

**Citation:** Transcription of the diary of Ephraim Ellis Sparks, August 30, 1864-August 30, 1868, Missouri History Museum Archives.

The following transcription was compiled by Barbara Kodner and Dennis Northcott in 2008-2009. The transcribers tried to retain the original spelling and punctuation of the diary. In many cases words or groups of words could not be deciphered. Text in brackets was supplied by the transcribers. The diary, written in pencil, contains 81 unnumbered pages.

**[frontmatter]**

E.E. Sparks

Book bought in Hannibal Marion County Missouri August the 30th 1864

My age is 29 years 3 months and twenty four days. My days at best are half gone time passes rapidly away never to return each moment of time is more precious than fine gold but how little belief we [several words faded and unclear]

**[page 1]**

August 30th 1864. written one Letter to my wife. today dont feel very well weather fine & pleasant

**August**

September the 2d/64. this is a fine day rather warm. this town of Hannibal is making wonderful efforts to avoid the Draft Men are sold by the wholesale If I ever go into the 12 months service it be to credit my own bounty and not for the many of Hannibal Rebels, let every tub stand on its own Bottom I am well

**[page 2]**

Sept the 3d 1864. this has been an unusual warm night. we to day took [word unclear] Capt. Hewitt back here with 35 men then we [word unclear] our Company and our time be going in after dinner I have been laying around all day; looking in the street the wind is blowing hard and the dust flying terribly, the Hearse bearing the corpses is constantly passing Bearing to the grave loved ones may they all be prepared for Eternity.

**[page 3]**

September the 21st/64. Dear Frank: this is a fine warm day: I am well & would like to know you are. have been looking for a letter all day. hope I will get one to night; my greatest pleasure is to read your letters in them I find solace and comfort. They prompt me to acts of [word unclear], make me patient and hopeful guide me to heaven help me to look with faith hope & love, may god grant us peace and quiet at home

**[page 4]**

September the 21st/64. Capt. Hewitt Died. another added to the list of those gone to try the Reality of Eternity. we all feel and mourn his Loss, he has Erred but we have to forgive to err is human to forgive divine.

Saturday the 24th. left Hannibal for Macon City, a very pleasant trip, pitched our tents East of Macon and remained there until Thursday the 29th. had a hard rainy stormy night a disagreeable morning rainy and cold

**[page 5]**

we wer jammed into the cars stockcars tight and were[?] too close for comfort got to Shelbina at 12 O Clock stopped and got our dinner, the first for 24 hours Eat and started on the march for Paris 3 o'clock Stopped at Dark! and Camped had two or three alarms

during the night. Started Friday morning the 30th for Paris, got here at 12 O clock tired enough. we will remain here until morning.

**[page 6]**

I am leaning against a locust tree writing this. would rather be spending the hour with dear ones at home may god help us to live just before him Ellis Saturday morning started for Mexico marched all day hard 20 miles I had a chill at night was [word unclear] out. felt better next morning. Started on the march[?] got Mexico at 11 O clock Struck[?] up our tents

**[page 7]**

Sunday night it commenced raining rained all day Monday after dark we had our Election for officers I was unanimously Elected Orderly Sergeant.

The 4th Tuesday [word unclear] the Col. and 66 men[?] started to Jefferson City. Co. I[?], B & F wer left here we moved our quarters down in in town well it has rained all day again.

we are quartered in a meeting house

**[page 8]**

Wednesday the 5th. nothing done today of importance

Thursday the 6th. all quiet in Camp again.

Friday the 7th. all quiet I have been sick with the Diarreha all day

Saturday the 8th. Our Co on Guard no news yet, all quiet yet.

Sunday the 9th. fine day, nothing new, no church in town. long tedious day

Monday the 10th. fine weather all quiet

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October

Tuesday the 11th 64. Co. I on Guard again nothing new. fine clear weather

Wednesday 12th. weather pleasant. no mail. no apprehension of an attack would like to hear from home

Thursday the 13th. pleasant day moved to the Block House got a very good situation, would rather have staid at our quarters in town, though this is the best place for defense, we will do very well here only a little Crowded about sleeping

**[page 10]**

Friday the 14th. pleasant day, had to detail 25 men to go up town to build Fortifications a big scare on hands I think for nothing

Saturday the 15th. had to detail 15 men to finish the fortifications hope they will get done & let the boys all come back this Evening fine day Clear and bright, I suppose this is our indian summer, soon will have cold rainy and chilling winds

**[page 11]**

Sunday the 16th. very fine day. Sunday is always a long & weary day in camp no church in Town today, have been reading the Testament so kindly given me by my dear one have written a Letter home. am well

Monday the 17th. fine weather. have drawn Rations again for ten day all hard tack & sow belly some talk of mounting our Co hope it wont[?] be done very few favor[?] it paid one dollar for mending my Boots

**[page 12]**

Monday night 17th. Dear Frank I have volunteered to night to night to Relieve the guard half the night. it is now 11 O Clock. you are sleeping I have just been reading I have read the Book of Romans and Galatians to night all around me are sleeping. may God protect you & Anna, and grant us a few more years of quiet rest in our own dear little homes pleasant dreams to you to night, in one hour more I will go to sleep. God protect us Ellis

**[page 13]**

Tuesday the 18th/64. all quiet nothing new

Wednesday 19th. all well.

Thursday the 20th. well & Hearty. Co I on guard, 8 men sent on detached service got a mail from home this morning never was so glad to get a Letter. sorry to hear of so much trouble up there, glad it is no worse would like to get up there to clean out some of the sympathysers

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Friday the 21st. a long and tiresome day rather cool nothing new

Saturday the 22nd. fine sunshine but cool day, a lazy day in camp have got a bad cold but still am hearty

Sunday the 23rd. a Bright pleasant day though long and tiresome Father came down to day, was so glad to see him, heard from home all well

Monday 24th. all quiet in Camp weather fine

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Tuesday 25th. fine clear, weather all well.

Wednesday 26th. dark Cloudy & rainy day, Father started home this morning hope he may get through safe. he got in the Express train at 4[?] O Clock A.M. will if he has good luck get to Hannibal to night

Thursday the 27. Co. I on guard all quiet

Friday the 28th. nothing new all well[?]

Saturday the 29th. all quiet and [word unclear] I am well heard from father, all right

**[page 16]**

Sunday the 30th. Co I on guard all quiet at the Block House

Monday the 31st. all quiet nothing new Mustered for Pay 73 men present

Tuesday the 1st. I commenced making out Pay Roll

Wednesday. Co I on guard Dark Cloudy day got a good Letter from home havent heard[?] from me yet

Thursday the 3rd. Snowed all day Snow about 6 inches deep have been making pay rolls

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1864

Friday the 4th

Clear sunshiny day finished making out Pay Roll Snow melting nothing new 12 O Clock at night acting Sergt. of guard to night have been reading the Testament my dear ones at home may god grant you quiet slumber so good night

Saturday all quiet nothing new snow melting very fast Co I on guard

Sunday the 6th. after noon well my dear how I wish you was here I am well but

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November

I feel lonely would like to know how you are getting along. may god help us to live [word unclear]

Monday the 8. fine day all well

Tuesday the 8. Co I on guard all voted for Lincoln Rainy day

Wednesday 9. Cold and windy very stormy. packed up to move. didn't go

Thursday the 10th. Started on the cars Early for Macon City, got here at Dark. muddy & dirty town. quartered in Methodist Church

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November

Friday the 11th. moved our quarters to the old Harris House dirty looking place

Saturday the 12th. all quiet fair day Received 4 Letters from home

Sunday the 13th. all well fine warm day. wrote two Letters home hope my dear ones are all well

Monday the 14th. Rainy and stormy

Tuesday the 15th. Cool and Cloudy, had a general inspection

Thursday The [word unclear] and County Militia[?] came in glad to see them

**[page 20]**

Friday the 18th. Paymaster came and will pay us off to morrow, my Pay rolls were all right thank god for it I shall Ever pray that he may give me wisdom To discharge every duty that may devolve upon me. got a Letter from my dear ones this morning.

Saturday fair all of us were paid off to day I drew 57 dollars and Eighty five cents

Sunday cold and stormy day

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November

Monday 21st. very Cold day

Tuesday 22nd. more moderate I am well

Wednesday a fair day all right

Thursday 24th. Cloudy and Cool Col Kutzner came to see us

Friday the 25th. the militia came to see us again fair day.

Saturday the 26th. Militia Started home very[?] fine day all right

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November 1864

Sunday the 27th. warm and Cloudy how much I would like to be at home this Evening. am on a study about going home can get a furlough but the Co talk of leaving and I hate to be left alone very dangerous travelling alone from here to Glasgow I am well and would be content if knew my dear ones were well.

Monday the 28th all quiet. well

Tuesday the 30th. Nothing new.

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December 1864

Wednesday the 30th. Dec am trying to get a Furlough. hope I will get one for I do want to go home and see my dear ones

Thursday the 1st. Rainy muddy weather we have a new Post Commander Lt Col Draper of the 9th M.S.M. succeed Col. Wirt have a chance to get a Furlough. Col Kutzner came up from Glasgow this Evening. all right

Friday the 2nd. all well will get my Furlough to morrow 4 of us are going home

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December 1864

Saturday Dec the 3rd. Company got orders this morning to go to Glasgow, immediately waitin for my furlough to be approved by Gen Fisk everything hurry packing up to move 11 O clock get my furlough too late for the Passenger will go on the 1 O Clock freight train. Good by Boys. 12 O Clock god Bless you all 1 O Clock on the freight train. 12 O Clock at Hannibal, get my supper, heard a Boat whistle. 1 O Clock A.M. got aboard. go to bed to dream of home and loved ones

**[page 25]**

Dec., 1864

Sunday morning the 4th. Dear Frank this is a slow old Boat. wish it would hurry. want to see my dear ones to night. O how thankful I feel for gods goodness to me. Every hour I feel and see fresh Evidence[?] of his tender care for me well Frank it is now after dinner we havent traveled more than 20 miles in the last six hours. hope to get to Kekuk[Keokuk?] some time to night. wont get to see my dear ones this sabbath, but then I hope to take dinner with you to morrow. God help us to be patient in all things.

**[page 26]**

Sunday Evening this world brings to us many disappointments but then we should not complain I feel that I have been especially favored by him. when all looked dark and gloomy he has mad Bright spots to rise before me and dispel the Darkness. O if I can always be thus favored by him. but if I live [unclear word] love and serve him I know he will not forsake[?] me. O for grace to resist any temptation of this wicked world. I know I sin but then he is first to forgive. O for a world[?] where sin is no more

**[page 27]**

I feel lonely this Evening I am thinking of the past the Happiest days of my life have been spent with my own dear one. I feel thankful that I have a companion in life who from her own goodness prompts me to acts of virtue & morality much of mans character depends on that of his wife if two are as they should be congenial in nature both are one, in thought & hope of future. This has been my happy lot, though often separated far from

my dear ones, yet that assimilation is perfect. I bear the Burden of the world centered for I know my loved one at home is thinking of me

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Monday December 5th 1864

Got to Father Smitty thank god I have got to see my dear ones once more, found them all well.

Tuesday the 6th. Cold snowy day

Wednesday 7th. all well cold weather am enjoying myself with my dear ones

Thursday the 8th. very cold, still with my dear ones

Friday the 9th. leave this morning for Scotland Co, never hated to leave my dear Frank and Annie so much may god Bless you my dear ones

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got to fathers at 6 O clock found all well, this has been a day of sadness and joy, god give me grace to bear up under all

Saturday the 10th. Cold, went up and see the dear old home again. O how much I hope I may be spared to spend days of peace and quiet with my dear ones, this is my constant Prayer

Sunday the 11th. very cold, after dinner father and I went to Memphis in a sleigh

Monday the 12th. travelled 30 miles towards Macon

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1864

Tuesday, Dec the 13th. Made a Rebel haul us to within 4 miles of Macon, MO.

Wednesday the 14th. I got to Macon MO, found the company here. all well

Thursday the 15th. have been under orders all day. Expecting to go to Dixie, will go in the morning. god knows what hardship we may have to endure this winter. May god give us grace to love and serve him and look to him for protection O may he guide us through[?] the scenes of strife and

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give us wisdom to discharge every duty that may devolve upon us. god help us to live devoted. god bless those dear ones at home this is written by Candle light O may divine mercy ever be with us as it ever has.

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Dec.

Friday the 16th 1864. got on the cars at Macon at 6 O. P.M. got to Quincy at 4 P.M. had a cold Rode in stock cars a sleety disagreeable day. half the company on a high trying to drown sorrow.

Saturday the 17th. Crossed the river from West Quincy to Quincy have to Ferry half the way and wade and walk the ice the other half. eat our dinners at Quincy Start this Evening for Springfield. we have a long and disagreeable trip before us. God have mercy on us and direct[?] [unclear word] us to love and serve him

Mailed a letter to my dears & father

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Dec. 1864

Sunday morning the 18th. leave Quincy at 9. O. Clock A.M. in stock cars again, filled with straw[?]. comfortable enough but cold, no fire every town we pass we are cheered it makes me glad to the very soul to see them wave their handkerchiefs. I cant restrain the tears of gladness got to Bluff City at dark go to sleep, and sleep fine.

Monday the 19th. wake up 100 miles East of Springfield at [word unclear] fine country slept one hundred miles

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get to Lafayette[Lafayette] 60 miles more at dark nothing to eat but hard tack since yesterday morning am hungry cold and tired. go to bed again for the night, sleep well

Tuesday morning the 20th at Indianapolis. go to the Soldiers home and get our Breakfast hot coffee and meat and Bread the first for 48 hours. 12 O. clock start in the same cars for Louisville

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wonder how my dear ones are this morning god Bless and protect them get to Jeffersonville in the night

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Dec. the the 16th 1864

left Macon City travelled by Railroad to West Quincy 75 miles

Saturday the 17th. Stayed all day in Quincy

Sunday the 18th. ran out to Springfield Illinois 114

Monday the 19th. run from Springfield to Layfayette[Lafayette] 160 miles

Tuesday the 20th. ran from Lafayette to Jeffersonville Indiana. 168 miles

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1864

Wednesday Dec. the 21st. this morning found us in Jeffersonville Ind, opposite Louisville we get out of the cars, and stand around in the cold and snow until 12 O. Clock. it is snowing like get out, at 2 O Clock we cross over the River into old Kentucky, march to the nashvill Depot, but no cars are ready for us, so we come back into town and take Quarters for the night get supper at the soldiers home seen 1000 Rebel Prisoners, a seedy looking set of fellows; good night dear ones

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Thursday Dec. 22d 1864. Breakfast at the Soldiers home. dont much like the fair, this is a very cold morning Cap Williams came in this morning dont feel very well Dinner at the Soldiers Home again; soup for dinner, this has been a long day to me, I feel tired and worn out, dont know yet whether we will start this Evening or not, a pleasant evening to you my dear ones supper again at the Soldiers home. may god bless you my dear ones to night. heaven help us to live [unclear word]

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1864

Friday morning Dec. 23. not Quite so cold this morning we have glorious news this morning & the Rebels are being beaten at all points; tolerable cold still Boarding at Barracks No 1 dont like the fare.

Saturday the 24th/64. fair day. wrote a letter to my dear ones this afternoon & one to Father Breakfast and dinner at the Barracks. Regiment moved from Louisville at 5 O Clock P.M. got to ft. Boyle at 12 O clock. A rough Christmas Eve.

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Dec. 1864

Christmas morning found us at ft. Boyle this place has been taken once by Morgan now garrisoned by two cos. of Negroes it is warm and pleasant this morning little spots of snow on the ground rather a black Christmas. it has been raining a little this morning we are camped out in the Beech woods. This is a rough Broken country. wonder how my dear ones are today. how thankful I feel for gods mercy through the past year. he has ever been good to me. I try to be thankful

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This Christmas is spent at Ft. Boyle in Hardin Co. Ky, wonder where next Christmas will find me. John is unwell; I hope wont get sick here I am in good health and hope that god may so bless me until I am again returned to my dear ones at home, and I want to be thankful for it.

Monday the 26th. I am well John is better. the snow is all gone. This has been a dark cloudy & foggy day and warm I am writing by a little candle light in my tent after dark. good dear ones.

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Dec.

Tuesday the 27th 1864. Tolerable fair day still camped at the Fort; John is not well. I hope he wont get much sick. I am well

Wednesday the 28. have been making out Pay rolls all day. it has been growing cooler all day, but nothing to compare with winter in MO. I am well. John is better

Thursday Dec. 29. This day has been spent around smoky log fires at ft. Boyle

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1864

Friday Dec the 30th. got up and Eat breakfast before day. Started on the cars for Nashville have Passenger cars to ride in, in we go through the hill[?] and forest over creeks & meadows crossing Rivers. if we continue to make good time we will get to Nashvill before day Every thing along the road shows evidence of war a hard rough looking country dont think it hardly worth fighting for. I always Enjoy myself well riding on the cars. I love to look at the scenery

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afternoon the 30th. getting out near Cumberland river John has fell asleep. I can't sleep while the daylight lasts the Hills look high here not quite so high as around my old [unclear word] home. log houses, stone chimneys, small fields and poor ones.

Saturday Dec 31st. this morning found us at Franklin 51 miles from Nashville. There is about two inches of snow on the ground.

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This has been an Eventful year to me; last new years day I was at my own sweet little home with my dear ones, sitting by a warm fire. a very cold day it was, and soon I had to leave home to attend to Business in a higher circle of life. now I am soldiering a rough hard life, but the rebellion must be put down, I have all the time been blessed with good health. My prayer is that the god who has ever blessed me may be with me and mine the coming year. The snow is melting

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the snow is fast melting under the influences of a warm sun, so is the old year, and it is with mankind. This Land that knows us now will soon Know us no more. men in the army are hastening in to the grave[?] with an utter recklessness that is startling; our chaplain is a nuisance. I want to try to live more worthy of the blessing conferred on me during the next year. I am content in the Army if I only knew how my dear ones were getting along god bless them

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January 1865. New years day this morning found us within one mile of Nashville, a very cold morning, cold as Scotland we got out this morning at daylight and mad a kettle of

coffee and had hard tack & coffee for a new years Breakfast. run up into Town. got off the cars and bugged[?] around awhile and marched two miles Walk east of town and struck up our tents in the snow, no dinner to day, supper at dark and now

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1865

I am writing by candle light in my tent the old year is gone with all its cares and troubles. god has blessed me with health. This is the best blessing I can ask for the year to come give me health and a thankful heart to god and all will be well a happy new years to you my dear ones may the god of heaven bless and protect you.

Monday. Jan 2nd. fair day snow all gone quite pleasant

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Tuesday the 3d 1865. fair day. have orders to go back to MO, will start in the morning. O but I have the toothache to night but I hope it will be better in the morning if not I will have it pulled out a good many of the co. have the Small Pox I have a hope now that we will get mustered out promptly

Wednesday Jan. 4th. got up at one O clock this morning eat Breakfast and marched to the Depot. started at 7 O Clock. run to Louisvill again 5 P.M.

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1865

Jan. 5th. it is colder here in Louisvill than at Nashville we had a fine ride on the cars yesterday. 185 miles in twelve hours again saw the clear running streams of old Kentuck this is a fine morning 3 O Clock P.M. March to Portland 4 miles below Louisville. [Unclear word] on the Ferry to Albany Ind, 7 O clock at night get on the cars and start for St. Louis a very rough road this. [unclear word] cars no sleep to night only sitting.

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1865

Jan 6th. This morning found us at Mitchell 60 miles from Albany. change cars and get good Passenger cars. it is raining this morning 10 O Clock now it is snowing this is a good road & I am having a pleasant ride, most of the boys are asleep but I prefer looking out at the forests of tall beech timber the people are friendly and welcome us as we pass along, the cars are running fast as I write

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afternoon the 6th 1865. we have eaten dinner at Vincennes on the Wabash River. we are waiting for a train to pass this is a dreadful snow storm how awful it would be to be thrown out here to night to camp I hope my dear ones are comfortable this evening god bless you my dear ones

Saturday Jan. 8th. This morning found us at Salem Ill, have been peddling along all day. will get to St. Louis some time to night, this is a fair day the snow is deep

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Sunday Jan. 8, 1865. This morning found us at Illinoistown lay on the ground all night. get our Breakfast, an crossed the river & marched to Benton Barracks this is a cold cloudy day east wind is blowing

Monday the 9th. Snow on the ground write all day

Tuesday the 10th. Cold and clear write all day

Wednesday the 11th. fair day. Snow melting Emancipation Ordinance passed today. MO. a free state good, good, good

Thursday the 12. Snow melting finely

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Friday the 13th 1865. warm sun shiny day drill to day.

Saturday the 14th. got a good Letter from my dear ones, fine warm day. The snow is nearly all gone I am in good health, & thankful to a merciful god for it, this is written while sitting in my Bunk in Benton Barracks. may god Bless my dear ones to night

Sunday the 15th. Inspection, a long tedious tiresome day, but little to remind one of the sacredness of a Sabbath day

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Monday the 16th 1865. Drill twice a day weather moderating

Tuesday the 17. Drill twice fine weather

Wednesday the 18th. Drill twice a day, weather fine

Thursday the 19th. Weather moderate

Friday the 20th. weather warm & pleasant unwell to day a bad cold

Saturday the 21st. Drill twice warm day

Sunday the 22. a little cooler this day growing quite cool this Evening have written five Letters today, been close in Quarters all day

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January

Monday the 23d Jan 1865. quite cold this morning my health is good.

Tuesday the 24th. very cold. Clear day Company D & E leave for Glasgow am glad that it is not us. I would rather stay here until our time is out god bless you my dear ones to night

Wednesday the 25th. very cold day, clear how thankful I am for good health

Thursday the 26th. The coldest day that I have seen this winter

Friday the 27th. Cold & clear. Regimental inspection. Cold fingers

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Jan. the 28th Saturday. Cold & clear, a little more moderate

January the 29th. This is a fine Sabbath morning.

Sunday Jan 29. fair weather a long day. would like to be at home to day

Monday the 30th. fair day

Tuesday 31st. all well

Wednesday the 1 Feb. Cloudy and warm I am well John is not well

Thursday Feb. 3d 1865. rained all this day how long the day has been

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Friday Feb. 3d 1865. This is a fine day, like Spring but awful muddy

Saturday the 4th. fair day

Sunday the 5th 1865. Cold a long day

Monday the 6th. Cold & stormy

Tuesday the 7th. Cold & Cloudy

Wednesday the 8th. Cold and stormy. my time is legally out to day

Thursday the 9th. Clear & cold

Friday the 10th. fair sun shines Bright dont fell well have a bad cold

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Saturday Feb. the 11th 1865. This is a very fair day I have a desperate cold & the springlike sun Reminds me of home & Loved ones

Sunday the 12th. fair day a little cold, another long day, two Letters from home

Monday the 13th. a little cold & cloudy a bad cold dont feel well at all

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Feby. 1865

Tuesday the 14th. Cool East wind good drill day.

Wednesday the 15th. ground covered with snow. warm & snowing until noon. warm & sunshiny afternoon I am well to day

Thursday the 16th. warm and muddy our muster in Roll returned all right

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February the 17th 1865

Friday the 17th. got a Letter from home weather warm and muddy I am well to day

Saturday the 18th. very fine. warm day this day makes me feel like I should be at home

Sunday the 19th. a long weary day

Monday the 20th. fair weather

Tuesday the 21st. Rainy and cloudy

Wednesday the 22. Cloudy

Thursday the 23. fair day

Friday the 24th. Inspection fair day

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Feb.

Saturday the 25 1865. fair day all well

Sunday the 26th. fair day, but a long and tedious one. Sabbath in Camp is like all other days, general inspection, all right, good Repute[?]

Monday the 27th. Snowed all day. I have been writing all day

Tuesday the 28th 1865. Company moved to Franklin MO. I am left here with a few sick I would like to go home pretty soon

Wednesday the 1st. warm day

Thursday the 2d. rained last night fair day

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March 3. Tucker Thomas came around this evening on his way home

Friday March 3rd 1865. this is a cold Cloudy day I feel quite well to day but the time drags slowly along

Saturday the 4th. Regt. Went down town to the Big parade, snow on the ground this morning. ground froze hard.

Sunday the 5th. fair day. Elliff & J.H. Hendricks came in long tedious day, am Lonesome

Monday the 6th. fine day.

Tuesday the 7th/65. warm and cloudy nothing new

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Wednesday Feb.[March] 8th 1865. Cold Rain & sleet this morning. very disagreeable day would like to hear from home I have been in the service just 7 months to day. Thanks to a merciful god, I have been blessed with health

Thursday the 9th 1865. Very Cold. This is 7 months since our co was mustered into service

Friday the 10th. Cold day.

Saturday the 11th. a little more moderate

Sunday the 12th. a very fine day fair & sunshiny. how long and tedious a Sunday in camp

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March

Monday the 13th 65. fair day

Tuesday the 14th. Rainy

Wednesday the 15th. Cold & snow a little

Thursday the 16th. Cloudy and cold

Friday the 17. hopes of being mustered out moderate

Saturday the 18th. fair day

Sunday the 19th. Rainy & warm a long tedious day have hopes of getting home soon. thank god for it I want to be at home



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March

Monday the 20th/65. Rainy day

Tuesday the 21/65. Cloudy and muddy

Wednesday the 22/65. fair day Inspection, 9 of us Represent the 39th look for the company to come to night to muster out, am busy making out Rolls for muster out

Thursday the 23rd. turn over guns to day. good by musket

Friday the 24th. worked[?] all last night, feel bad will muster out today or to morrow hope to get to see my dear ones soon

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Saturday the 25th/65. Muster out of service to day at 4 O Clock P.M. thank god the time has come at last. will be paid off Monday next

Sunday, the 26th/65. A long tedious day am in the Barracks most of the Comp are in the Soldiers Home down town. I have writing all day, though it is Sunday. I feel to thank that I have been blessed with health to see the Expiration of my term of service, & pray that he may grant my dear ones health until we meet in our own dear home.

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March

Monday the 27th, 1865. at ten O Clock we meet at the Paymasters office and are all paid off again. Noon I go at once to the Boat ang get a room for me and John in the Cabin. I am tired & worn out & want to go home the easiest way some of the boys are in the Cabin & some on deck. Thanks be to god for his goodness in thus far blessing me with health. I am Returning to my dear ones at home well but tired & worn out god grant that I may find them well.

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Tuesday, March the 28th. are getting up the river fine. 9 O clock get to Hannibal, leave one of the boys here. See a good many recruits – from scotland County. god grant them success at Lagrange we leave three of the boys, one of lives here & is tight see him meet his mother and sisters, how glad they are yet sorrow to see him drunk At Canton about half the Comp[?] [unclear word] how much I hate parting with them but then there are those that are dearer to me than them

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good bye boys. Good by my best wishes go with you, may each of you meet a welcome home & have a thankful heart for god [unclear word] in saving your lives thus far I hope soon to be at home too, I have just parted with some good friends & true. a mans character undergoes a sever[e] test in the army, but a [unclear word] one only shines the

brighter by wearing Many boy are made worse by going into the army while others become better

**[page 71]**

at alexandria we leave a dozen or more of the boys. good by boys good by may quickly get home

Wednesday March 29th. This morning we get on the cars at 7 O clock this looks like home. I hope to get to see my dear ones

**[page 72]**

March 29th '65. home this evening have walked from vernon my time of soldiering is over. Thank God all is well yet. must be convinced of the necessity before I soldier any more; some men enjoy it better than I can

Ellis

**[page 73]**

August 30th 1868. Sabath eve at home this has been a dark gloomy day the rain has been falling slowly all day keeping us all housed up all day but we should be grateful for the rain for water had become over scarce and things had began to dry up [unclear words] fast and we have reason to be grateful for a great many things notwithstanding the press of everything The tax gatherers

**[page 74]**

take about all of our surplus money so we have to [unclear word] ourselves and live[?] very saving to get a buggy[?] but we truly feel grateful for health and strength to discharge our daily duties and we have to thank the kind giver of all our blessings for a good crop of grain how kind is providence for giving us all we had and blessing us thus may we be enabled to serve him aright that we may be [unclear word] to give a strict account at [unclear word].

Frank

**[back of diary, page 1]**

Sowed wheat April 8 & 9th/67

April the 25th/67

W. H. Smith married

Oats sowed April 23rd/67

James Smith married

May the 8th/67

Commenced planting

corn May the 13th &

Finished May the 18th/67

**[back of diary, page 2]**

[Unclear word] for Michael Strawl, Deeded from Cook

**[back of diary, page 3]**

Profits & Costs for the year 1866

		\$
Jan.	Hogs sold	150.00
"	One colt	50
"	Cost of keeping same	20
"	Horse shoeing	6
Feb.	paid hired hand	23 ½
"	" Insurance of House	10 ½
March	Cows sold	75
"	Paid for labor	25
June	Wool	50
"	Hired hands	8
Aug.	Cattle sold	92
"	Cost of same	30
	Blacksmithing	2
	Hand	4
	"	2
	"	16
	hogs	<u>125</u>
		547 116
		<u>116</u>
		431

**[back of diary, page 4]**

Dr. P. H. Jamieson

surgeon in charge

Soldiers Home Hospital

Indianapolis, Ind.

**[back of diary, page 5]**

selfishness is one of the meanest traits in the Human character Lord deliver me from the clutches of a man who is only seeking his own welfare. acts of kindness though not reciprocated in this world, will reflect with brightness upon the character of man in the world to come

**[back of diary, page 6]**

allowance of Clothing for 6 months men  
\$35.32