

Diary of Andrew Blood

January 1, 1865 - June 23, 1865

Introduction. This transcript of a diary of Andrew Blood begins in the city of Savannah, Georgia. The 154th Regiment had just completed their "March to the Sea" a week earlier and Andrew was doing Provost duties. We know from a letter that Andrew has sent to his brother Wesley on January 1 that he was impressed with the beautiful city of Savannah. He was living in a shelter tent with two others in a City Park. They had acquired three stools, a table and a bunk and according to him were living pretty good although they did not have blankets. The ground was not frozen and he complained of having flies in the tent so it wasn't too cold. The letter, which is in part, an account of Sherman's march to the sea, may be found on page 11. The diary was leather and brittle so care had to be taken not to do further harm to the binding. Some pages looked like they had at one time been wet and the writing was completely obliterated. Copies of the pages appear at the end of this transcript beginning on page 15.

January 1, 1865. Have attended the Baptist and Presbyterian churches today. Exercises were good. Weather fair but cold.

January 4, 1865. Went down to the city to see Killpatrick's Cavalry reviewed but for some cause it did not come off Weather is fair and warm.

January 5, 1865. Have been in camp all day. Weather same as yesterday.

January 7, 1865. Have been down to the city to see the fifteenth Corps reviewed. Weather warm and pleasant.

January 8, 1865. Attended the Catholic and Baptist churches today. The speaking was good. Weather pretty cold.

January 9, 1865. Have had to drill a little this afternoon. Weather fair and warm.

January 10, 1865. Was on guard down to the city today. Have had some rain.

January 11, 1865. Was relieved from duty this morning at nine oclock. Weather fair and warm.

January 12, 1865. Have been down to see Killpatrick's cavalry reviewed today. I also saw secretary Staunton. Weather fair and warm. [*Secretary of War Edwin Stanton*]

January 13, 1865. Have drilled a little to day. Weather warm and pleasant.

January 15, 1865. Am on guard down to the city. Go to the Baptist church to meeting this evening. Weather pleasant.

January 17, 1865. Have been in camp all day. Weather yesterday and to day pleasant.

January 19, 1865. It has rained nearly steady all day. Am sergeant of the

camp guard to night.

January 21, 1865. It has rained nearly all day.

January 22, 1865. Weather is continuation of yesterday Went down to meeting to the baptist church to day.

January 23, 1865. We have had no rain today. Weather is cloudy and rather cold.

January 25, 1865. Drilled a little this forenoon. Went down to the city to a Theater this evening. It was a very poor show. Weather clear and cold.

January 27, 1865. Broke camp this morning at eight oclock and marched twelve miles and camped for the night. Weather quite cold. [*The 154th Regiment started towards Augusta in what was to become the Campaign of the Carolinas.*]

January 28, 1865. Started out this morning at six oclock and marched about twelve miles. We are on the Savannah and Augusta Turnpike. The county is full of swamps. Weather fair and not very cold.

January 29, 1865. Broke camp this morning at half past six. Are in the rear of the train for guard. March ten miles and camp for the night. Weather fair but pretty cold.

January 31, 1865. Have been in camp all day. Weather a continuation of yesterday.

February 2, 1865. Have been in camp all day. Weather fair and warm.

February 3, 1865. It has rained more or less all day until five oclock in the afternoon when we broke camp to march but did not go more than a mile, when we turned around and marched back to the old camp.

February 4, 1865. Started from camp this morning at six oclock and crossed the river at half past ten A. M. and then found the worst road I ever saw. Marched about seven miles. An on picket to night. Weather fair and warm. [*Crossed the Savannah River into South Carolina at Sister's Ferry and camped near Robertsville.*]

February 5, 1865. Broke camp at twelve M and marched about eight miles. Marched very rapid. The roads were good. Weather fair and warm.

February 6, 1865. To day we are the rear guard for the wagon train. Start at ten oclock A.M. We have passed through a good deal of swamp though the roads are passably fair. Marched about twelve miles. Have had a drizzling rain nearly all day.

February 7, 1865. Started this morning at half past eight. Our road has been very bad to day. We have crossed one big swamp. We marched about seven miles to day. It has rained hard nearly all day.

February 8, 1865. Started this morning at six oclock and made about fifteen miles. Have passed through a good deal of swamp. Stopped for the night at a

town called Bramford. Weather fair but rather cool.

February 9, 1865. Started this morning at six oclock and marched about twelve miles and stopped for the night at a little town called Blackville. The road has been very good today. I saw a few flakes of snow this forenoon. Weather is pretty cold.

February 10, 1865. Moved today about a half mile. Went out a foraging. Traveled about ten miles. Weather fair but cool. One year from to day if all is well, G. P. Brown and wife is to make me a visit For supper chicken pot pie, in case I have a wife. [*Andrew married Fanny Fox on the 26 of November of 1865 but it is unknown if Mr. Brown and wife visited for chicken pot pie*]

February 11, 1865. Started on the march again this morning at seven oclock and marched about five miles and camped for diner. We are train guard to day. Marched this afternoon a half mile and camped for the night.

February 12, 1865. Broke camp this morning at six oclock and marched about thirteen miles and found the rebs across the north branch of the Edistak river. [*North Edisto River*] Crossed one branch of the same river when we first started out this morning. Weather fair and warm.

February 13, 1865. Crossed the north branch of the Edisto this morning at six oclock. Traveled about five miles to day. Was quite unwell yesterday. Am better to day. Had skirmishing in our front to day. Weather clear but cool.

February 14, 1865. Started this morning at eight oclock and marched about six miles. We are train guard to day . Got in to camp at two oclock P.M. It has rained all the afternoon.

February 15, 1865. Started this morning at seven oclock and marched eleven miles. The road has been good. Have had some skirmishing in our front to day. Have had some rain to day.

February 16, 1865. Started this morning at eight oclock and marched about six miles and camped for the night in four miles and a half of Columbia. Was train guard to day. Weather fair and warm. [*Columbia was the capital of South Carolina.*]

February 17, 1865. Started this morning at nine oclock and marched about five miles. Are train guard to day. Weather fair and warm.

February 18, 1865. Started this morning at nine oclock and marched with the train. made about ten miles to day. Crossed the Saluta [*Saluda*] river this morning. Weather fair and warm. Roads good to day.

February 19, 1865. Broke camp at one P.M. and marched about three miles. Weather fair and very warm.

February 20, 1865. The Corps marched to day eight miles. I was out a foraging and went at least twelve miles. Weather fair and warm. Crossed the broad river this morning.

February 21, 1865. Broke camp this morning at six oclock an marched nine

miles. stopped at a place called Winnsboro. It is a very pretty village. Tore up rail road this afternoon. Weather fair and warm.

February 22, 1865. Twisted rail road iron until two P.M. when we started and marched seven miles. The country this afternoon was quite rough. Weather fair and warm.

February 23, 1865. Broke camp this morning at six oclock and marched fifteen miles. Crossed the catawba river. Got into camp at eight P.M. Rained all night.

February 24, 1865. Broke camp this morning at ten oclock and marched with the train. Made about four miles to day. It has rained almost steady all day.

February 25, 1865. Have laid in camp all day. It has rained a good share of the day.

February 26, 1865. Started this morning at seven oclock and marched eight miles. The road was pretty bad. I have been quite unwell to day. Our regiment was on picket to night.

February 27, 1865. Left the picket post at half past two P.M. and marched four miles and camped for the night. Weather fair to day.

February 28, 1865. Broke camp this morning at half past six oclock and marched eight miles. The roads were very bad. It has rained nearly all day. Was mustered this afternoon for two months more pay.

March 1, 1865. Started to day at noon and marched to the rear of the corps train. Made seven miles. Crossed the big Lynches creek [*Lynch's Creek*] to-night. Weather cloudy but not much rain. Crossed the Little Lynches creek yesterday.

March 2, 1865. Started today at nine oclock A.M. and marched with the train and made seven miles. Got in to camp at two P.M. Weather cloudy but not much rain.

March 3, 1865. Started this morning at seven oclock and marched with the train and made twelve miles. Reached Chesterfield Court house. Got in to camp at ten oclock at night. Our regiment is on picket to night.

March 4, 1865. This morning started out a forageing and got a head of the advance guard and got arested and held all day and night. Weather cloudy and some rain. Marched ten miles to day. Crossed the Jumper [*might be Juniper*] Creek this morning.

March 5, 1865. Have been in camp all day. Was released from arest to day noon.

March 6, 1865. Started this morning at seven oclock and marched fifteen miles. Crossed the river Pee dee at Cheraw. Saw Gen'l Francis Marion's grave Cheraw cemetery. Weather fair and warm.

March 7, 1865. Started this morning at six oclock and marched thirteen miles and stopped for the night at the Willmington rail road. Tore up some of the

track. Weather fair and warm.

March 8, 1865. Started to day at one oclock P.M. and marched seven miles. Was clear on the rear of the Corps. Got in to camp at eleven oclock P.M. It has rained steady all day.

March 9, 1865. Broke camp at half past six and marched twelve miles. It began to rain about three oclock this afternoon and rained steady until eight P. M.

March 10, 1865. Started to day at noon and made about three miles. have crossed a good deal of swamp. Crossed the Lumber river [*in North Carolina*] to day. Weather cloudy with some rain. On picket to night.

March 11, 1865. Started at seven oclock and marched twelve miles and got in to camp at four oclock in the morning. Crossed Buffalo & Rockfish creeks to day. We have had to cross a good deal of swamp to day. Weather fair and warm.

March 12, 1865. Started at eleven oclock and marched fourteen miles and stopped for the night at Fayetteville. It is a very pretty town.

March 13, 1865. Left Fayetteville at one P.M. and crossed the Cape fear river and marched four miles. Weather fair and warm.

March 14, 1865. Have laid in camp all day. Weather fair and warm.

March 15, 1865. Started to day at half past three P.M. and marched until five oclock in the morning and made only six miles. It has rained nearly all day and night.

March 16, 1865. Started at seven oclock this morning and did not get in to camp until six the next morning and only made seven miles. The road was very bad to day. Considerable rain to day.

March 17, 1865. Started on again at noon and crossed the South river and made five miles. Weather fair and warm.

March 18, 1865. Started at half past six this morning and made seven miles. Saw Peach and Plum trees in bloom to day. Weather fair and warm. Our regiment is on picket to night.

March 19, 1865. Started at half past six this morning and marched ten miles. Heard considerable cannonading to day on our left. Weather fair and warm. Went on picket to night at two oclock.

March 20, 1865. Was releived at noon. Started on the march at nine P.M. and got in to camp at three A.M. Made five miles. Got in to camp last night at six oclock. Weather to day fair and warm.

March 21, 1865. Started at nine oclock this morning and got to camp at dark and made six miles. Considerable rain to day.

March 22, 1865. Started this morning at six oclock and stopped near the Naise [*probably the Neuse*] river. Marched six miles. Weather fair and warm.

March 23, 1865. Start this morning to Kingston at half past five and stop at sun set and make twenty eight miles. We go for supplies & all of us rides crossed the Naise this morning. Weather fair and warm.

March 24, 1865. Started this morning at six oclock and and went two miles blow [below] Kingston and loaded our train and got back to Kingston to day. Made eleven miles. Weather fair.

March 25, 1865. Started this morning at six oclock and marched twenty miles before we stopped for the night. Went into camp at half past six. Weather fair and warm.

March 26, 1865. Started this morning at six oclock and marched fourteen miles. Reached camp at noon. Weather fair and warm.

March 27, 1865, Have been in camp all day. Are building up our quarters to day. Weather fair and warm.

March 28, 1865. Started this mornin at six oclock after forage - Marched thirty miles in going out and back. Went almost to the rebels camp. Got back at ten P.M. Weather fair and warm.

Narch 29, 1865. Have been in camp all day. Have had some rain.

March 30, 1865. Have been in camp all day. Began to make out the pay rolls this afternoon. Have had considerable rain to day.

April 1, 1865. Have been in camp all day. Have drew clothing to day. Weather fair and warm.

April 2, 1865. Have been to church to day. heard a very good sermon. Weather fair and warm.

April 3, 1865. Have been in camp all day. Nothing of importance has ocured to day. Weather fair and warm.

April 4, 1865. Had an inspection to day. Was inspected by Maj. Gen'l John W Geary in person. Weather fair and warm.

April 5, 1865. Was reviewed to day by Maj Genl Mower. Genl John W Geary presented the Brigade with a nice silk flag. Made a good speech on the presentation of the same. Weather fair and warm.

April 6, 1865. Have been in camp all day. Nothing of importance. Weather fair and warm.

April 7, 1865. Have been to town to day. Had a little rain to night.

April 8, 1865. Have been in camp all day. Nothing of importance. only polic-ing camp. Weather fair but quite cool.

April 10, 1865. Started this morning at daylight and marched twelve miles. The advance has skirmished nearly all day with the enemy. We have had considerable rain to day.

April 11, 1865. Started this morning at half past five oclock and have made fifteen miles. Formed in line of battle & marched so about a mile. Did not get in to a fight. No rain to day on any consequence.

April 12, 1865. Went back five miles to help the train up. The roads were very bad. Stopped at Smithfield last night. Crossed the Neuse river to night and stoped two miles beyond for the night. Made twelve miles to day. Weather fair.

April 13, 1865. Started this morning at six oclock and marched fourteen miles. Got in to camp at ten P.M. Weather fair and warm. Nice country to day.

April 14, 1865. Started this morning six oclock and marched nine miles and stopped for the night near Roleigh. Weather fair and very warm.

April 15, 1865. Went over to the one hundred and twelfth N.Y. to day. Saw some of the boys that I was acquanted with. We have had a good deal of rain to day. *[Although unknown to Andrew, President Lincoln had been shot the night before while attending a play at Ford's Theatre in Washington. He had died this morning on the 15th]*

April 16, 1865. Have been to the city of Raleigh to church day. Text first Timothy, first chapt and fifteenth verse. The sermon was a good one. Rec'd news at ten tonight that Genl Johnson [*Johnston*] had surrendered his whole army. Weather fair.

April 17, 1865. Have been in camp all day. Nothing of importance to day. Weather fair and warm.

April 18, 1865. Nothing of importance to day. Weather fair until evening when we had a very hard shower of rain. *[It has been reported by others that the news was received that President Lincoln had been killed but surprisingly, Andrew made no mention of it in his diary.]*

April 19, 1865. Have been in camp all day. Weather fair and warm.

April 20, 1865. Had a division review to day. I had the command of two of our companies. The review passed off very nicely. Weather fair.

April 21, 1865. Had some rain to day. Nothing of importance to day.

April 22, 1865. Had a corps review in the city of Raleigh to day by Genl Sherman. It passed off tip top. Weather fair.

April 23, 1865. Went over to the 117th N.Y. and saw cousin Andrew Brown. Weather fair and warm to day.

April 24, 1865. Have laid in camp all day. Nothing of importance to day. Only orders to march to morrow after Johnson [*General Joseph Johnston who surrendered his troops to General Sherman on April 25th*].

April 25, 1865. Started on the march this morning at eight oclock and made about ten miles. Weather fair and warm.

April 26, 1865. Have laid in camp all day. Nothing of importance has occurred to day. Weather fair and warm.

April 27, 1865. Have laid still all day. Weather fair and warm.

April 28, 1865. Started for Raleigh this morning at half past four. Got back to our old camp at eleven A.M. Weather fair. Marched ten miles to day.

April 29, 1865. Have laid in camp all day. Had a little rain this evening.

April 30, 1865. Started this morning on our march for Richmon at five oclock and marched fifteen miles. Crossed the Neuse river this afternoon. Got in to camp at dark. Weather fair and warm. Crossed the river at murdow mills.

May 1, 1865. Started this morning at five oclock and marched twenty miles and got in to camp at one P.M. Crossed the Tar river this afternoon. Weather fair.

May 3, 1865. Started this morning at five oclock and marched twelve miles. Passed through Williamsburg [*probably Williamsboro*] this morning. Camped for the night close to Virginia line. Rather fair but not very warm.

May 4, 1865. Started this morning at six oclock and marched twenty two miles. Crossed the Virginia line also the Roanoke river this morning. Rained some this afternoon.

May 5, 1865. Started this morning at six oclock and made eighteen miles. Crossed the Maharien creek [*Meherrin River*] this forenoon. Country splendid to day. Weather very warm.

May 6, 1865. Started this morning at six oclock and marched twelve miles. Crossed the big and little Nottoway creeks. Struck the rail road at black and Whites station.

May 7, 1865. Started this morning at six oclock and made twenty miles. Crossed the Appomattox river this afternoon. Weather fair and warm. Country through which we have passed good.

May 8, 1865. Broke camp at six and made eighteen miles. Had some rain to day. also to night.

May 9, 1865. Broke camp this morning at ten oclock and made twelve miles and camped for the day. Had some rain this afternoon.

May 11, 1865. Broke camp at ten oclock and went in to Richmond at one P.M. Crossed the James river near Libby prison. Stopped about four miles out of the city. Made nine miles to day. Had considerable rain to night.

May 12, 1865. Broke camp at six oclock and eleven miles. Roads very bad to day. Weather fair but quite cool. Stopped for the night at Ashland station.

May 13, 1865. Started at half past six oclock and made twelve miles. Crossed the South Anna and New found rivers. Weather fair but not very warm.

May 14, 1865. Broke camp at five oclock and marched eighteen miles. Crossed the North Anna river this afternoon. Weather fair and warm.

May 15, 1865. Started this morning at five oclock and made eighteen miles. Passed through Spotsylvania Courthouse this forenoon. Crossed the Rapohonnoe [*might have meant Rapidan or Rappahannock*] river this afternoon.

May 17, 1865. Broke camp at six oclock this morning and made fifteen miles. Stopped at night at Brentsville. It has been the warmest day that I have seen this year.

May 19, 1865. Started at six oclock and made fifteen miles. Passed Fairfax station this forenoon. [*rest unreadable*]

May 21, 1865. Have been in camp all day. Have had considerable rain to day. Went and heard a good sermon by the 33rd N.J. Vols. this evening.

May 23, 1865. Weather fair & nothing of any importance.

May 24, 1865. Broke camp at five oclock and started to Washington on the great review. Was reviewed by President Johnson and cabinet. Also Genls Grant and Sherman and others of less importance. Marched about fifteen miles to day. Weather fair.

May 25, 1865. Weather fair and warm.

May 26, 1865. It began to rain this morning and has rained steady all day.

May 27, 1865. Rained all last night and has kept it up all day. It is a cold storm.

May 28, 1865. Moved camp across the rail-road this morning. It has cleared off and to day is fair.

May 29, 1865. Went to Washington to day. Weather fair and warm.

May 30, 1865. Was presented to day by Gov. Fenton a new state and United States flags. They were nice and he made us a good speech. Weather fair.

May 31, 1865. Moved camp again to day across the turnpike. Only a short distance. Weather fair and warm.

June 1, 1865. Weather fair and warm.

June 2, 1865. Weather a continuation of yesterday.

June 3, 1865. Weather fair.

June 4, 1865. Weather fair.

June 5, 1865. A continuation of yesterday.

June 6, 1865. Nothing of importance to day. Weather fair.

June 7, 1865. My birth day to day. Am helping to make out our muster out

rolls. Weather fair. [*Andrew Blood was 28 years old this date.*]

June 8, 1865. Am still to work at our papers. Weather fair.

June 9, 1865. Have finished our musterout rolls to day. Weather fair.

June 10, 1865. Have had some rain this afternoon.

June 11, 1865. Went over this afternoon and was mustered out of the united-states service. Weather fair and warm.

June 12, 1865. Broke camp this afternoon at two oclock to go to Washington to take the cars for home. Took the train at four P.M. Was all night and until eight oclock the next morning getting to Baltimore. Weather fair and warm.

June 13, 1865. Left Baltimore this morning at ten oclock and got to Harrisburg a little before sunset. Weather cool to day but no rain.

June 14, 1865. Made good time all night. Arrived at Elmira at noon to day. Took dinner at the soldiers home. Went in to camp about a mile south of the city. Weather cool to day.

June 15, 1865. Have lain in camp all day. Nothing of importance to day. Weather remains cool.

June 16, 1865. Have lain camp all day. Weather still remains cool.

June 17, 1865. Have lain in camp all day. Have had considerable rain this afternoon. Nothing of importance to day.

June 18, 1865. Nothing of any importance has ocured to day. Have had some rain this afternoon.

June 19, 1865. Weather fair and warm until noon. Had a heavy shower of rain this afternoon.

June 20, 1865. Have had some rain this afternoon.

June 21, 1865. Had some rain to day. Signed our pay rolls this afternoon.

June 22, 1865. Have been looking all day for pay master but he does not come. Went to the theater to the city to night. Weather fair and warm.

June 23, 1865. Got our pay and discharge this afternoon. Started home at six oclock P.M. Got home at one in the morning. Weather fair and warm.

Letter from Andrew David Blood to John Wesley Blood

Note: Original letter was written with lead pencil and the blank spaces are places where the words were so badly erased by time that they could not be transcribed. Andrew would have been 27 years old and was discharged less than 6 months after the letter was written. The letter was transcribed by Audrey M. Waite who has possession of the original which appears to be a piece of wrapping paper that is about 18 inches by 24 inches.

Savannah, Ga., Jan. 1st 1865

Brother Wesley:

It is with pleasure that I sit me down to address you again. My letter will be brief as you will observe that I have but little room on this small sheet. To begin with, I will wish you and all of our folks, a happy New Year and also all of the friends of mine that are there at our home tonight. One thing I wish you all to understand that I have not paper to write upon but I thought I would take a sheet of some size, therefore I will use this. Well the arrived in which, if I live, that I am coming home, a place where I shall be willing to stay and go to the no more if all is well, the ninth month of this year I will be seated with friends around the telling them where I have been and through what dangers I have passed. Would that I were there tonight instead of the beautiful city of Savannah. Beautiful did I say? It is a most splendid place. I have been all over it. It has some beautiful monuments, one is a fine affair I tell you, then it has a splendid fountain in the city park, the city is filled with shade trees, the principal ones being live oak, Sycamore & magnolia, they are handsome and they to the place also neat and large. There is at present but little business being transacted here at the present but it will all be in running order and going on the same as this exception, it was run before by rebels and now by Yankees, as the deacon said "a slight" I want to say I thank God for that difference. Yes Wesley, we are drawing this war to a close..... as our armies can march over it. My opinion is, it is at its death throes months more and they will be dead and peace will reign through this fair land from ocean to ocean and from North to South. Then we can return to our homes and friends to join with them their joys and sorrows.

When peace comes again to our distracted country it will be the happiest day that you brother can march home to meet his parents, his brothers and sisters. When the husband and father can meet his long cherished wife and little ones. When the young man meets her whom he has just joined in the holy bonds of matrimony, and leave her, his darling, to save his country. And last though not least when the lover marches home to the fair lady whose heart has been enshrined within his own for years, when this takes place it will be the happiest day that man ever saw.

This morning at half past ten, I went down to the city to the Presbyterian Church and heard a very good sermon preached by what I suppose was a rebel until our entrance to the city. He was the regular Pastor of the church, his text was a part of the eleventh verse of the fifth chapter of St. James. He was a good speaker and he spoke well, but he did not have a word to say, either in his sermon or his prayers about Old Abe or any of his soldiers and I can tell you there was a host of soldiers there and some pretty

prominent ones, one of which was Major General Sherman and there was one more and that was L. This Presbyterian Church is a large one and a beautiful one. It was crowded full today, all that could be seated. I have also been down to the city this evening to the Baptist Church, an other large and beautiful one, heard another very good sermon by the pastor of the church, his text to be found in Matthew the seventh chapter and the thirteenth and fourteenth verses.

Now please tell me where and what you have been doing today. You have doubtless been in company with some nice young lady. That priveledge has been denied me this year but I do not believe that if I live it will be the next. Are you going to the Academy this fall? You wrote me before I left Atlanta that should go since which I have not heard whether you did or not. One thing I would like to ask and that is have you all forgot that I am off down here in Ga. I should at least think that is the case for I have not heard from you in a long time. One thing more, did my vote get home in time for the election? If so, what did the copperheads have to say. Well Wesley since it is New Years I shall have to tell you what I have had to eat and if you can beat it you can tell me in your next. For breakfast, wheat and Indian pancakes, pork, coffee and sugar. For dinner, Indian meal, coffee and sugar and hard tack, for supper, hard tack, coffee and sugar, so if you will squint close you will see quite a variety, but after all I hardly think it was quite as good as my old mother would have done by me if I could have been there, nor as good as Lydia would have done and still another, I have a faint idea that could I have been with Miss. Fannie today that I should have had better fare than I did here and one thing I do know if I was with that fair lady tonight that I should enjoy myself far better than I do here. I do not wish to have you infer, by what I have said that I am having the worst time in the world, for I am not. Our Regiment is encamped in the city parage grounds just outside the city park. Our duty for the present is provost duty in the city and my being sergeant, I am not called upon very often and therefore as far as I am personally concerned, my duty is very slight. It is about half past ten in the evening and I am seated at my fireplace a writing this short epistle to you. My house is about eleven feet long and eight feet wide, is about five feet to the eaves, is covered with a shelter tent, has got a good bunk in it for three of us to sleep in, has three stools, a table, shelves that answer all purposes for a buttery and some tin plates and cups, with a good birch fireplace with an oven in the bottom for baking purposes. I believe this gives you a pretty good view of the situation. One thing though you have failed to see and that is blankets to cover us nights. All we have got to cover us nights is our overcoats and rubber blankets but it is not as cold here as it is there for as yet the ground is not frozen and we have not seen any snow yet this winter nor do I believe we shall. It is so warm here that there are lots of flies in my shanty. I will bid you good night and I guess you will think it time when I tell you that I began this sheet since dark and have been to the city to an evening meeting.

Tuesday morning, Jan. 3rd. Again I resume my pen or pencil, rather. We have just begun to fortify the city. I was out on detail yesterday. They are building some as large fortifications around this city as you or (I might almost say) anybody else ever saw, to give you a slight insight, I would say that the bottom of the works are thirty feet thick and they are to be from ten to twelve feet high. The ditch in front twelve feet wide and as many deep. These works are to be filled with heavy calibre guns and you can judge what kind of a thing it would be for an enemy to assault. A small force

you will readily discover will be able to hold it.

My bunk mate is Franklin J. Crick and George P. Brown. And now for a little piece of news, George is a black Republican now, until a short time previous he was a McClellanite. I will tell you how he came to get converted. The day that we came into the present camp we was rather short of provisions, and George thought he would go to one of the houses and see if he could buy something, accordingly he started and it appears the first one he run into was a family that previous to our arrival were slaves. He went in and found them almost as white as any of us. Presently there was a young lady entered the room, he inquired if he could get a cake baked there, they told him he could and they went right to work to get it and while they were to work he talked with them, and they told him that they had fed lot of our prisoners and had helped them to get away and so on. When the cake was done he offered to pay them and they would not take a cent for it. The young woman, was about sixteen years old, and very good looking and as white as I am. George came back to camp and here is what he said, Says he, Blood, I went away a Democrat but I have come back an abolithionist, when says he, that a party ask me to vote for to enslave such a people as the young lady I have seen today then, says he, I cease to be one of their number any longer. Says he, I shall vote the ticket no more.

And now for a short account of our march from Atlanta to this place. We started from Atlanta, Tuesday, Nov. fifteenth and went just outside the town and there waited for the wagon train to get straightened out and then went on and stopped that night about one mile from Stone Mountain.

Wednesday Nov. 16 Broke camp this morning at seven o'clock and marched somewhere in the neighborhood of twelve miles. The weather was very good as yet we have not found any thing of any consequence to forage.

Thursday Nov 17, Broke camp this morning at six o'clock and soon after starting I was put on the flanks in charge of five men to keep a sharp look-out so to not get surprised by the enemy as our road runs through a valley and it would be an easy matter for the enemy if they so disposed to charge on our train. We were out until noon and while out there we shot a turkey and took it to camp and it was the fattest one I ever saw. Part of the time we were out a quarter of a mile from the road and part of the time a mile. We passed through one of the prettiest cotton fields today that I have ever seen. We have had a hard march. It is said that we have made twenty miles today.

Friday Nov. 18th. Broke camp this morning at five o'clock and soon came to a little town by the name of Social Circle. I tell you this before the war to all appearances was an aristocratic place. The boys made a break for a store there was here and it was laughable to see them come out, some with their cups full of sorghum and some with their hands full, etc., etc.,

Sat. Nov. 19th. Started on again this morning at five o'clock and passed through a place called Madison. This is a beautiful place and as I said about Social Circle, is has been and perhaps is now a very aristocratic place here. George Brown got him a negroe and he staid with the company until we got almost through when he was turned over to the Government. Our Division was detailed to go off by itself for the purpose of destroying the Rail Road and all Government property that we can find. Stopped tonight on the farm of a Confederate Government contractor and I tell you it was enough to make a cat

laugh to see the boys after his hogs, hens, sheep, potatoes, turnips and finally every thing else that they wanted. There was but little restriction put up on the men. I should think we killed from twenty-five to forty of his hogs and his other things went in the sme proportion and when we left the next morning we burnt his cotton houses and Gin and a large amount of corn that he had gethered together for the rebels. We also destroyed the rail road that runs past him to Augusta.

Sunday Nov. 20th. Started out again this morning at eight o'clock. It has been a bad day but for all of this we can take the sweet potatoes and pork if it does rain. We, along about these days lived well I can tell you give me some sweet potatoes and fresh pork and I shall risk but that I shall get along all right. It has rained pretty much all day. Stop at night at a small place where there is a Confederate Gov't tannery. Stay here all night and in a very pretty piece of woods and the next morning set fire to the tannery and all cotton and cotton gin and then resume our journey.

Monday Nov. 21. Started out this morning at eight o'clock and struck the Milledgeville rail road. It has rained pretty hard all the forenoon. Stop for dinner at an old planters and his things had to suffer I can tell you. Took a Rebel Colonel while here. Do not stop here but a short time and then resume the march again and march until after dark when we camp for the night.

Tuesday Nov. 22nd. Broke camp this morning at eight o'clock then we stop three quarters of an hour for dinner and then go on and stop about five o'clock outside of the town of Milledgeville and form out Co's and march through the Capital of the State of Georgia. We passed through this place by Co. front. I have seen a great many places that was handsomer than this but there is some pretty buildings. The State house is a good one or I should say was a good one. The Milledgeville Hotel is a big one I can tell you. We marches through the city and stopped about a mile from town and go on picket.

I do not know as anything has^v transpied worthy of note therefore pass this day over.

Thursday Nov. 24th 1864. Break camp this morning at seven o'clock and was until noon getting out of the city on the account of waiting for the waggon trains to get out of our way. We march until three P.M. before we stop for dinner and then we have one hour to cook our potatoes and pork, have to get our wood, build our fire and get our water, then cook and eat and whether you believe it or not a man has got to get around about as fast as he knows how. Go on and stop at ten at night. I can tell you the eatables have to suffer in our locality were ever we go. We are having the very best of weather. As yet we have not found any of the rebels.

Friday Nov. 25, 1864. Start this morning at eight o'clock and march through a splendid country until noon when we stop for dinner. The rebels are in our front as we can hear them skirmishing pretty sharp out in the swamp that is right ahead of us. They have burned the bridges that have crossed the swamp. We do not move again until dark. We are waiting for the Engineers to repair the road so that we can get across. At dark we start and cross the swamp. There are nine good sized bridges in the space of a mile. We went about two miles before stopping for the night. Camp of a steep side hill.

Saturday Nov. 26th, 1864 Started this morning at six o'clock and went very slow as our forces are a skirmishing with the enemy. They are driving them right along as though they were so many sheep. We don't make but six miles until noon. Stop for dinner at a little town called Sandersville. It is a very pretty place. Stop here a couple of hours and then resume our march. Go about six miles and camp for the night on the rail road. You will at once perceive that this on his side is nothing more nor less than a memorandum of our march from Atlanta and when I began it I intended to have given it all the way through, thinking perhaps it would be a little interesting to you but as I have only a half sheet of this small paper I shall have to wait until I can get hold of a sheet of suitable size and then I will finish it. I am forced to close for the want of room. I remain as ever, A.D. Blood to J.W. Blood.

P. S. I would thank you for some postage stamps. Please tell all the family to write and also my friends if any.

N. B. I have not received a letter from any of you at home for a long time.

COPIES ON PAGES OF ANDREW BLOOD'S DIARY

