while there we go in to the

Cemetery which is a most beautiful place as it is in a handsome grove. I also made a visit to the Capitol and went up on the dome of said building from which we had a splendid view of the city and the county surrounding it.

WEDNESDAY June 17th

This morning I go on guard at eleven O'clock. There is nearly one hundred and fifty men going from here to day to the convalescent Camp and transferred to some of the Hospitals in their own States.

THURSDAY June 18th

I am relieved from guard at seven O'clock this morning after which I go down to the East Branch [it is spelled this way but probably he means "East Bank"] of the Potomac and have a good time bathing. Then lay down in the shade of a tree and take a good sleep. After this I go and take dinner. It is very warm to day and I think we shall get some rain before night. It is four P.M. and it begins to blow and rain pretty brisk.

FRIDAY June 19th

I am on duty to day & nothing of importance has occurred to drive away the dull monotony of camp life.

SATURDAY June 20th

To day I am off duty, therefore nothing to do. The weather is pleasant but it looks as though we might get some rain. It is four PM and it is raining, though not very hard.

SUNDAY June 21st

This morning we had orders at half past ten to fall in for inspection, all we do is to stack arms and before we are inspected we have to go on guard therefore we pass the great inspection.

MONDAY June 22nd

To day the Lincoln Guards and ours are to be inspected by the Major at ten O'clock AM but it does not come off until after dinner. It is passed but it has been one of the hardest inspections that I was ever on. While there this forenoon I found one of the boys in their guards from my Co. It was Mr Hackett.

TUESDAY June 23rd

I am on duty today. The weather is pleasant. There was about seventy sick and wounded men came into the Hospital last evening.

WEDNESDAY June 24th

I am standing my last tour of guard for to day. Shall be off at seven O'clock. This morning I am going to try and get a pass to go over to the Convalescent Camp to see W. H. H. and J. D. Campbell, Byron Crook and John Wood. I have got my pass and then I have to go to the Provost Marshal's and have him sign it before I can get across the long bridge. I arrive at the Convalescent Camp about noon and soon succeed in finding Harrison but John and Byron is gone. I find quite a number of our Company. About six O'clock in the evening Harrison and myself go out and go down to Alexandria. He shows me the Marshal House where Ellsworth was killed in sixty one. Also the hospital in which he staid last winter. He also showed me the Mansin House, for which the Government offered the proprietor two hundred thousand dollars and he would not take it, but soon after he was detected in aiding the Secessionist and his house was confiscated. It is now used for a Hospital. We stopped in the city overnight.

THURSDAY June 25th

This morning as soon as there was any stir in the house we arose and started back to Camp. We arrived in due season and after looking a long time I found Mr Bunker, a Gentleman that went over with me. We started back to the Emory. about half past eight in the morning we stopped before we got to the long bridge by the side of the road & picked what red cherries we wanted to eat. When we got to Washington we stopped and took dinner, after which we went up to the old Emory. Went on guard at five P M in the evening and got some rain.

FRIDAY June 26th

I am standing my last tour of guard for the next twenty four hours. It is six AM and a very wet drizly morning. It has rained pretty much all day though slowly. There has nothing worthy of note taken place to day.

SATURDAY June 27th

It is pleasant to day. I am on duty therefore have to stay around Camp. I have drawn me a pair of shoes this afternoon.

SUNDAY June 28th

It is five Oclock in the morning and I am standing my last tour of guard for to day. As Soon as I get off I must fix up for inspection which is to come off at ten Oclock. We have had no inspection to day. This evening Mr McDowell, Mr Holt and myself goes down to the Navy Yard to Church and hear a sermon preached from the text found in first Corrinthians, fourth chapter, ninth and tenth verses.

MONDAY June 29th

There is a great deal excitment here to day about the rhumor that Gen. Hooker is releived of his Command. I hope for one that it will prove false thoug I fear that it is too true. [The War Department and President Lincoln had become weary of General Hooker's excuses and pleas for reinforcement. Hooker, for his part, found that he was not receiving the cooperation he hoped for from Washington so he resigned his command. That was just what Lincoln and Secretary of War Edwin Stanton wanted, and at 2:00 A.M., June 28, a special courier from Washington aroused Major General George Gordon Meade from a heavy sleep and gave him orders which promoted him to command of the Army of the Potomac."] I am on duty to day and while standing my five Oclock tour I came near getting hit by a bullet as it passed within six inches of my face.

TUESDAY June 30th

It is beween five and seven and I am standing my last tour of guard for the next twenty four hours. We are getting some rain but it will not come a miss, as we are in need of it. We were mustered this afternoon for our pay.

JULY 1863

WEDNESDAY July 1st

I go on guard to day at eleven Oclock. It is pleasant and is not warm enough to be very uncomfortable. There was a rhumor here that the boys have got to drill when they are off guard but the day has passed off and we have not been called upon, therefore I think it is nothing but a story.

THURSDAY July 2nd

It looks this morning as though we might get some rain. It is very warm, so much so that we have to stay in the shade.

FRIDAY July 3rd

I am on duty to day and oh how warm it is. I think that it will rain before night. It is three Oclock P.M. and it has began to rain and the air is getting a little more cool. The Boys that were put on the first division of the Invalid detachment has got orders to leave to morrow morning at half past seven Oclock.

SATURDAY July 4th

This forenoon I got a pass to go to the City. I stay there untill 12 Oclock and then come back to Camp and get a dinner that was one of the best, for a Soldier. It consisted of Roast Beef, Boiled Ham, Bread and Butter, Mashed Potatoes, Pie Plant Pie, Rice Pudding, Ice Cream and Lemonade. In the afternoon I go back to the City and stay untill seven Oclock when I returned to Camp. In the evening there was a good fire works to the City.

SUNDAY July 5th

Today I am acting as Corporal of the Second relief. It is warm and pleasant and some signs of rain. Nothing worthy of note has taken place today

MONDAY July 6th

It is a dull wet morning and at the present time it is raining and looks as though it might continue to do so for the remainder of the day. This evening when I came from supper I found W.H.H. Campbell at my tent. Was glad to see him.

TUESDAY July 7th

I get a pass & Campbell and myself goes down to the City. We visit the Capitol and Patent Office. after which we go down to the market and get a first rate dinner. Campbell buys a patent lever watch to day.

WEDNESDAY July 8th

This morning it is wet and rainy but never the less Campbell and myself goes down to the Cemetery and about ten Oclock he starts back to his camp and I go with him out nearly to the street cars.

THURSDAY July 9th

To day I am on guard and it is nearly time for me to call on my relief. I stand from eleven untill one P.M. Nothing of importan has occured to day.

FRIDAY July 10th

The weather is pleasant to day. Mr Jones, Sergt Burns and myself went off black berreing to day and got as many as we wanted to eat.

SATURDAY July 11th

I am on duty today. The day is pleasant and the \_\_\_\_\_ is very warm. Nothing has occured of importance to day.

SUNDAY July 12th

This morning is warm and pleasant. This after noon there is a number of us goes down to the river to bathe and while there a thunder shower comes up as hard thunder as I ever heard. The rain literally poured down and the consequence was that I got soaking wet. Just after I got back to my tent there was a gust of wind came and blew down seven of the tents around us but ours with stood the storm.

MONDAY July 13th

I awoke about three oclock this morning and it seems to me that I never

heard of rain as hard before. It is now five O'clock and it has hardly slacked up to day. The river must be \_\_\_\_\_ to an awful height and I hope that Lees whole army may have to surrender in consequence of it.

TUESDAY July 14th

It is a little more \_\_\_\_\_ to day and \_\_\_\_\_.

WEDNESDAY July 15th

It is warm and \_\_\_\_\_ to day. I am on duty but after seven O'clock I go down to the East branch of the Potomac to bathe. Have a good time.

THURSDAY July 16th

This morning I get a pass to the city and go down with Mr Hobs who is going to start home. The train does not leave until three O'clock P.M. Weather pleasant until this evening when we get an \_\_\_\_\_ shower of rain. Nothing of importance to day.

FRIDAY July 17th

It has ceased raining and now the weather is quite cool. I think we shall get some rain before night. The day has passed off without rain.

SATURDAY July 18th

Today the weather is warm and pleasant. Nothing worthy of note to day.

SUNDAY July 19th

Oh how warm it is here to day. The air is fairly sultry. We have an inspection to day and it is nearly time now for it. It has passed off and all went quietly.

MONDAY July 20th

I am not on duty to day and therefore I shall do some washing for my pantaloons and shirt need it quite bad. It is very warm and pleasant here to day.

TUESDAY July 21st

I am on duty today. go on at eleven O'clock. The weather is warm though not as much so as it was yesterday as there is quite a breeze to day.

WEDNESDAY July 22nd

I came off guard duty at seven O'clock. About half past eleven we get orders to fall in for to sign the pay rolls. This done I go to dinner. At four P.M. we fall in and go and receive our two months pay. The day is warm and pleasant.

THURSDAY July 23rd

The day is warm and pleasant. I have received two letters to day . One from my Father and the other one from W.H.H. Campbell.

FRIDAY July 24th

This morning I have got a pass to go to the Convalescent Camp to see W.H.H. Campbell. I have reached the camp and soon after we hear the dead march and we attend the burial of one of our Soldier comrades.

SATURDAY July 25th

I am still at the Convalescent as I stopped over night with W.H.H. Campbell. It is ten O'clock and I have started for Washington. I stop and take dinner and then go to a Jeweler Store and buy me a watch for which I pay sixteen dollars. I then go home, that is to Camp and Mr. Perry Hecket comes over and makes me a visit. Had a very hard shower of rain last evening

SUNDAY July 26th

Come off duty this morning at seven O'clock. It is very warm today. We are just falling in for inspection. Our arms have been inspected by our Lieutenant after which we stack arms and hold ourselves in readiness to fall in at a moment's warning for to be inspected by the Ward Drs and Surgeon in Charge.

MONDAY July 27th

This morning go on guard at eleven O'clock after I am relieved at One I go down below the poor house to the Watering trough and wash my shirt. Weather the same as usual warm and sultry.

TUESDAY July 28th

The Sun rose most beautiful but looks as though it was going to be as warm as ever. I have got a pass to go to the city. Get down there and Sergt Hotchkins. Take dinner down at the eleventh St. and Supper at the Market. Stay until evening and go to the Canterbury. This I should call kind of a one horse show for such a place as Washington.

WEDNESDAY July 29th

Weather is fine today. I am on duty today & there has nothing transpired worthy of note.

THURSDAY July 30th

This morning when I get up at five O'clock to put on my relief it was raining very hard but it has ceased for the present. The day proves to be a good one and in the afternoon I go to the City on business but do not stay long. Come home and write some letters.

FRIDAY July 31st

The air is quite cool this morning but this afternoon it is warm as usual.

#### AUGUST 1863

SATURDAY Aug 1st

I go to the City today and go in to the Capitol Green House. Here is plants from nearly all parts of the Globe among which is the Banana Tree, The Fan Palm, the date Palm, the Coffee Plant & got back to Camp about half past seven.

SUNDAY Aug 2nd

This morning have to prepare for inspection. At half past ten there comes word that we are to have no inspection today. Go on guard at eleven O'clock A.M. Weather very warm today. Nothing of importance has occurred today worthy of note.

MONDAY Aug 3rd

Today is very warm. The thermometer stands today in the sun 115 deg. and in the shade 94-1/2. There has been an Artillery review today by General Hiltzman on the field here by the Hospital. There was thirteen Batteries and seventy eight guns most of which was brass. In all it was a pretty sight. All passed off smoothly with one exception. Two of the men got thrown from their wagons and run over by the same but was not hurt seriously through considerably. Seven persons died by Sun stroke in the City today.

TUESDAY Aug 4th

It has been very warm today though not as much so as yesterday. Have done my washing, that is my shirt and socks.

WEDNESDAY Aug 5th

The weather is very warm and dry. I have got a pass and am going to the City.

THURSDAY Aug 6th

To day is the National Thanksgiving and the Surgeon in Charge is going to give us a good dinner after which there is to be preaching. The National Flag is to be raised. It is evening and the day has passed off very pleasantly though it has been extremely warm.

FRIDAY Aug 7th

It is warm as ever to day. I am going to the city to day and get my watch. It is evening and I have been down but it was not fixed therefore I had to come off with out it.

SATURDAY Aug 8th

This morning it seems warmer if possible than yesterday. The day has passed off & nothing of importance has occurred worthy of note to day.

SUNDAY Aug 9th

To day it is warm as usual and nothing to relieve the dull monotony of the camp except inspection.

MONDAY Aug 10th

To day I am on guard and the weather still continues to be as warm as ever.

TUESDAY Aug 11th

Today Sergt Burns takes his departure for his Regt. I go down with him to the City. He gets Transportation and starts for Baltimore this afternoon.

WEDNESDAY Aug 12th

To day the weather is as warm as ever. Nothing of importance to day.

THURSDAY Aug 13th

This morning when I put on my relief it was raining quite hard and it at the present as though it might continue all the forenoon.

FRIDAY Aug 14th

This morning just before my relief went on Pery Hocket came over to get a pass to go to the Convalescent Camp and wished me to go along with him. I did so and had a good visit with Harrison. Went in a bathing in the evening.

SATURDAY Aug 15th

Came home or rather back to camp this morning. Weather very warm. Went down to the River to bathe this evening.

SUNDAY Aug 16th

It is as warm and dry as ever to day. We had an inspection of arms by the Lieutenant about ten O'clock this morning. I am on duty to day.

MONDAY Aug 17th

It has been very warm to day and it is getting very dry so much so that the crops are suffering badly.

TUESDAY Aug 18th

I am on duty to day. It is as warm and dry as ever.



WEDNESDAY Aug 19th

It is very warm to day but I get a pass and go down to the City. Find the Lieutenant Colonel of my Regt. get some paper and envelopes and then return.

THURSDAY Aug 20th

I am on duty to day. It is as warm as in days past and no sign of rain as yet. Went down to the river and had a good bathe this afternoon.

FRIDAY Aug 21st

I come off of duty this morning at seven Oclock. It is very warm to day and as yet no signs of rain.

SATURDAY Aug 22nd

This morning go on guard at eleven A.M. but before I go, I go down and do my washing.

SUNDAY Aug 23rd

Off duty this morning at seven Oclock. Have an inspection of arms at half past ten. This afternoon Corporal Young, William Henigh and my self got a pass and went up the river a piece & Henigh and I came across a patch of Tomatoes of about three quarters of an acre and so we went in and picked a half dozen apiece & consequence was that we got arested and took over to the Officer of the day to Camp Barry. He inquired how it was & then dismissed us. So much for Sunday.

MONDAY Aug 24th

This morning it was very windy and it came from the South. It looked as though it might rain but it has cleared up and now at four P.M. it don't look as though we should ever get any more rain. It is eleven months today since I was mustered in to the United States Service.

TUESDAY Aug 25th

It is just thirteen months this morning since I enlisted and one year since I left home. I have been down to the City to day to see about my watch. got one in exchange for it. This evening we are getting some rain the first we have had for about four weeks. The crops needed it very much.

WEDNESDAY Aug 26th

This morning when I awoke it was quite cool after the rain of last evening. It is almost cold enough this evening for a frost. Pretty much all the boys put on their overcoats to stand guard.

THURSDAY Aug 27th

I am off of duty at seven Oclock and then I am going to the City. When I got down there I found my Lieutenant Colonel. Had a talk with him.

FRIDAY Aug 28th

This morning it is pleasant and warm. When I got out my Relief at eleven Oclock I took them up to the Sergeants quarters and they were mustered for their two months pay.

SATURDAY Aug 29th

It is quite cool this morning. I am on duty at the present which is six Oclock. After I came off got a pass and went over the bridge across the East branch of the Potomac and got some grapes. After I got back went down to the City. Got caught in a shower coming back.

SUNDAY Aug 30th

This morning I heard that I was in debt for clothing some 20 dollars.

and so I went to see about it. I could get no satisfaction so I got a pass to go to my Regt to see about it. Went down to the Provost Marshals to get a pass from him but he would not give it on Sunday.

MONDAY Aug 31th

This morning went down to the Provost Marshals for a pass and got it. Went to Convalescent Camp and there I learned that we were allowed \$57 so instead of my being in debt to them, they are owing me. We were mustered again to day for pay. I got back to Camp about nine O'clock the evening.

SEPTEMBER 1863

TUESDAY Sept 1st

This morning while on guard I went and examined the Clothing rolls and found they had made a mistake of five dollars and sixty cents.

WEDNESDAY Sept 2nd

Got leave of absence this morning and went down to the City. Got some Postage Stamps & also my watch which was down there to be fixed. The Hospital was paid off to day and the effects of it can be seen by going to the Guard house for there is four men in there for intoxication.

THURSDAY Sept 3rd

This morning it is quite cool for the time of year. On duty to day. This evening at Eleven O'clock there was a fire broke out in plain sight of the Hospital. Before they could get any assistance the house was burned down to the ground. Nothing more of importance to day.

FRIDAY Sept 4th

I intended to go to the City this afternoon. I went to the City and left my watch to be fixed for it would not run. I am to have it next Thursday.

SATURDAY Sept 5th

This morning I am going to go on guard at Eleven O'clock. After I get on guard I go to get my discriptive list the mistake fixed with regard to my clothing bill. I did not succeed in getting the mistake corrected. They said it should be corrected next week.

SUNDAY Sept 6th

This morning I am off duty at seven O'clock. They told us that we was to have an inspection but as we get pretty near ready for it when the order comes that we are to have none.

MONDAY Sept 7th

The day has been very warm to day. It is my duty day. Perry Heket came over from the Lincoln to see me this evening.

TUESDAY Sept 8th

This morning Mr. Jordan and myself went down to the City. I look around to see if I can Byron Crook or Campbell but can discover them no wheres. Go and take dinner. While there find the Sergeant and he gives us a pass to run untill twelve O'clock so that we can go to the Theater. We go to Fords new Theater and the play is the Norad Queen. It is a beautiful play and the scenery is the most beautiful that I ever beheld.

WEDNESDAY Sept 9th

It is my duty day to day but as I have got a very hard cold I get Mr Ganoung to put on my relief.

THURSDAY Sept 10th

It has been quite cloudy all day. No rain but the air has been quite cool. I feel a little better to day than I did yesterday. I am in hopes to get along with out any thing serious, though yesterday I thought I was going to be sick.

FRIDAY Sept 11th

This morning it is quite cool but no rain. I am feeling a little better, enough so that I am going on guard but I am far from feeling well. Nothing of importance to day.

SATURDAY Sept 12th

This morning Mr Ganoung and I goes down to the City. So to the Market and take dinner then to the Capitol and Park. While here we get quite a hard shower rain About five Oclock P.M. We go down to Jackson Square in front of the White House to hear the Marine Brass Band play and while here the President starts for his summer residence the Soldiers home and I see him for the first time. He ia a plain and fine old Gentleman. Come back to Tenth St. and go to the Theaeter.

SUNDAY Sept 13th

This morning when I awoke it was raining quite hard and continued to do so untill about eight Oclock when it clears up for the day. We have an inspection of arms by the Lieut at ten Oclock. At Eleven I go on duty.

MONDAY Sept 14th

This morning when I get up at five Oclock to put on my relief it looks like rain and the air is quite cool. I have been down to the City to get my watch but the man was gone and I could not get it.

TUESDAY Sept 15th

On duty today. This afternoon went down and washed my pants. Nothing more to day.

WEDNESDAY Sept 16th

The weather has been quite cool with some considerable rain to day.

THURSDAY Sept 17th

There was one hundred and fifty seven sick man from the front arrived last evening here at the Hospital. Had quite a shower this afternoon.

FRIDAY Sept 18th

This morning it began to rain and has rained steady all the forenoon.

SATURDAY Sept 19th

This morning it is quite cold. At ten Oclock I attend the burial of a soldier who has gone to his final home. May it be a happy one to him. He was buried with all the honors of War.

SUNDAY Sept 20th

This morning we have an inspection of arms at ten oclock. We go down to the Navy Yard to meeting and hear a sermon preached for the Twenty Third Chaper of Job and Tenth verse. The sermon was a good one By a Methodist Preacher.

MONDAY Sept 21

To day I am on duty. The day has been rather cool. Nothing of importance to day.

TUESDAY Sept 22nd

This morning after I came off from guard the Sergeant came to me and

wished me to go down to the City with a prisoner . I went and had to report with him to the Provost Marshals and he sent him to the Central Guard House.

WEDNESDAY Sept 23rd

Took one man to the guard house for running the guard. Weather pleasant to day.

THURSDAY Sept 24th

Come off of duty this morning at seven Oclock. Weather pleasant.

FRIDAY Sept 25th

Go on guard at this morning at eleven Oclock. The weather is pleasant but cold for the time of year. Two men from the Hospital put in to the guard house for fighting.

SATURDAY Sept 26th

This morning I am off of duty at seven Oclock. It is so cold that a man needs his overcoat on. Nothing of importance to day.

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Twelve pages are not copied. They listed by date and name, 57 letters received by Andrew since July 25th 1863 and 172 letters that Andrew had written "since I crossed the Potomac Oct 2"

The diary is copied as closely as possible including errors in spelling. Andrew tended to run his sentences together so they have been separated and the first word in a sentence capitalized to make it easier to read. Other words are as he wrote them.