

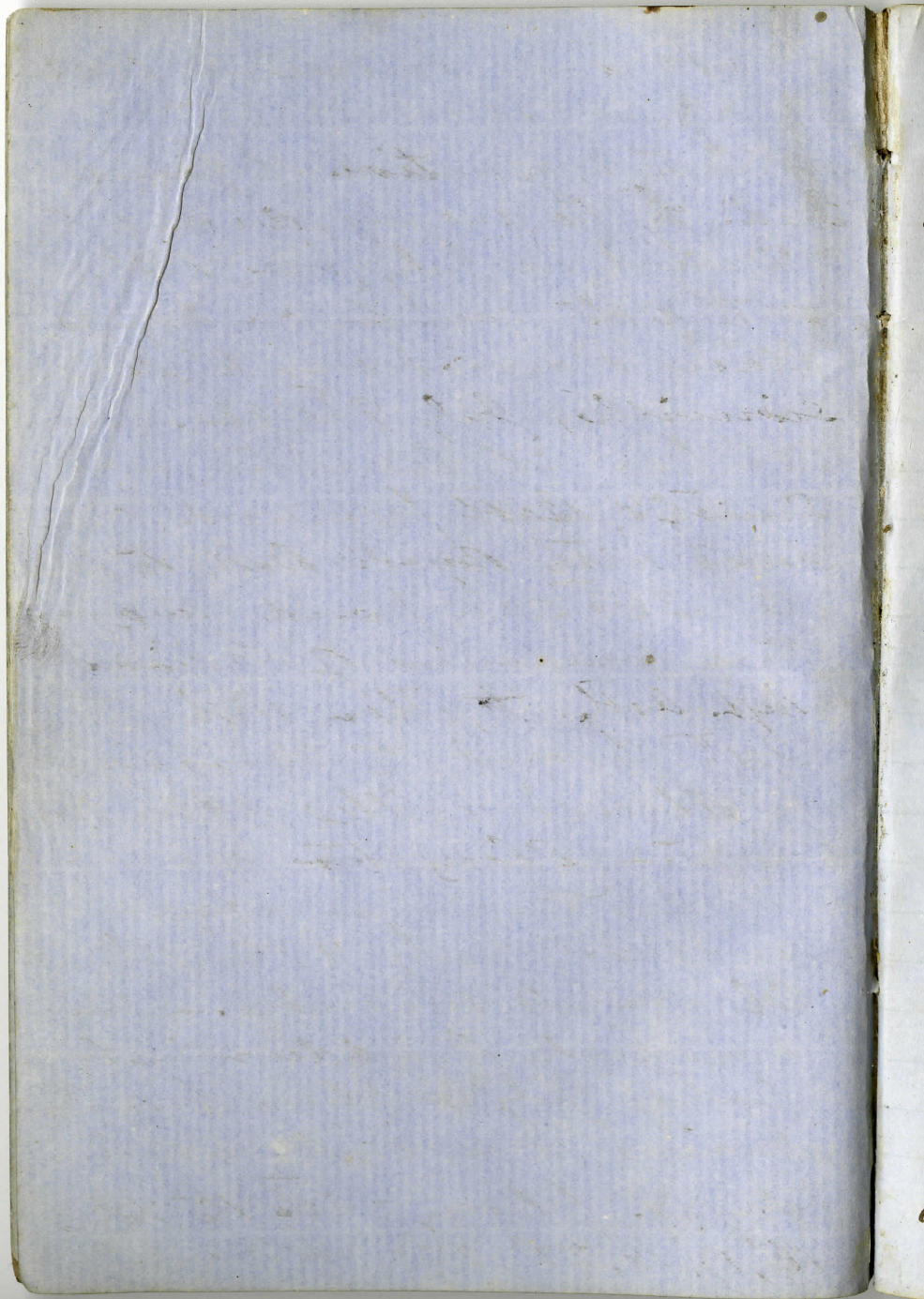
From July 1862

to

Nov 1863

THE CITADEL

ARCHIVES AND MUSEUM





Notes - Private. - 1862

After the evacuation of James  
Isld. by the enemy, during the  
1<sup>st</sup> week in July, our Regt.  
struck its camp on Royal's  
Place & moved over to Seces-  
sionville, July 9<sup>th</sup> 1862. The  
57<sup>th</sup> Gen. Col. Slaughter, with  
Smith's Batt. (afterwards com-  
bined with Byrd's Batt. to form  
the 26<sup>th</sup> S.C.V.) and two, or  
three, companies of Lamson's  
Regt. Arty. together with the  
24<sup>th</sup> formed the Garrison  
of Secessionville after this  
date. - Slaughter was or-  
dered to Virginia about the  
middle of July & the 1<sup>st</sup> S.C.V.  
Col. Sanford succeeded. - Sanford  
was made Brigadier in latter  
part of July & Glover promoted.  
During the second week in  
August, Glover, with the ~~15<sup>th</sup>~~ 15<sup>th</sup>  
16<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup>, 22<sup>d</sup>, 23<sup>d</sup>, Holcombe Legions,

James' Batt. Bryce's Battery, &  
other troops, with Genls.  
Evans & Drayton, were ordered  
from our camp to be.

Subsequently Smith's Batt.  
was ordered to Adams Run,  
& the 8<sup>th</sup> Geo. Batt. substituted,  
since which time up to  
this date (Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> 1862)  
the garrison of Secessionville  
has been composed of the  
one Regt. (24<sup>th</sup>) Me Infy.  
Batt. (8<sup>th</sup> Geo.) & one batt.  
of the Arty. Regt. Col. James's,  
which was charge of the  
guns at Fort Sumter. —  
I have been for the most in  
command, Col. Stevens  
comdg. the field. — On the  
11<sup>th</sup> of Augst. ordered to one  
of a board of examiners —  
got a short furlough on  
the 13<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup>, on which  
latter day brought my family,  
to the & Frank, to City of



Took rooms at Mill House  
Board at first met at St.  
Johnson but removed to city  
after first week's work.  
In the city until the 13<sup>th</sup> of  
Oct. ordered back to  
Least. — 14<sup>th</sup> my birth-  
day. 25 Today — Rode  
over to the city / spent a  
short time during the  
afternoon with Artie  
at the Charleston Hotel.

17<sup>th</sup> & 18<sup>th</sup> Oct. Moved Artie &  
Grand to Columbia &  
secured board at Dr. Jeff.  
Goodway's, \$100 pr. month,  
wife, child (18<sup>mo</sup> old) & two  
servants. Night of 18<sup>th</sup>  
left Columbia for Ch.  
Nov. 11<sup>th</sup> bur daughter, the  
second, born, & I got the  
intelligence of it on the eve-  
ning of the 12<sup>th</sup> at P.O. in  
city.

Nov. 17 - Monday - Rode

over to it - Stopped at Mr  
Sage's - I'm sick fur long -  
Inflammation of the neck of  
The bladder. -

Nov. 18 - Left Cay's at  
night & took cars for Cham-  
ber at 8<sup>30</sup> PM. Arrived  
at D. G.'s at 6 AM. on  
Nov. 19<sup>th</sup>. - On the 6<sup>th</sup>  
of Dec. Billy baptised down  
our little daughter, Susan  
McSib. - Evening of the  
6<sup>th</sup> started for Decaturville  
& arrived on Sunday at  
noon. -

7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, & 9<sup>th</sup> very cold. -  
Jenny (9) had. First visited the  
Isle & dined with us.

Dec. 10 - Clear & cold - nothing  
of interest occurs.  
Col. Stevens left last  
for Pendleton, having heard  
of the illness of his son  
Hamilton. - Mrs Ach.



for Augst. Oct. & Nov.  
presented by my friend  
Holmes & Co. 7.

Your gun boats reported  
in Stone today - two above  
& two below Battery Isd.

Dec. 11<sup>th</sup>

Clear & cold morning.  
Palmer & self rode to  
city as witnesses in  
case of Spears, William  
son & Bushman. -  
Dined with Bowie. -

Dec. 12<sup>th</sup>

Clear & pleasant. -  
Morning paper reports  
enemy attempting to  
cross the Rappahannock  
river, but repulsed.  
Last night, a year  
ago, I spent the night  
on "Clark's Bay" as  
Lt. Col. of the 1st Regt.  
S.C.M. with Detachment  
of men on reconnoitering

Forty - Saw the grt.  
fire in Charleston. -

Dec. 13 -

Saturday - Clear, but  
warm - an Indian  
Summer morning. -  
Inspection day. - Four  
letters from Fort Mifflin, written  
on Wednesday, Thursday &  
Friday -

Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>

Order to get Regt. ready  
to march - four days rations,  
two tents to a company, & two  
to field & staff -  $74^{\frac{1}{2}}$ ,  $25^{\frac{1}{2}}$ <sup>38</sup>  
The Co. with Putnam's, waited  
some when the Battery - when  
to, at this writing & am.  
do not know. - Pleasant  
day morning. - Pickets at  
Ligon's shelled by enemy's Gun-  
Boat lying off Battery Ined.  
Got the order to move to the N.  
E. P. R. Depot at 8 $\frac{1}{2}$  P.M. Regt.  
left Secessionville, six hundred  
effective men, about, at 11 $\frac{1}{2}$



P.M. Marched to depot by 3 1/2  
all on the 15<sup>th</sup> -

16<sup>th</sup>

Took the 24<sup>th</sup> till 2 P.M. to  
get off - Cars same, & many  
of them used had to be unloaded.  
Loaded of boxes up to the  
Kingston & of the transfer  
advance on W. & W. R.R.

Dec. 16<sup>th</sup> at 2 P.M. got to Wilmington -  
Barracked about one mile  
from the city -

Dec 17 ordered to move near the  
city & W. & W. R.R. Marched  
to Camp Lamb, & received order  
to proceed with the 24<sup>th</sup> & a  
Bristol's Light Battery to the  
North East river, at the  
point where it is crossed  
by the R.R. bridge. The pro-  
tection of R.R. Bridge  
arrive at about 3 P.M.  
by R.R. Relieve the  
guard at the Bridge, & dis-  
pose of the artillery at the

ferry & the bridge - send Co.  
 "A" beyond our outpost pd.  
 bivouac for the night - no  
 news - no papers - saw differ-  
 ent from the life at Richmon-  
 dle - ah! how different from  
 the life among Lee's side! -

Dec. 18. Dispose of the force under my  
 command for the defence of the  
 bridge more perfectly. - Ride with  
 Austin, Ogier & Palmer, first across  
 the river to the outpost & then  
 to a mill-race, on this side. -  
 A report, at night, that we  
 are ordered forward, perhaps  
 to a point as near Goldstone,  
 as possible, with a view to  
 cooperating with Genl. Gil<sup>d</sup> Smith's  
 army, at Goldstone. - Smith  
 succeeded Evans, from  
 Richmond - 25<sup>th</sup> = 5.00. + 46<sup>th</sup> = 2.00.  
 Pass on up the road. - Addison,  
 Jr. Mch. Supt. returns from Wil-  
 mington, & brings news of our



great victory on the Papahannock,  
to the surprise of the enemy at  
Goldston by Genl. Smith.

Dec. 19. No orders yet - 10 x 20<sup>m</sup> a.m.  
Sent adv. to town, 9 miles - I am  
writing in front of my tent, while  
the band, at the Dept. Prosnac,  
is playing - a truly noble piece of music.  
The soldier's life! Here we are -  
waiting orders - It may be  
forward, or back ward, or halt!  
God's providence is the sure  
retreat - In this good cause I com-  
mit my dear wife, my little ones,  
& go on to the conflict for right  
& justice; for independence. -

Dec. 20<sup>th</sup> Saturday -

Orders to move to Magnolia to  
the support of Genl. S. W. Smith  
countermanded in consequence  
of the enemy's retiring from  
the R. R. Rode into city in  
answer to summons from  
Genl. Smith - Genl. wishes to

knowing I desire to be ac-  
quainted from duty here. I  
express<sup>ed</sup> my satisfaction with  
my post, & said I was ready to  
take any post, to which the  
orders of my superiors in  
the service assigned me.  
It is a principle with me  
not to influence my own  
position - My life, under  
God's providence, is in the  
keeping & subject to the  
orders of my country -  
Agier & myself spent the  
night in Wilmington -  
Got Father's first letter since  
at Wilmington -

21<sup>st</sup> Sunday -

Very cold - Another letter  
from my cherished wife -  
A cold ride to the Beacon  
on the N. E. R. No definite  
news - An unprofitable



Sabbath -

22<sup>d</sup>

Still no news & very cold -  
Oriston & I ride down to  
the Island Creek & across  
to the Main Island road, &  
down to the sound - a  
beautiful view of the  
sea. - A letter from my  
wife. All well. Thank God -  
Col. Stevens returns to us after  
a long period of detached  
duty. -

23<sup>d</sup>

The Wilmington Journal  
brings Genl. Lee's report of  
the battle of Fredericksburg  
on the 13<sup>th</sup> inst. - & telegraph  
news from the north. This  
a most charming day.  
Col. S. & I take a long  
ride - across the Ferry  
to Lane's Ferry, some  
9 or 10 miles distant.  
Col. Planters on the

The rivers lie beautifully  
stream to produce well. -  
Cann is the main crop  
with a large proportion  
of groundnuts. The crops  
are generally very good, &  
in fine order. -  
Bowie, Ojia, Palmer &  
I have an Egg of 11. One.

24<sup>th</sup>

25<sup>th</sup> Open Camp. -

Christmas! Victor & I rode  
into Wilmingtn. - Dined in  
camp. - Off again at night. -  
Lt. Col. Purley, 25<sup>th</sup> Lt. rode  
out to camp with me, & dined.

27<sup>th</sup> Attention called to account  
of Legislation (S.C.) appealing the  
action of the Ex. Council in ap-  
pointing the field officers of  
the 2<sup>nd</sup> & giving authority to the  
Regt. to elect. - Col. Stevens & I



assign - Major Saunders  
assigned previously, ill health.

28<sup>th</sup>

Col. Stevens & self rode down  
to Idd. Creek, & selected points  
on which to throw up field  
works, in order to strengthen the  
position as an out-Post Sta-  
tion.

29-

Went down to Idd. Creek, 5 miles,  
& lay out a Redoubt on Brady's  
hill, to work Jones' Co. "E." pro-  
gress considerably towards its  
completion.

30<sup>th</sup> Finished Redoubt, & lay out on  
Mrs. Blake's hill a simple  
field work & begin the same.  
Jones Co. "E" already Applied  
Co. "C".

31<sup>st</sup> Work on curtain & flanks  
of the work at Blake's hill.

Jan 2

January 1<sup>st</sup> 1863

See Diagram above, on  
the side of Creek.

Finish earth work, & cut  
road <sup>through</sup> swank connecting  
the batteries, & begin clearing  
up swamp in front of the  
Block work so as to give a  
command of the Bridge, crossing  
Red Creek. - Complete this  
work. -

Jan. - 2<sup>d</sup>

Our Brigade moving back  
to Charleston - 24<sup>th</sup> ordered  
to be ready. - Artillery Co. 2<sup>d</sup>  
with axes go down & open  
the way to the bridge, in  
front of the Brady battery. The  
falling of a tree occasioned  
a severe accident to my  
left leg. - No bones broken  
only a laceration. - Transfor-  
tation for Regt. ready. - Will  
move at 9 am. tomorrow.  
So ordered, an dress Parade. -



July 3<sup>d</sup> Rise at 5 - move at 9.

I accept invitation to ride in  
buggy with neighbor Nutt -  
leg very sore & stiff. Half way  
to Wilmington the 74<sup>th</sup> is stopped  
by order from Whiting (send  
to him back, Genl. Beauregard  
regard having ordered tel-  
egram that the troops must  
delay the movement from  
this point. - This in con-  
sequence of a dispatch  
from Genl. Geo. Smith, sent  
in cipher, & read by Beaure-  
gard - Genl. Whiting believes  
advance of enemy in this  
city - Think not - I think on  
Sredston or Weldon, if at  
all. - Take lunch with Mr.  
Nutt, & ride back with him  
to his house & spend the  
night. - A very pleasant  
evening, notwithstanding the  
leg. - Was a matter of course  
I will record the friends I saw

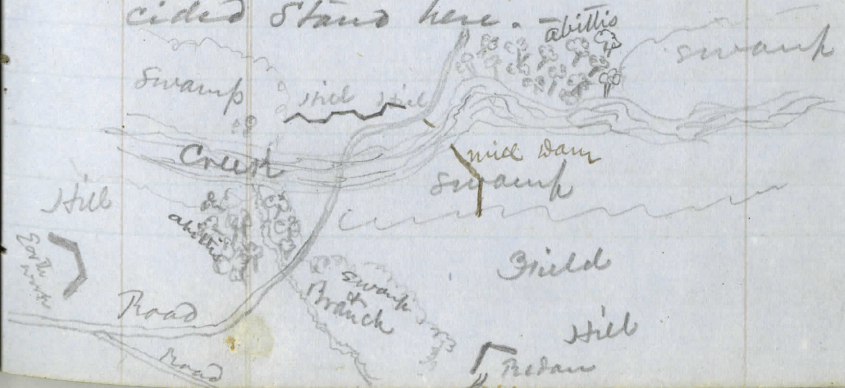
today, in Wilmington: -  
 1 yr. brass Gutta serena 6.00  
 1 working leather belt 5.00  
 1- basket crinoline 4.00  
 Irish 4.00  
 1 yr. silk brown pins 1.50  
 1 Hand silk Stock 2.00  
 2 packages envelopes .50  
 writing paper for Quire 2.00  
 £1.50

+  
 July 4<sup>th</sup>

Sunday - After breakfast,  
 tid good morning to kind  
 friends and walk part of the  
 way to camp, riding with the  
 main body with two of the  
 ladies on their way through  
 Saul. Whipping with us there  
 we must look out for the  
 enemy, whom he believes to be  
 advancing from Newbern  
 on this place. - a very  
 pleasant day so far.



July 13<sup>th</sup> I write this note while in the  
 swamp, just beyond Isld. Creek -  
 20<sup>th</sup> of 4 P.M. This has been a  
 lovely day - It is now a most  
 charming ~~afternoon~~ afternoon. - I have  
 been constantly employed during  
 the past week, and am now so,  
 in throwing up an earth work  
 across Gray's field, in advance  
 of the batteries I erected the week  
 before the last - The men are now  
 engaged on the two last faces, &  
 hope to complete it tomorrow - ~~They~~  
 The left nets in a heavy swamp, &  
 the right in an abittis of fallen  
 timber, now being felled, and  
 an infracticable, swampy coun-  
 try. - We expect to make a de-  
 cided stand here.



Since writing the last note <sup>the news of</sup> Genl - the  
Bragg's great conflict in the week  
has reached me! Poor Kingman  
has died - Vicksburg has ac-  
tually fallen into the hands again, & in  
her defence Paul Hamilton, my  
noble pupil, has shed his noble  
blood! Brother Grant was  
mourned on the 1<sup>st</sup> by Bich. -

Jan'y 21<sup>st</sup>

Since writing last the most  
interesting occurrence which  
has transpired was the  
capture of the wrecked steamer  
Leahurst off Macomb's  
Sound - She was taken &  
surrendered to Col. Lamb of  
St. Fisher, 12 officers & 35 sea-  
men prisoners. - The weather  
for the past three days  
has been unsettled and  
very unpleasant - We have  
no definite news from the  
enemy. - He is moving from



Newbern in some direction,  
but where, or in what  
force, we are unsure. -

Yesterday & the day before  
I was engaged in cutting  
a road through the  
woods, connecting the  
Ferry with the R. R. Bridge  
on the north east, at  
this point. -

Sunday Night - Jan. 25<sup>th</sup>.

A clear, pleasant day,  
after a west gale, wind &  
rain. - The enemy sent a force  
of Cavalry, artillery & Infantry  
estimated at 1500 as far as  
within four miles of New  
Court House, on yesterday  
week. - This party was fired  
into by Cavalry & killed. - A  
Refugee from New Head City  
reports to Genl. Whiting that  
the enemy is awaiting fair  
weather to attack the city. -

Today I have attended first the  
Regimental Inspection, & after  
dinner took a ride up the De-  
plin Road some 8 miles with  
Col. Stevens. - Got back at sun-  
set. - Yesterday morning I shot  
a Deer hunt. - Started Co. deer  
but he ran by my stand without  
my seeing him. - Day before  
yesterday, planked the North East  
R. R. Bridge. - I am quite  
well tonight. -

X Tuesday - July 27<sup>th</sup> 1862 -

A warm day - Wind  
from the ~~west~~<sup>South</sup> - Nothing  
of interest transpired since  
last note. - Today is the day  
fixed for my family to move  
from Columbia to Cherry Grove,  
via Charleston - May God's good  
providence shield them. -

Wednesday - 28<sup>th</sup>

In Dist. Davis' date



message he alludes, most  
touchingly, to the devotion of  
our noble and patriotic  
women to the great cause  
of our independence, &  
says in concluding: "In the  
homes of our noble and de-  
voted women, without whose  
sublime sacrifices our  
success would have been  
impossible, the noise of  
the loom and the spinning  
wheel may be heard through-  
out the land". - In my ex-  
perience I have found this to  
be literally so - In our Regt-  
ment within a few days past,  
during which clothing has  
been issued to the men from  
The Ins. Dist's Dept. many of  
our men <sup>were</sup> clad in the  
homespun, spun & made,  
in most instances, by their  
wives & sisters, and in all  
cases, in their immediate

neighborhood. - Two of our  
companies, from Edgefield,  
were entirely clad in such.  
I have met men who had  
not on a single imported  
or Yankee made article;  
hat, shirt, drawers, coat,  
pants, socks, gloves &  
shoes, all made at home. -  
There is a most interesting  
character in this neigh-  
borhood, living on Seld.  
Creek, with whom I  
have been most interested.  
She is an old <sup>widow</sup> lady, say  
50, who lives by herself, ex-  
cept when a little niece  
spends a short while with  
her, her two sons, the only  
children she has, being pri-  
vatis in one of the North  
Carolina Regts. - She showed  
me their daguerrestypes



taken in their homespun  
uniforms, and they are  
fine looking young men.  
This noble old woman,  
spins & weaves their clothing,  
& knits their socks & flaps.  
By her industry, she man-  
ages to take in sewing  
sufficient to defray her  
expenses, with what little  
aid her brave boys afford  
her. — One of them, she told  
me, had been in sixteen  
engagements with the enemy  
and had not been hurt —  
May God spare their lives to  
be a blessing & a comfort  
to the old age of their noble  
mother.

Sunday - Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> 1863 -  
a cloudy morning. — Since  
the 28<sup>th</sup> of last month, the  
sun

news from the North is cheering. - Indications of a peace movement at the North are decided. - Yankee correspondents writing from Europe think an acquiescence a foregone conclusion. Burnside has resigned. - Horace Greely has openly declared his want of confidence in the ability of his people to maintain the struggle. - Some of the papers are openly calling for peace, & the fearless Vallandigham has sounded the call in thunder tones, in the House Congress. - May God continue to bless - Yesterday, heard of the safe arrival of my family in Charleston, & of their being en route for Perry



↑ Home, via. Pinebluffs. — † Our  
camp was enlivened on  
yesterday by the news that our  
troops had captured a Gun  
Boat in Stone River; an old  
station, and at night, by  
the glorious news that our  
Gun Boats, the Chicora &  
Palmetto State, had tri-  
umphantly driven the  
Blockading Squadron from  
the Charleston Harbor,  
sinking two vessels & firing  
a third! — The rascals had  
taken a vessel a few days  
ago bringing in a valuable  
cargo for the South, consisting  
of 900 tons; being Machine  
Guns. — The month of  
January has been signal-  
ized by our successes over the  
Giant Gun Boats and Trans-  
ports! on the 1<sup>st</sup> of Jan-

Sul. Majudin recaptured  
Galveston, Texas, taking the  
enemy's gun boat Hornet  
L'aine, causing the burning of  
the Westfield, and the  
retreat of the entire fleet from  
the harbor - Shortly after  
the enemy's boat Hatticas  
made out at a "strange sail",  
from the enemy's fleet on  
the Gulf, and was sunk  
by the Strange, who is now  
supposed to be the Laine.

Sul. Wheeler & Morgan have  
been sinking the enemy's  
transports in the Cambri-  
land & capturing & destroying  
his vessels of war. - The  
steamer Columbia, 7 guns,  
went ashore off Mesquite  
Inlet, in this state, & was  
captured, with 48 prisoners.  
At Cherulau, the pro.



Q. Smith was captured in the  
stern on Friday, and in yester-  
day morning, the 31<sup>st</sup> ultimo.  
Mr. John Clark's sloop took two of  
the Blockaders, & dispersed  
the rest. -

+ x x x x

11<sup>th</sup> of February - My precious  
wife's birth day! A clear  
& spring-like morning - most  
lively. My spirit prays that  
the angel of my heart may live  
to bless me for many, many  
birth days to come. - On  
her last birth day we dined  
together at Mr. Yeardon's in  
Charleston - I was then  
in command of the Camp  
of Instruction in St. An-  
drews Parish. - On that  
birth day season - God  
blessed our love & we  
were happy together, but

today finds us separated,  
by long miles. - But we  
both feel that God's good  
providence is over us, &  
by his gracious care we  
hope to be again united.  
Amen & Amen!

During the  
past few days the Previ-  
dence of an attack on  
Wilmington have become  
much less pointed, &  
our attention is now drawn  
to Charleston & Savannah,  
by the collection (reported)  
of a large fleet of trans-  
ports, gun boats & Iron  
Clads, at Beaufort S.C.  
Of this we have the report  
of the Correspondents of the  
Northern papers from  
St. Royal, and of scouts &c  
who have penetrated the



with Moultrie, Maitland & Culpeper's Battalions.

enemy's lines, beside the appearance of the "Iron sides" off Charleston, & the attack of the "Mantua" on the Battery at Lewis Point. The large force which has been threatening us from New Bern & Morehead city, ~~is~~<sup>is</sup> supposed to have gone to Beaufort S.C. & the Commodore referred to expects other troops. - Our Brigade (25<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup>, Nelson's Bn. S.C.V. & 46<sup>th</sup> Sev.) are moving. The ~~two~~<sup>25<sup>th</sup></sup> ~~of~~<sup>of</sup> N. B. have gone & the remainder expect to leave this week. Genl. Beauregard expects an attack on one, or both, of the cities. - My friend, & immediate commander, Col. Stevens, has heard of the death of his gallant brother

Lieut. W. H. Stevens C. S. M.

He died in defense of the  
C. S. S. "Cotton", on The Red River,  
about the 18<sup>th</sup> of July. He  
was a noble spirit.

Camp near Pocotaligo, S. C.  
Febry - 20<sup>th</sup> 1863. -

The 24<sup>th</sup> left Wil-  
mington on the evening of the  
12<sup>th</sup> inst. & arrived at Ch-  
arleston at 12 M. on the  
13<sup>th</sup>. - Camped on the Citadel  
Green - I stoped at St-  
Stephens, got horse of Dutch-  
man & rode on to Cherry Lane,  
where I met my precious  
family, quite well. Thank  
God. I spent Saturday & Sunday  
left Sunday Morning at 3 -  
our camp on The Green was  
a pleasant one. - We were  
ordered to move to Pocotaligo



in the morning of the 18<sup>th</sup> & left  
Camp at 6 3/4 P.M. embarking  
at Sav. R.R. Depot at 8 P.M.  
& arriving at Proctorville at 1  
a.m. on the 19<sup>th</sup>. - We are  
now (20<sup>th</sup>) encamped at on  
the main stage road from  
Salkahatchie to Coosawhatchie  
& about one mile from Pro-  
ctorville station. - We have no  
definite news of the enemy.  
I understand their force at  
Hilton Head & on the Islds.  
amounts to 20,000 - The in-  
dications of dissatisfaction at  
in the North West are very  
evident, if reliance can be  
placed in the representations  
of the Press. - May God's pro-  
vidence so ordain events as to  
bring them all to bear upon  
the mind & heart of our en-  
emy & insure a speedy end

to our troubles & give us  
an honorable peace. - Here  
we are commanded by  
Brig. Genl. Walker, who was  
so promoted for gallant  
& meritorious conduct at  
the Battle of Pocotaligo,  
fought & won by the troops  
under his command on  
the 21<sup>st</sup> of October 1862.  
Our camp is pitched on the  
spot occupied by Elford's  
Regt. of "Reserves", whose time  
of service, three months, having  
expired, has gone home! Genl.  
Beauregard & the Sec. of War  
feeling the necessity of re-  
taining the "Reserves" in ser-  
vice during the present  
emergency, telegraphed the  
Gov. to permit the same.  
The latter referred the mat-  
ter to the Legislature, &



that body, actually permitted  
the disbanding of light well  
armed Regts. of So. Cal. troops  
in the very face of the enemy,  
whose threats of attack are  
more serious than ever  
before! The Gov. in his pro-  
clamations dated the 18<sup>th</sup> inst.  
calls out the Militia of the  
State in the stead of the Reserves.  
The Reserves were raised by the  
"Gov. & Council" for the de-  
fence of the State. The Gov.  
calls out all persons be-  
tween the ages of 16 & 18 and  
40 & 50 years of age. — I  
noticed Genl. Magruder's suc-  
cess at Salorston & since that  
note was made, the Texas papers  
give an account of the raising  
of the Blockade at Sabine Pass  
by Maj. Watkins, under  
Genl. M's orders. — The enemy's

vessels, a ship & schooner,  
were captured, & the former  
destroyed. -

x x x x x

Camp of Detachment 24<sup>th</sup> S.C.V.  
at Ballanville, on Cambaker  
& Ashpoor Ferry Road, March  
10<sup>th</sup> 1863. -

Ordered to this point  
by Genl. Walker, with 200 men  
of the 24<sup>th</sup>, (cos. "F.", "G." & "H.")  
to support the batteries on  
the Cambaker & Ashpoor Rivers  
& the works on the peninsula  
between. - Nothing of any  
great importance has trans-  
pired since my last note.  
We are still in ignorance  
as to the enemy's designs  
on our coast - Ft. M. de la Riviere  
has been bombarded, &  
has again repelled the at-  
tack - We hear through

on the 6<sup>th</sup> inst. -



northern papers of difficulties  
among the enemy on our  
Coast. Hunter & Foster quar-  
rel, & go to Washington to settle  
the dispute - Foster is order-  
ed back to Newbern - In  
the west, the enemy's Iron clad  
Boats "Queen of the West", & "In-  
dianola" have been captured.  
Van Dorn has vanquished the  
enemy near Nashville, taking  
a quantity of stores, & upwards  
of 3000 prisoners - The tel-  
egram reports the advance of  
Banks on "Fort Hudson", & Rose  
Krauz on Bragg. - The peace  
party at the north & west are  
quiet - The Abolition Congress  
went out of power, & ~~gave~~  
leaving to Lincoln the right  
to suspend the Habeas Corpus,  
at will, & making him in  
fact, a military Dictator. God

alone knows how this great  
conflict will end. Our en-  
emies are made, & their  
counsels are like the counsels  
of children. A firm &  
steady defence is still called  
for at our hands - I give  
my share of it, relying upon  
God. - Sorry to see Genl.  
D.W. Smith resign - & the Council  
of Inquiry acquit Genl. Evans,  
of fruitless charges. -

In my private affairs  
all is well, thank God - My  
family, at every home, in  
health, & I am in better  
flesh & health than ever be-  
fore. - "In thee! do I trust, O!  
God - Strengthen my heart. -

March 29<sup>th</sup> 1863

Since writing  
last no very important  
fact has transpired.



By Genl. Walker's order I assumed command of all the troops between Ashepoot & Combahie Rivers, including those at the Ferry (Combahie) on the 16<sup>th</sup> inst. - Co. "D" 24<sup>th</sup> T.C.V. had been added to my command which now included the following troops:  
Cos. "F", "H", "I" & "D" 24<sup>th</sup> T.C.V.  
Co. B. 1<sup>st</sup> Batta S. & S.S.  
3 Cos. 5<sup>th</sup> S.C.V. Cavalry  
Capt. Bomer's Battery H. Art.  
& one piece Frazier's H. Battery with the fixed Batteries in Ashepoot & Combahie. - In the West the enemy made a several attacks on Ft. Hutson & were repulsed, two of their vessels, the Brooklyn & Monongahela passed the Battery - Banks' land forces advanced but failed to attack. - An expedition

up the Yazoo has failed to  
accomplish anything of  
great importance, & the  
Prosecutor has not yet  
intimated his designs.  
In No. Ca. Genl. D. St. Hill  
advanced against the en-  
emy at Newbern, but with  
what results is not cer-  
tainly known by me. We  
hope that the enemy in  
our front are moving  
in the direction of Edisto Idl.  
as it is reported. My out-  
posts have reported for the  
past four mornings a ce-  
sation of lights & drums  
on St. Helena, where Fortin's  
troops were encamped. I  
have <sup>been</sup> busy, since coming  
here, at work on the  
Redoubt at Cambridge Ferry,  
& strengthening the position at  
Stoche's cove-way, on the Char-  
low Road. Since



writing the above I have  
sidden up to Green Pond  
Station & learned by Telegram  
from Genl. Haggood, Comdr.  
2<sup>d</sup> Mil Dist. that the enemy's  
fleet in North Edisto landed  
two Regts. on Seabrook's  
Isld. yesterday evening. -  
Our Pickets captured a  
Sgt. & one private, yesterday  
of these Regts. This is the  
most pointed demonstra-  
tion the enemy has yet  
made, & it may indicate  
his intention against  
Charleston. This has been  
a day of almost constant  
rain, with some thunder  
lightning, in the early part  
of it.

Hd. Qs. Fort Mifflinville

April 9<sup>th</sup> 1863

Since writing my last note the  
enemy has clearly indicated  
his design against Charle-  
ston, & the 24<sup>th</sup> S. C. has been ori-

ded to her defence. On the  
4<sup>th</sup> inst. Genl. Stagg, Comd. the  
2<sup>d</sup> Mil. Dist. telegraphed to Genl.  
Walker that four of the enemy's  
iron turreted boats were in the  
North Edisto, & subsequently,  
on the 5<sup>th</sup>, he reported their  
departure, bound in direction  
of Charleston. - I was ordered  
by telegram from Genl. Walker  
to move with the four com-  
panies of the 24<sup>th</sup> & the Na-  
poleon Gun of Austin's Battery,  
at 1/4 to 3. a.m. on 4<sup>th</sup> to  
Green Pond Station for  
transportation to Charleston.  
Had to wait until 4 P.M.  
on the 5<sup>th</sup> for train. - On  
the morning of the 5<sup>th</sup> a  
telegram passed the  
Green Pond Station from Genl.  
Beauregard to Genl. Mur-  
cer reporting the enemy's  
iron turreted boats off the Ch.  
Riv. & a landing of troops



on Coler's Boat Fields. - I  
got to Charleston <sup>at Sw. Depot</sup> at sunset  
on the 5<sup>th</sup>, proceeded to point  
on The St. Johns Road, J.I.  
opposite Secessionville, & was  
accommodated for the night - on the  
6<sup>th</sup> moved over & took up an  
old camping ground at  
Secessionville. - Col. Stevens  
Comd. East. Jo. Field. & I the  
part of Secessionville &  
the 24<sup>th</sup>. New Stationed here  
the 24<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> Leo. Batt. & a  
Batt of the 2<sup>d</sup> Regt. S.C.V.  
artillery, Lt. Col. Brown -  
On the morning of the 6<sup>th</sup>  
Lt. Col. Rhett. of S. Carolina tel-  
graphed to Col. Stevens  
that eight Iron Batts &  
the Iron sides had crossed  
the Bar, & were lying off  
Morris Island. - at 2 1/2 P.M.  
on the 7<sup>th</sup> he took up from

the observatory reported to me  
that the Turbets were moving  
up Ship Channel - I took up  
my position on the Observatory  
& saw them slowly moving  
up - Ft. Multrie fired the  
first shot at  $\frac{1}{4}$  to  $\frac{3}{4}$  P.M.  
Some four Turbets, were  
in line opposite Ft. Sumter  
& our Batteries were all  
firing. The other Turbets,  
with the Ironsides were  
still in Ship Channel,  
unengaged, when I left  
the Observatory at  $3\frac{1}{2}$  (to  
attend Inspection of Regt.) but  
subsequently came into the  
action. ~~It~~ It lasted until  
 $3\frac{1}{2}$  P.M. when the  
Turbets withdrew. - of  
the damage done to the  
enemy in this engage-  
ment I can not speak  
with anything like cer-  
tainty. The "Reckless", one



of the Tumto is reported by Col.  
Braham, Comdr. on Morris  
Isld. to be sent off that  
Isld. & Col. Yates, from  
Santiago, telegraphed on yes-  
terday, that she sent at  
9 a.m. of that day. - In  
addition to this, one of the  
Iron clad screws, used by  
the Tumto to remove obstruc-  
tions & explode torpedoes,  
is now ashore on Morris  
Isld. beach. - Of our  
own injury, I am not  
accurately informed. At  
Santiago, a six inch gun  
was dismounted, & four  
or five men injured by  
bats, knocked out of an em-  
brasure, which had been  
stopped up - at Montre  
one man was killed by the  
falling of the flag staff, &  
at Battery Wagner, on  
Morris Isld. three men

were killed & fire wound-  
ed by the explosion of an  
ammunition Chest!

April 11<sup>th</sup> / 63

Since writing the above  
nothing of importance  
has transpired. - The  
injury sustained by Ft.  
Summit, against which  
the Turco's directed  
their fire, principally,  
is considerable. - The  
Result is certainly some-  
what. I expect the Turco's to  
when the attack com-  
mences if they can re-  
main long enough under  
the fire of our Batteries  
to do so, they will knock  
Ft. Summit down. -

At present I make  
out only two Regt. en-  
campments on Coler &



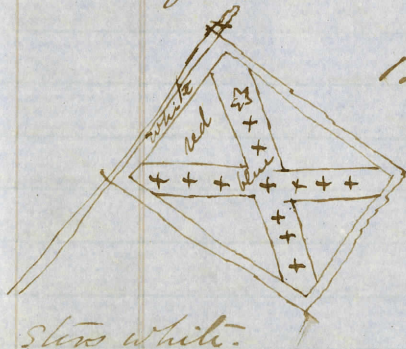
Goat Isld. The indications  
of the enemy's occupation  
of Folly Isld. on certain  
points what force, we do  
not know. - If he has  
not a large force then  
he certainly has but few  
troops about Charleston,  
for they are not in Cole's  
& Bullen's Isld. <sup>Goat & in any force.</sup> This morn-  
ing Cole's Isld. Harbor is  
filled with steamers &  
schooners, & the Iron Clads  
are still off Morris Isld.  
M. Col. Dugan, 21<sup>st</sup> S.C. went  
over last night on little  
Folly Isld. and attacked  
the enemy's out post, killing  
one & bringing off a prisoner.  
Palmer has gone down  
Schooner Creek, reconnoi-  
tering - We will, maybe  
show something of him.

April 23-

Enemy did not attack  
next morning, but on the  
12<sup>th</sup>, at high Dواته, the Turks  
& the new Janissaries crossed  
the bar; <sup>formed</sup> The ~~put~~ <sup>went</sup> ash for Pt.  
Royal - Land forces com-  
menced leaving Coler Ield  
same day. Today every thing  
is quiet. The enemy has  
not moved his force from  
Folly Ield. to our knowledge  
but in what force he is  
there, we can't tell. Palmer's  
scout alluded to in my  
note on the 11<sup>th</sup> did not  
amb. to more than seeing  
the enemy's outpost on  
Folly Ield. In my "home  
circle" all is not well. -  
My jewels have the  
whooping cough, & little  
one is quite sick - both



expected to go to Pinopolis on  
 yesterday (22<sup>d</sup>) to escape the  
 Meade, near Cherry  
 Grove. — On Monday  
 last, the 20<sup>th</sup>, Genl. Beauregard  
 reviewed the Swoops of Geo.  
 Seld. consisting of two Brigades  
 Comd. by Genl. S. P. East, the Bri-  
 gades being commanded  
 by Genl. Klingman & Col.  
 Stevens — Abt. 5,500 in the field.  
 After Review, Genl. B. pre-  
 sented Battle Plans to Repts.  
 & Batteries — I responded in  
 behalf of the Commands. —



Beauregard's  
 Battle Plan.

Stars white.

Protopolis, Episcopal Passage,  
May 2<sup>d</sup> 1863. —

I came hither  
on the 27<sup>th</sup> ultimo, to see  
my family — Little Sam  
is quite unwell with the  
whooping cough — all the  
rest well, except Aunt,  
who has measles. — No  
news from our enemy.  
I left every thing quiet  
about Charleston. —

In our room — Passage — May  
6<sup>th</sup> / 63, before breakfast. —

I leave this morn-  
ing for Charleston to join  
my Regt. which, with the  
4<sup>th</sup> Reg. & 8<sup>th</sup> Reg. Batt. & the  
16<sup>th</sup> S.C. has been ordered  
to Jackson Miss. — "The  
path of duty, is the path  
of safety." I go cheerfully,  
for whatever others may



have done to influence my  
going, it is the voice of the  
country to me; I have said  
nothing, & now readily obey  
orders. - I leave my  
precious family here in  
the hands of a good &  
gracious God, & feel the  
most perfect assurance  
in His blessed provi-  
dence & care. - I am  
satisfied that all will be  
right & well with us. -

In Miss. I will be no  
farther from God than  
at Succunide, & He  
is my refuge & strength.  
The paper of yesterday  
brings us the glorious  
news of another victory  
on the Rappahannock.  
Adieu! for a season, my  
angel, & my little ones. -  
"Woy" God bless you. -

Centerville, St. John's Dkly.

July 19<sup>th</sup> 1863

Two months & a half have elapsed since I bade my family good bye, ~~at the~~ at Philadelphia, & started with my Regt. for Jackson Miss. Since that time important events have transpired. - Our great cause has suffered disadvantage & defeat; & today, our army, under Lee, ~~has been~~ defeated in Pennsylvania, is again on this side of the Potomac; Pickensburg & Ft. Hudson having surrendered, our victorious enemy marches against Jackson for the second time, & for the second time drives Genl. Johnson from the city, where to, I ~~am~~ <sup>am</sup> not informed; Bragg



falls back to Chattanooga;  
and the city of Charleston  
is besieged by land & Sea!  
July 1863 is indeed an  
eventful month in the  
history of our struggle. See  
Fought at Gettysburg on the  
1<sup>st</sup> 2<sup>d</sup> & 3<sup>d</sup>; - Vicksburg capitu-  
lated on the 4<sup>th</sup>; Ft. M-  
D on the 9<sup>th</sup>; Landing  
on Morris Island effected  
on 10<sup>th</sup>; Johnston re-  
treats from Jackson on  
the 16<sup>th</sup>; and what else  
the remaining twelve  
days of this momentous  
July may develop God  
alone knows. - The 24<sup>th</sup>  
Regt. reached my command  
on the afternoon of the 13<sup>th</sup>  
off way & found Genl.  
Grant's forces marching  
on the city by the roads  
from Clinton to the west, &

Raymond, to the south West.  
Sul. Johnson arrived in  
train with Regt. Our  
force at Jackson, about  
Covs being too feeble to  
dispute the enemy's oc-  
cupation of the city. Sul.  
J. retired towards  
Clinton on the 14<sup>th</sup>, the  
24<sup>th</sup> S.C.V. portion of 46 Reg.  
14 Miss. Nelson's Co. of  
Geo. Cavalry, with a  
Miss Battery, covering  
the retreat from  
the Clinton road,  
meeting the enemy at  
about 9 & holding  
line until about 1  
P.M. I was wounded,  
through right leg,  
below knee at 12<sup>1/2</sup>.  
24<sup>th</sup> lost some 20 killed,  
30 made prisoners, &  
about 50 wounded. —



Grant took possession  
on the 14<sup>th</sup> & on the 15<sup>th</sup>  
began his march to  
Vicksburg, meeting  
Pemberton at Baker's  
Creek, half way, on  
16<sup>th</sup>, & after a pitched  
battle drove him  
within his lines around  
the doomed city. Then  
followed the investment  
& the bloody assaults  
by the enemy, with the  
heroic defence by the  
garrison, who yielded  
on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. —  
Johnson collected an  
army of about 30,000  
men around Canton  
but this force, the only  
protection ~~for~~ <sup>for</sup> Vicks.  
in case Genl. Pemberton's  
army fell, it was wisely  
deemed prudent not  
to risk against Grant

who had strongly fortified  
himself among the hills  
around Pickensburg. - After  
the fall of Pickensburg Grant  
marched on Jackson for  
the second time & Genl.  
Johnson placed his  
army in a position to  
hold the city - but the lib-  
eyan of the 17<sup>th</sup> tells us  
that he was compelled  
to evacuate the posi-  
tion on the 16<sup>th</sup>. - When  
he and is, is not  
known, certainly. - I  
go back to my Regt.  
next week, my  
wound having suf-  
ficiently improved to  
warrant it. - Genl.  
Gilmore, the enemy's  
Genl. comd. the troops  
in the "Dept. of the South".



successor to Sumter, is  
now in front of Charleston  
with a force of some  
10 to 15000 troops, assisted  
by Adml. Dahlgren's fleet  
of Iron & wooden vessels.  
The attack upon the city  
is this time by way of Morris  
Isld. last year, under Genl.  
~~Sumter~~, it was by way of James  
Isld. The object of the  
enemy now, is to carry  
Morris Isld. with a view  
to erecting ~~breaching~~ <sup>35</sup>breaching bat-  
teries against the south  
west face (the gorge side)  
of Fort Sumter, that work  
being the key to the pos-  
session of the Harbour.  
Last year ~~Sumter's~~ <sup>(2)</sup>object  
was to gain James Isld.  
east of the James Isld. Cr.  
so as to command the

city from the bluffs of-  
posite to the Battery. The  
Victory on the 16<sup>th</sup> of June,  
~~so disappointed~~ at Secessionville,  
so crippled the enemy,  
& convinced him of the  
strength of our fortifications  
on James Isld. That he  
gave up the undertaking,  
evacuating the Isld.  
early in July, & sending  
a portion of his troops,  
under Stevens, to re-  
force the army of the  
Potomac, then retreating  
from Richmond. &  
So far, though the enemy  
took our Batteries on the  
south end of Morris Isd  
& holds possession of  
that portion of the Isld.  
he has been severely  
rebuffed in every at-

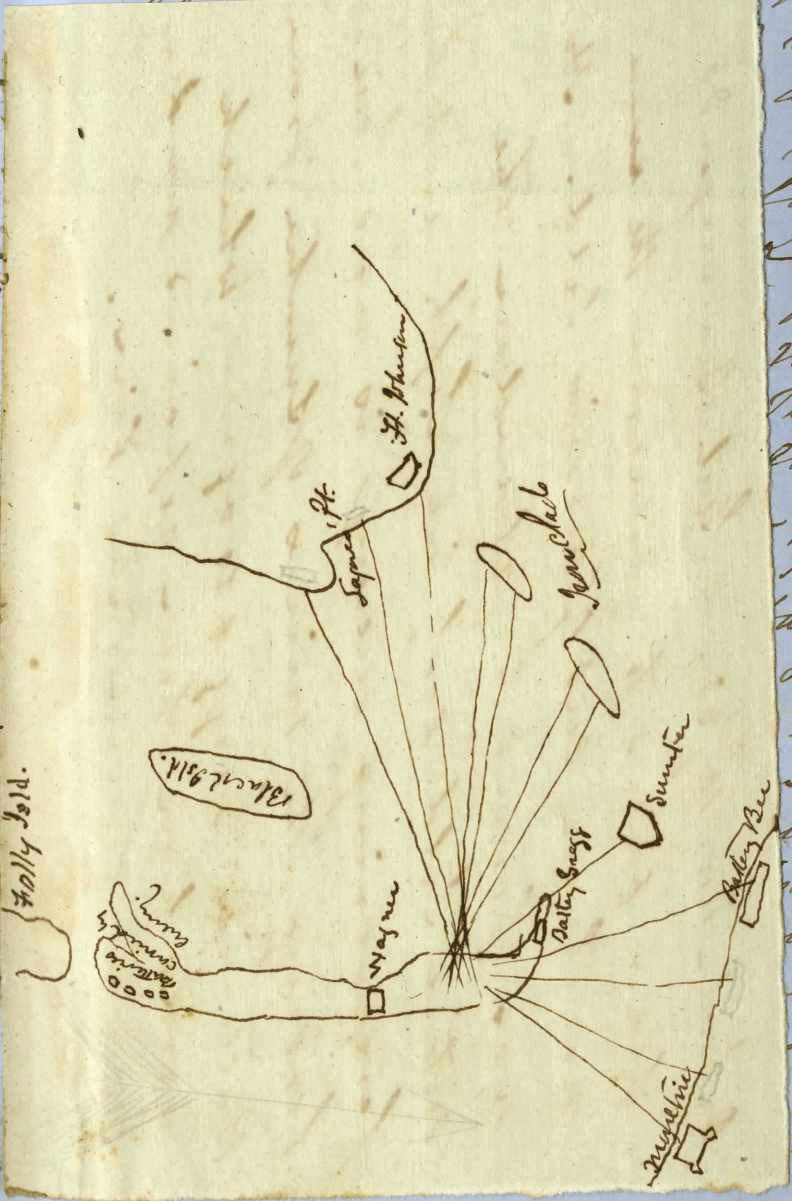


tempt to take the northern  
portion. - His gun & mortar  
Boats have been incessantly  
bombarding Battery Wagner  
(A redoubt across the Isth.  
about one mile & a half  
from Cummings Pt.) & since the 10<sup>th</sup> inst. while  
his troops have made  
several gallant assaults  
upon it, the last (that we  
have heard of.) having  
been made on Saturday  
night last, the 18<sup>th</sup>. I  
had a conversation with  
Genl. Beauregard on last  
Thursday; - His object is,  
to erect more heavy  
batteries on Sullivan's  
& James Islds. to con-  
centrate on the northern  
portion of the disputed  
Island a fire so severe

as to render its occupa-  
tion by the enemy im-  
practicable. The diagram  
will illustrate; the pencil  
marks indicating the  
points at which it is pro-  
posed to build additional  
batteries. Our people are  
greatly alarmed at  
the possession of a por-  
tion of Morris Isld. by  
the enemy; much more  
so than they were last  
year, when he held a  
portion of an Isld. much  
nearer the city, & more  
directly commanding  
it. - The reason of this  
is to be found in two  
considerations: 1<sup>st</sup> The  
fall of Vicksburg has im-  
pressed the people with  
the ability of the enemy to



attach the structure to



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Oxford Nov. 10<sup>th</sup>/63. Genl. Beauregard's

Plan failed to procure the entire  
northern end of Morris Sld. He  
was forced to abandon the  
entire Sld. early in Sept and the  
pursuing enemy is now loca-  
lizing the ruins of Sumter from  
Batteries Gregg & Wagner, which  
works have been repaired under  
Genl. B's concentrated fire.



works have been repaired under  
Genl. B's command since.

approach the strongest positions by means of regular parallels, & as Morris Field affords excellent facilities for this means of attack, our people look to the fall of Ft. Wagner as a matter of time only. - 2<sup>nd</sup> The Comdg. Genl. of the enemy is a skillful officer who last year won Ft. Pulaski by erecting batteries on Tiber Island & by reaching its weak side obliged its surrender.

This was accomplished at an incredible distance & his long range guns are feared against Sumter. But I am hopeful & do not believe he will succeed. - I omitted

to mention in the right  
place that the enemy's  
force on James Isld.  
which had been landed,  
no doubt, to divide  
our attention, was pun-  
ished by Genl. Hapgood on  
~~Friday~~ Thursday  
Morning last & evac-  
uated the Isld. on Satur-  
day, no doubt to rein-  
force the command  
on Morris Isld. for  
the <sup>attack</sup> on Wagner, which  
I stated was made  
Saturday night. - So  
much for the Military.

My precious wife  
is quite unwell, & is  
now in bed. - I ex-  
pect to leave next  
Tuesday week for Miss.  
if my wife is well enough.



~~Keokuk~~ - #

Monday night - Eutawville  
July 27 1863. -

My Lottie has  
just gone to rest; our little  
ones are quiet, & I write  
this note as my last in  
this book, 8 P.M.

On tomorrow  
morning I start for the  
west - once more I am  
about to say good bye to  
my angels, & the gracious  
mercy of God in <sup>the</sup> ~~his~~ <sup>back</sup>  
makes my heart bold. -  
How often I have gone!  
And time never once  
failed to return! "I'll  
praise him for all that's  
past, & trust him for  
all that's to come!" - I  
leave my precious wife  
greatly enfeebled, & now

too weak to sit up, but  
I believe that God will  
bless her. - Oh! how  
earnestly I shall pray  
for her! Hear our  
prayers, O! Lord, &  
grant us peace, and  
bring us, once more,  
under our own vine  
& fig tree, with none  
to molest us, or make  
us afraid.

Ellison Caspere

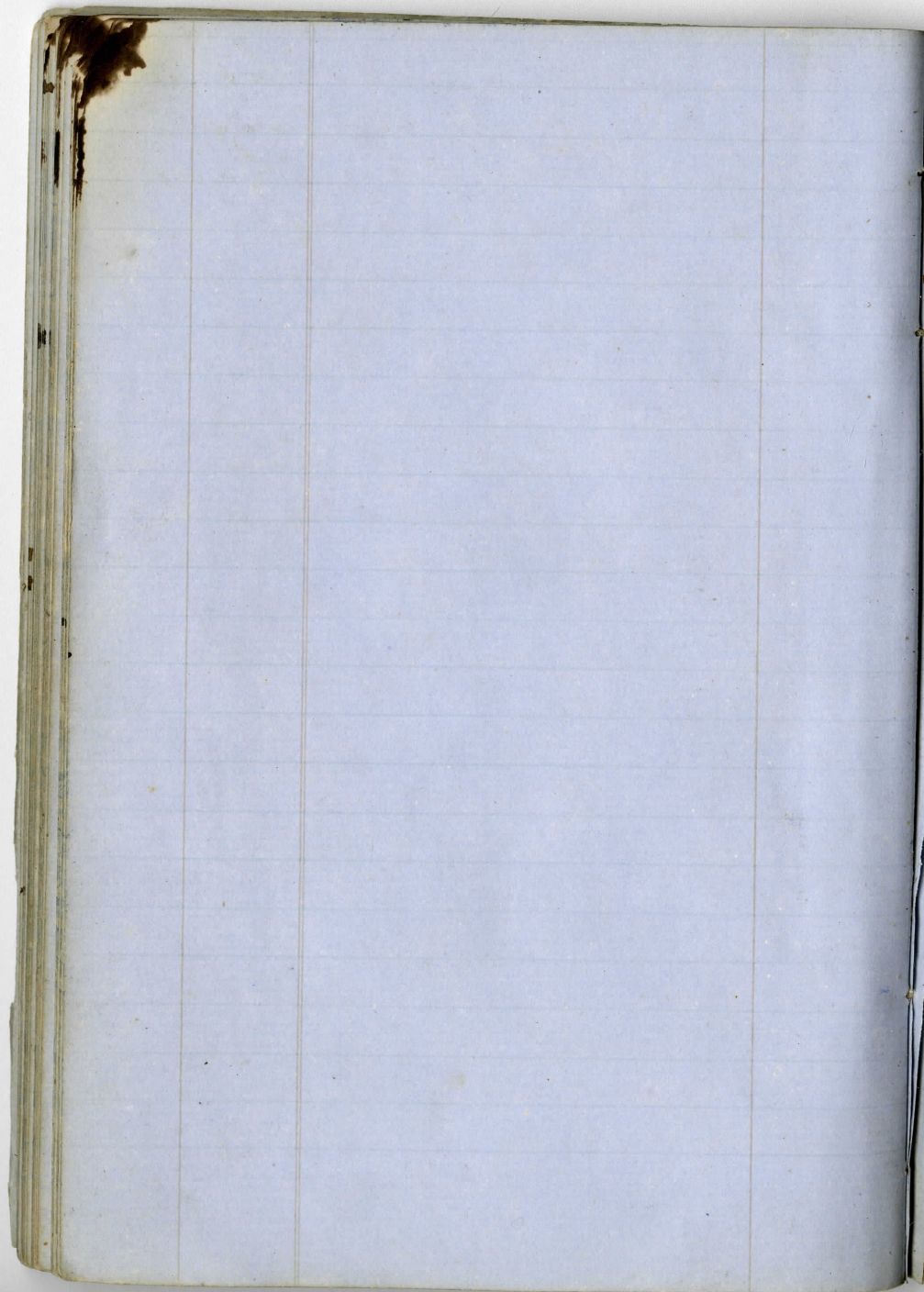
Tuesday Nov. 10 1863

Though it has  
pleased God to take  
our little Daughter  
Susan McCall from  
us, since I made  
the above note, yet



again has He been  
pleased to return  
me to my family after  
the dangers of battle.  
I am now recovering  
from a severe wound  
received at Chick-  
amauga, & am  
with Lottie & Frank,  
at my sister's, at  
Oxford, Ga. —  
Praised be  
the loving kindness  
of God!

E. Caspers





Act. with Rowe - -

Del. dispatch - July 27 <sup>th</sup>	.80cts
Papers -	.10 "
Blacking	1.00
Envelopes & Hymn Book	2.00
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207  
252.50  
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C. Kasper  
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187

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