

The 154th NY Volunteer Regiment was stationed at Lookout Valley, Tennessee, Dec., 1863 through April, 1864, and it is here when Mervin's diary begins.

JANUARY 1864

Dairy for the year 64

- Jan 1. Cold day. went to the Corps Hospital to see Bandrick The 73 Ohio Regiment went home (30 day furlough) to recruit for losses.
4. cold day. built huts for the 33 Ny regiment.
- 8th. cold day. cut timber for the Division Commissary.
9. cold day. mailed a letter home.
10. The 55th Ohio regiment went home for 30 days.
12. the 73 Pa regiment went home for 30 days.
15. worked at Gen (General's) kitchen.
16. Paid \$4 for a hat of the sutler (sutler).
17. wrote a letter home. present day.
20. received of Edgerton (the sutler?) 1 Pair of Pants and one Shirt.
21. present day. wrote a letter to G.L. Stone. mended my pants.
24. Went on Lookout mountain. a present day. wrote a letter home.

FEBRUARY

- Feb 1. Sunday. wrote a letter home.
7. Wrote a letter home. cold day. not well. staid with Willson. sick all night.
8. received 2 letters from Portland.
17. drew some clothing on the account of Edgerton and a pair of Boots. Paid for a hat for Edgerton.
- 19th received 2 months pay in cash; received a letter from home.
20. wrote a letter home..
21. Sunday th 21. present day. mailed letter home.
Went to the meeting of the US Christian Commission. Text was Esicile 33 Why preaching the regiment Took supper with N. Ogden. He had fruit from home.
- 22 finished the bakery oven.
23. cleaned up the camp. preaching in the evening at or quatr. good sermon.
24. fire inspection.
26. received a letter from home and 2 photos.
- 28 received a letter from Arthur barber. (Mervin's son). went to meeting of the Christian Commission text John 15-5. the Lord's Supper administered to the Christians.. Lent Barnhart _____ to cash 20.00. Sent \$5 home
- 29 mustered for brigade review all day.

MARCH

- 1 Wrote a letter to Arthur with a line to Caroline (Caroline is Mervin's wife and Arthur is his son, age 12)
2. Mailed letter to Arthur. The 73 Ohio regiment returned to the valley (Lookout Valley)
The 55 Ohio remained in the valley.
4. Worked on the storehouse at the station. Capt Lucas took command of the company.
- 6 Sun Meeting at the US C.C. tent. text for sermon Matthew ch7 1 to 7 ver 5
- 7 Received a paper from home and the minutes of the First Baptist association with it
8. worked on the storehouse pleasant day
- 9 wrote letter home
- 10 Sent my coat and other things by E. Barber home (Edmond was his brother)
- 11 cold day stayed with H. Ogden.
- 12 sick got a letter sent to regiment.
- 13 Sunday not well wrote a letter home
- 14 a severe headache Mailed a letter to Stanley Stone. (Stanley is his wife's brother)
- 15 not well received a letter from home
- 18 Went to (Wauatchie?) to build an oven
- 19 (Wautchie?)
- 20 sick in my quarters C. Swellend died Cold day
- the 22 a little better snowed all night it fell 14 inches deep
- 23 present morning the snow about 8 in deep wrote a letter home a little better
- 24 not well wrote home to my mother and to Miss Magrew Sutton, Bellfountain school, Logan co, Ohio The lady who sent some fruit to the soldiers.
- 25 a sick day I staid in my tent most of the day
- 26 present day went to regiment for first time in a long while.
- Sunday 28 boot fixed by S. Green Paid \$0.50 for it.
- And I found the lathe and nails in the afternoon.
- 29 cold day staid in my quarters most of the day not well
The Ohio battery came in the division.
- 30 The 1 Brigadier went out on reconassence for 3 days.
- 31 lame back the 73 Pa regiment returned to the Valley

APRIL

- April 1. not well The 154th returned from ----- they had a hard march
- 2 present day went to the regiment
 - 3 present morning write a letter home
 - 4 received a letter from home
 - 5 Worked at Heddqtrs
 - 6 drew gravel for the supply train
 - 7 worked on the church
 - 9 worked on the church in the forenoon cleaned camp in the afternoon
Gen. Howard left us to join the 4th corps
 - 10 rained in the morning present afternoon went to the regiment

- 11 Monday received a letter from Mother all is well
- 12 lame back so that I had to stay in my quarters all day
received a letter from home and one from Stanley Stone from Cul ---Va
wrote a letter home
- 13 mailed a letter home
- 14 Gen Thomas -----2 divs -----the batteries not well
- 17 received a letter by-----from home went on recon to mountain received a likeness of
my wife
- ? worked at Lookout creek
- 18 Lookout creek
- 21, 22, 23. Worked at Headquarters.
24. Inspection at Headquarters.
25. Turned over to the 2 brigade, 2 division, 20th army Corps. Most of the boys in the old 2nd
brigade turned over to (mule) team. (Original copy) (teamsters and road crew)
26. Cleaned up the camp in front of Col. Bushbeach headquarters.
27. hot day all day.
28. the 3 divs of the 20 C had a sham fight.
29. Cool in the morning.
30. hot day.

MAY

Sunday the 1. All well cool day wrote a letter to D.T. Taylor and one home
Monday the 2 The 3rd division marched for the front at 7 AM
Tuesday the 3. we had orders to strike tents at 5 AM on the 4th
the fourth. Struck tents at 3,30 PM. marched 5 miles. staid on the Rossville? rode.
Thursday the 5. Struck tents at 7 AM. marched 10 miles. staid SW of Ringold a hot day
Friday the 6. Struck tents at 5 AM. marched 6 miles.
7th Marched in rough country and over the mountains. Passed through Gordon Springs
staid in the woods
Sunday the 8. Struck tents at 11 AM. sent out skirmishes. found the rebels near Rocky face a
place in the mountains by Mill creek. the battle commenced at 4. lasted until dark. charged
the hill a number of times. could not hold it. the loss of the 154 NY 96 killed wounded
missing. the Brigade losses 216.

*Dunkelman's Hardtack Regiment book says approximately 40 % of the force was killed, wounded or
captured in storming Rocky Face Ridge and the casualties were highest in the 154th NY.*

Monday the 9th moved camp to the woods the division worked all night on breastworks
we cut some timber on the front of headquarters. filled up the roads at headquarters
Tuesday 10. rained some in the morning. heavy cannonading on the left.
Wednesday the 11. heavy cannonading on the left at Buzzards Roost
Thursday 12. Went through smoke and grape Heavy firing on the left. camped 5 times
Friday the 13. Gen Kilpatrick wounded. we moved on the right. heavy firing on the right
and center. changed our Position in the on the creek on the left flank to strengthen it.

Saturday the 14. at 6 heavy firing on the right. scirmishing on the centr at 1 PM. heavy canonadeing on the left at 2. heavy canonadeing all along the line. at 6 got orders to march to the left. marched 7 1/2 milles a short time on the Dalton road near Recasaca.

Sunday the 15. A fine morning. the battle commenced on the right at 10. heavy firing on the right. at 2 PM the 2 divis went into the fight. Hot work Took one battery. 4 took the fort at midnight. Took the guns out of the fort the Rbls charge repulsed.

Monday the 16. all quite. the Rebs left in the knight. we folowed them to the river. worked all knight to build Bridge.

Tewsday 17. worked at the Bridge. the artillery passed oer and most of the train.

Wednesday the 18. marched 22 milles. saw a large numbers of prisoners. We camped late on the side hill. some fireing on the left. the 4 Corp fought on the right.

Thursday the 19. The 20th Corps fought the Rebls all day. took Kingstown. some hard fighting and at Cassville the Rbls run again as usual. we hold oned of the line.

Friday the 20. all quite. hot day. mailed a letter home.

21. staid in camp. hot day.

22. hot day. wrote a letter home.

Monday the 23. The Rbls burnt the Bridge on the Etowha river. we crossed on Pontons. marched about 10 milles.

Tuesday the 24. hot day. thunder shower at knight. skirmished most of the day. took some prisoners. camped at burnt Hickory.

Wednesday the 25. marched about 6 milles. the Battle of Dallas commenced at 10 AM by Garies (Geary's) division. the Company stoped at Punkinvine crick to repair Bridge. hard fighting that day.

26. Staid at the crick.

27 do.

28 do

Sunday the 29 at the crick to ceep the bridge in repair.....

Monday the 30. Staying at the crick. the Rebls made 3 charges but repulsed each time.

31. Staying at the crick.

Since leaving Lookout at the start of the campaign, the 154th has had 34 casualties (34% of the whole force) plus 30 who have given out from sickness (A letter by Major Warner in June 1)

JUNE

Tuesday June the 1. at the crick. mailed a letter home.

2. at the Bridge. the 20 Corps moved to the left.

Wednesday the 3. We left the Bridge for the front. the fight is still going on. We got to the Brigade at 6 AM. recieved a letter from home.

the 4th skirmising and Canonadeing. we _____. all quite near the front.

Sunday the 5. Staid in Camp. rained most of day

6. advanced 6 milles. threw up Brestworks. recieved a lettr from home.

Tewsday the 7. all quite.

8. All quite.

9. all quite. recieved a letter from home.

Saturday the 10. The army commenced the move. Went to the train to draw rations for the Company. Wm. Callahan ___ to cash lent \$1,00.

11. drew 3 days rations wet day

Sunday the 12th Staid in camp wet day

Monday the 13. Wet day. heavy firing all day and night on the left.

Tuesday the 14. some canonadeing on the left. drew 2 day rations. had no forks. at 2 AM the Brigade went to the front. Garies (Geary's) div gained his position on the hill.

Wednesday the 15. at 7 in the morning the troop gained the hill on the right. hard scirmishing. the 154 rig lost 27 men. Co -- lost 3 Killed. Co. E lost 5 men Leutenent Shot threw the leg. drew 2 day rations

The 154th was deployed as skirmishers to cover the front in the advance against the Rebels who were entrenched on the crest of Lost Mountain and met heavy fire; the fight kept up for about an hour until the Rebels pulled back.

16. hard fighting all day. the 2nd division suffered all day. the 2nd Brigade had no Brest Works. heavy canonading on the Center all knight.

the 17. the Rbs left there Works at 3. in the morning front of the Corp heavy firing on the lft. most of the day heavy at 6 AM 20 Corp fought all knight.

June the 18. rained all day. 4th and 2d Corp fought all day. drew 2 days rations and one day of Whiskey.

Sunday the 19. The Rbls gone. hitched up the train at 1:30 encamped on rear of the trains Teams heavy stuck on the rode. it rained hard. Sheling on the front.

Monday the 20. rained a part of the day. the train moved 3² milles. Hard fighting most of the day. the Rbs charged our lines 3 times. each time repulsed.

Tuesday the 21. I Joined the Corp. it rained most of the day. advnced 2 milles and threw up Brest Works for the Brigade. heavy scirmishing all day and knight.

Wednesday the 22. Advanced 2 milles. built Brest Works in the morning. moved to the right at 8 AM. the Rbls made a charge on the 1 divs of the 20 army corp and the 23 corp. repulsed with a heavy loss. Worked most of the knight.

Thursday the 23. Worked on the fortycetions in the foomoon. all quite on the front. at 5 PM heavy canonadeing at the 4th Corps.

Friday the 24. a hot day. dug some ___ in front of the rifle pitts Skirmishing on the lines. write a lettr home.

Saturday the 25. hot day. some fighting on the right. in the afternoon worked at the 1 Brigade to help there fortyfyng their Works. most of the knight set 3 pieces of artillery for them.

Sunday the 26. Cordoroyed some rode at daylight on the right of Brigade vary hot day. Canonadeing on the right and the left.

Monday the 27. moved to the left on the 1 Brigadre. charged the rbls works our losses light took some prisioniers. built Brestworks in the time of the action. some of our men killed by our own shells. repaired some of the forts for the brigade battery staid on the old camp. vary tired.

Tuesday the 28. Canonadeing on the left of the 2 Brigade. Lt. Bridie was killed on the inside of the Brest works while he was going to cook his supper. some shelling though the day.

Wednesday the 29. all quite on the front. the Boys worked all knight on the scirmish line to dig a place to move the rbls made a charge in the morning at 2° 30.

Thursday the 30. all quite. moved to the right at 9 PM to relieve the 23 Corps of the 2 division. marched most of the knight. we was relieved by the 4th Corps.

JULY

Friday the 1. Put up headquarters in the fore part of the day Set 3 pices of artillery. advanced the lines to the right 1500 yds. Cap Fray came to the riment.

2. set 4 pices of artillery in the fornoon. Cut timber in front of the Brigade in the afternoon.

3d. the Rebs gone. we follow them 6 milles. took a large number of prisioneers. sick.

Monday the 4 of July. vary hot day. we laid in front of the Rebs. some fireing on the front. The rebs left in the knight

5. a plesent morning. marched early. camped neer the Chatthochee river. the Rebs leave some splendid works. our Battery shelled the Rebs train across the river.

the 6. threw up some Brest Works for the artillery. marched at 4 PM. camped in the open field not in front of the Rebs. marched about 4 milles. Cut most of the rode

the 7. Struck tents at 9 AM. took up position on the right of the camp. marched about 4 milles. put up 3 tents at headquarters. some heavy canonadeing on the front.

the 8th. put pins in a tall tree to climb for a lookout. Cut a waggon rode to the train. one of the ammunication waggon blew up. no one hurt.

the 9th. recieved a letter from home. mailed a letter home.

10. the rebs crossed the Chattahooche river in the morning. quite most of the day.

the 11. all quite. mailed a letter to D.T. Taylor. put one in it to my wife.

12. all quite. went to the train after some tools.

13th. laid in camp a hot day. .

14. do (ditto)

16. hot day not well.

Sunday the 17. struck tents at 4 PM. crossed the river in the evening. went over the river 8 milles.

18 July. the 2 brigade of the 2d division supported the 8th division on a reconysence and advanced about 5 milles. Cap Hay started for home. I am not well.

19th. advanced about 2 milles. crossed the Peach Tree crick.

20. the 2 divison advanced about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mille. the 154-33 Ny and 134 Ny advanced $\frac{1}{2}$ mille. came onto the Rebs at 4 PM and one of the hardest battleels since the commencement of the campain in the open field. Hand to hand conflict but the Rebs routed after 3 hours. hard fighting. they left there ded on the field and a part of wounded. the loss heavy on booth sides. the Rbs stronger than us 8 to one and there loss the same. the loss of the 154 rig 6.- 1 killed 4 wounded 1 missing. (Battle of Peach Tree Creek)

After the Battle of Peach Tree Creek, General Hood retreated into Atlanta and General Sherman commenced the siege of that city

21. quite as could be expected. buried the ded and some of the Rebs.
the 22. Advanced about 2 milles threw the rebs works. There Works strong. some heavy firing. they shelled us some. we threw up Brest Works. shelled the City of Atlanta some.
the 23. the Rebs shelled uss all day from their forts in the city. no damage. our Batterys threw shell in to City once in 5 minutes all knight.
24. hot day. some shelling on bootht sides.
the 25 of July. some shelling throught the day. the Boys worked on the front abatis most of the knight.
the 26. some shelling. the Boys worked on the front fortycation all day and most of the knight. the troop moved in to them in the eavening.
the 27. hot day. cut timber in front of the Brig up to the skirmish line to our lines.
the 28. sick. some shell threw into our camp. Built abatis in front of the Brigader. sharpened rails and put them in to the ground the point out.
Friday the 29. not well. the rebls threw shells into our camp we threw shells into Atlanta one in 10 minuites through the day quite through the knight.
30. The rebs attacted our skirmishers and some hot work in the morning. the 1 div took 102 prision of from there piket line. sick as usual.
Sunday the 31 of July. Worked all day on the fortycations. heavy shower it lasted until dark not well.

AUGUST

August the 1. Monday. got a pair of shoes and a pair of drawers at the rignent. some shlling. a hot day. sick in camp.
the 2. a hot day. not well. worked on the fortycations. recieved a letter from home dated July the 10.
Wednessdy the 3d. quite in the morning on front. some shlling just at knight. not well. hard fighting on the right. the Rebs charged Howard's command but repulsed with grate slaughter.
the 4th. quite in the morning. hordly a shot fired on the front. at 6 PM the Rebs shlld uss hard but no efect. hard fighting in the on the right.
the 5th. some shlling on the front. hard fighting on the right. The cars run to our lines the first train. sick. mailed a letter to the Engineer Corp of the army ofCumbeland.
August the 6. sick with a bile on the back of my neck.. fighting on the right. we threw some shll in to the city.
Sunday the 7. sick. all quite on the front. some canonadeing on the right.
Monday the 8. all quite on front. some rain in the afternoon. sick.as usual
Tewsday the 9th. shelled the city all day. no reply by the rebels a little better
Wednesday the 10. all quite on the front. received a letter from home one from Bambrick
Thursday the 11. shelled the city with our cannons all knight. not well
Friday the 12. quite in the morning. threw some shlls. heavy musketry in the right most of the knight.

Saturday 13. quite in the morning. hard shlling at knight along the lines.
Sunday the 14. all quite on the front. our shlls got the City and the Rbls shelled our Battery. Adam Kiedfer killed by a musket ball., one of the Pioneers.
Monday the 15. all quite on front of the 20 Corps.
Tewsdays the 16. quite in the morning. the Rebs massed there troop in front of the 4th Corp. all of the available force ordered in the trenches.
Wednesday the 17. all quite along the liines except that we shlld the City usual.
Thursday the 18. The Rbls shlld us hard in the morning. they charged the right works. repulsed.
Friday the 19 – August. We shlld the Rebls hard in the morning. blew up one of there Caisons in the fort
Satturday the 20. all quite on the front. Worked at Headquarters. Threw shlles all knight in to the City.
Sunday the 21. quite in the morning on the front. Canonadeing on the right.
Monday the 22. some shelling. very lame so that I could not walk or stand on my leg.
August the 23. Tuesday. quite on the front. In a good deal of pain with my leg.
Wednesday the 24. West to the division hospittal. vary lame. good deal of paine.
Thursday the 25. the Hospital moved back on the other sidee of the river. I rode on the baggage. got vary tired.
Friday the 26. Commenced dr (doctoring) for an ulcer on my leg. Used (comple cerritt?).
Satturday the 27. one man killed in the Hosptal. A gun fell down on his head.
Sunday the 28. my leg vary painfull. applying (comple cerritt ?) and sprinkle on on dry calomel. _ . preaching in the Evening.
Monday the 29. made a splint with broom handles . leg about the same.
Tuesday the 30. Poulticing my leg taking a powder 3 times a day. one of the 73 Pa rig solders died to day.
Wednesday the 31. on the gain using the poultice and taking powders.

SEPTEMBER

Thursday the 1 Sept stopt taking medicine. took of the poultice.
Friday 2. Taking the tincture of iron. sick to my stomack al knight. The city of Atlanta taken by the 2 division of the 20 A.C.
Satturday the 3. sick to my stomack.
Sunday the 4. moved the Hosptal to the City of Atlanta. Tried to walk there but failed. Got lame so that they had to help me in to the Ambulance. staid in the barracks.
Monday the 5. staid in the barracks. a little better.
Tewsdays the 6. not so well. sick to my stomack. moved in to the new Hospital. Hot day.
Wednesday the 7. Went over to the rignent. got vary tired. recieved a letter from home.
Thursday the 8. Went to the railrode to ce the distruction that the Rebbs made in blowing up there Works. destroyed 5 tranes of cars and the Machine Chop.
Friday the 9. helped the nurse to put up his tent. got vary tired. it made my leg worse.

Saturday the 10. Went to the burying ground. some nice monuments in it. A grate many Souldiers buried there that shows the distruction of this war. about 2 acres for the use of the rebs souldiers. some Fedrol souldiers in there. one from the 154th Ny. Wounded at rocky face. died the 15th the day that the battle of Reesasaca was fought.
Sunday the 11 September. Recieved a lettr from home. had preaching in the Evening.
Monday the 12. Mailed a lettr home. commenced taking medicine again. one Tea spoonfull of drops 3 times a day
Tewsday the 13. Recieved a letter from S. Stone. went over to the rignent to sine for some clothing.
Wednesday the 14. taking Clorade of potash (potassium chloride?) and cinnamon not as well.
Thursday the 15. sick to my stomach. taking Potash and cinnamon.
Friday the 16. got a pass and went to the City.
Saturday the 17. Went to the rignent and got a blouse and a pare of socks. recied a letter from home.
Sunday the 18. Mailed a letter home. paid 30 cents for a pint of Molasses.
Monday the 19. plesent day. not as well.
Tewsday the 20. visit to the rignent. recieved a letter from home. sined the pay roll for 8 months pay.
Wednesday the 21. A wet day. not as well.
Thursday the 22. sick to my stomach most of the time. mailed a lettr home. reined part of the time
Friday the 23. fine morning. a hard shower in the afternoon.
Saturday the 24. col morning hot in the middle of the day the sore on my leg broke out again put on a flax seed poultice.
Sunday the 25. cool morning had meeting in the evening.
Monday the 26. all well.
Tewsday the 27. put up me a tent for my self. got tired.
Wednesday the 28. finished my tent. reported to the Hospital. Pioneers went to church in the evening to the city at the Meeting house that had a shll threw through it. text Math C_33
Thursday the 29th. all well as usual.
Friday the 30th. Buried Dr. Eggleton

OCTOBER

Saturday the 1st. Wm. Callahan Jr By cash \$1,00
Sunday the 2nd. not well. it rained a part of the knight.
Monday the 3d. put a lineing in my state jactett. drewe 2 shirts and a Canteen at the Hospital
Tewsday the 4th. finished lineing my state jactett. tended church in the evening at the city. text Matthew 19, 20 one thing thou lack.
Wednesday 5th. West to the burying ground 3 times to Church in the evening. text St. Luke 13+12.
Thursday 6th. Pieced down my shirt. went to meeting in the evening. Text luke 4^{the} 36 What a Word is this.

Friday 7th. Vary fogy in the morning. hot day for the time of the year. took diner at the rigment.
Saturday 8th. Joined the rigment. left the hospital without shedding a tear. a cold Knight.
Sunday 9th. had inspection for the First time for 2 years. cold Knight.
Monday 10th. A fine day. Paid out 50 cnts for comirsaries. Went on PicKitt the first time since left thourafare gap. Cold Knight. stood 4 hours in the Knight.
Tewsday 11th. On Pickett. detailed for another day. relieved the 33d N.J. Vol a Part of the brigade on a foraging expidition for 4 days.
Wednesday 12th. Recieved 8 months Pay allotted 100 dollars home coming off Pickett.
Thursday 13th. Excused from duty. recieved a letter from home. one from D. Taylor one from T.K. Bambrick.
Friday the 14th. Excused from duty. a lame leg..
Saturday 15th. Excused from duty. taking medicine.
Sunday 16th. The rigment went out on forage expidition for 4 days and I am the only one left in camp.
Monday 17th. Sick in camp. taking medicine. a lonesome day. took dinner alone. had sweet pottatoes and a soaldiers sweet cake fresh beef rosted down and coffe.
Tewsday, 18th. Mailed a letter home. Wrote a letter to T.K. Bambrick. mailed one home.
Wednesday 19th. The 154th regment returned from a forage expidition. Brought in 700 wagoone lods of forage.
Thursday the 20th. the company killed the cow that they drove in so we lived on rosted beef and sweet potatoes.
Friday 21th. excused from duty at present being lame.
Satturday 22nd. carried stuff all day for quarters. recieved a letter from home.
Sunday 23th. Went to East point for guard to get iron form the rebs in force had skirmisin with them The Rebls loss 8 wounded. got vary tired.
Monday 24th. The rigment went to Eastpoint after iron. I was lame so I did not go. mailed a letter home.
Tewsday 25th. Went after iron in the forenoon. built a tent in the afternoon.
Wednesday 26th. the rigment went out on a forage expidition 5 days rations. I remained in camp being lame. recieved a letter from N.S. Ladrie and one from E. Elnorn with setts of Ballotts in them for President. did not vote at all.
Thursday 27th. It rained some in the forenoon. worked some on my tent.
Friday 28th. on pickett. Ira Barber came to the rigment. (Original copy said Gage came to the regiment on this day)
Satturday 29th. came of from Pickett. went to the city in the afternoon. got some dried Peaches on some dried appleels at the 111 Pa volunteer. the Company got in camp at sundown.
Sunday 30th. a warm and plesent day.
Monday 31st. Mustered for 2 months pay. a warm day. the cheereiys trees in bloom.

NOVEMBER

Teswsday 1th. A fine day for the season. Let James Hunt have a blouse \$2.65. Went to the city.
Wednesday 2nd. a rainy morning. a cold day.

Thursday 3d. a cold day for the season. James Hunt came by cash \$2-10.

Friday 4th. all well. recieved a letter from home.

Saturday 5th. struck tents at 3 P.M.. moved out side of the brestworks in to the woods the object not known.

Sunday 6th. Some pickett firing in the morning. 1 more killed. the Rbls had 8 men killed and some taken prisioners. Went on Pickett at 3 P.M. the Pickett line moved in and on the old lines the Corp moved back to the old camp ground. got no sleep a wet knight.

Monday 7th. a plesent day. built a chimney in my tent.

Tewsday 8th. Paid out 50 cnts for commersarys.

Wednesday 9th. The Rebls shoved out some artillery on the railrode and shelled our camp. they soon run and left some of there ded on the field.

Thursday 10. Went on cattle guard on the out side of the Pickett lines.

Friday 11th. all quite in the day along the lines at 11 P.M. called to arms. The city on fire in the night Stacked our arms on the collarline then went to bed with our strap on.

Saturday 12th. Went on Pickett. quite on the lines. cold knight.

Sunday 13th. fine day. came off from Pickett.

Monday 14th. recieved orders to leave . drew 1 days rations.

Tewsday 15th. The City of Atlanta evacuated and burnt by rigs. started for Savannah. on the advance guard. marched 18 m. took dinner at Decatur the place whare Gen McFerson was killed. the village is mostly destroyed. staid near Stone Moutin.

November 16, 1864. After partially burning Atlanta, Sherman starts his march to the sea.

Wednesday the 16. came of from pickett. Passed Stone mountain. it is a solled stone some scattering scrubs. got in to camp in good seeson.

Thursday 17th. We are liveing well on sweet potatoes and fresh pork.

Friday 18th. Passed through some fine country. staid near the village of Madison, the finest place that I have seen in Geo.

Saturday the 19. Passed through Madison before light. tore up the railrode most of the day. burnt 180 bales of cotton and a larg amount of corn and oat. Houses the Plantation of Lea Gordon. he owns 7 plantations and 1800 slaves.

Monday 21th. It rained all knight.

Tewsday 22th. It rained most of the day. marched through the city of Milledgeville the capital of the State with fixed bayonetts after dark. cold on pickett.

Wednesday 23rd. The Boys done some foraging got some poultry honey flour and meal, staid near the city. On pickett at Midgedgeville cold knight

Thursday 24th. Went in to camp in the swamp at 11 P.M. on 49 rations of Bread a plenty of Potatoes and fresh meet.

Friday 25th. broke camp at 7 AM the country is mostly swamp to day that we pass through. the Rebls burnt the Bridge on Buffalo crick. camped on the south side at 7 PM.

Saturday the 26. Some skirmishing. on wagon Guard.. took diner at Sandersville. it is the co. seat. some good buildings. camped 2 mills from Sandersonville at 11-30 company called to arms. all for two cows in the field.

Sunday 27th. tore up 6 mills of RR marched 9 mils afr 4 PM crossed large crick. camped at Davisville. burnt the cotton as usual.

Monday 28th. fine morning. guarded the Corp train. marched 18 miles after 11 AM. on pickett that night.

Tuesday 29th. tore up the railrode to the river and burnt it. marched about 9 miles. burnt most of the RR

Wednesday 30th. tore up the rode and burnt the Bridge across the Ogeechee river. marched 14 miles after 3-30 PM. crossed the River near Louisville. the heaviest fog that I ever saw. could not see the campfire and roads. the men would get lost by going after Wood.

DECEMBER

Dec 1st. guarded the train. passed through some fine country between the swamps.

Friday 2nd. the company had some fine geese for breakfast. passed through some fine country. camped at ___ P>M>

Saturday 3^d. guard the train. a hot day.

Sunday 4th. Went on a forage party. got 4 loads of Potatoes fresh pork. marched 20 miles.

Monday 5th. On a forage party get 2 loads of potatoes. reduced to ¾ Pound of Potatoes. no bread. short rations.

Tuesday 6th. on train guard. a hot day. march through swamp most of the day.

Wednesday 7th. a wet day. a hot night.

Thursday 8th. fine morning. passed through the village of Springfield the Co. seat. a few old buildings and a small Court house.

Friday 9th. Some cannonading on the front. the 3d Brigade of the 1 division took the Rebs fast. we went to the right to support them.

Saturday 10th. on train guard. Some skirmishing on front. Camped 7 miles from the City of Savannah on the Charlestown Railrode at 5 PM.

Sunday 11th. Some skirmishing in our division. We formed our Battle line in the old pits that was made in the Revolutionary War in front of the Rebs forts. they shelled us some.

Monday 12th. at 1-30 in the morning we marched out of the camp in light march in order to storm the Rebs fort. at 3^o laid on the cold ground on our faces until 4 then returned to camp. found the ground impassable between the forts very cold at sunrise. 3 transports come in sight and shelled us some. our Batteries opened on them. soon one of them was on the ground. in a few minutes she ran up the white flag. the 154th rig supported the Batteries. we camped on the Bank of the river.

Tuesday 13th. the 154th regiment lost 3^o men by a shell from the gun boats. -----, Keight and Peck taken prisoners on the island.

Wednesday 14th. some shelling from the gun boats.

Thursday 15th. Some shelling from the gun boats. 1 man killed one wounded in the 134th Ny Vol.

Friday 16th. commenced fort jobs on the river bank in the rear of the old Work of 7-6. (1776?) this is the 4th day that we have lived on ½ Pound of rice a day and roasted acorns from the live Oaks. no sugar. ½ # of Beef not seen a hard tack for a number of days.

Saturday 17th. worked on fort all night. received 2 letters from home dated Nov 6 and 14.

Sunday 18th. A fine day on Pickett. the 4th day and knight on duty living on ½ # of rice and acorns. heavy cannonading on front.

Monday 19th. on Pickett on the Banks of the river the Rbls threw some shells in the fort.
Tewsday 20th. on guard at the Boate landing. drew 1 ration of hard tack. the first for 20 days.

On the night of Dec. 20,th the Confederates evacuated the city of Savannah and started northwards.

Wednesday the 21. The City of Savannah Surrendered to Gen Geary at 5 PM. We marched in to the city at 6-45 with fixed Bayonets and the band playing camped in the Park on the South Side of the City.

For the next month the 154th was assigned the task of guarding and patrolling a district of the city.

Thursday 22nd. on city guard. a cold knight.

Friday 23rd. build quarters.

Saturdy 24th. on city guard. cold knight.

Sunday 25th. . getting warm. a poor Christmass. had a cold Jonny cake cake for dinner.

Monday 26th. Warm. it rains. on City guard.

Friday 30th. Gen review by Gen Sherman. fine day. recieved a letter from home. went on City guard in the evening.

Saturday 31st. rather cold. on camp guard at knight.

JANUARY, 1865

(At this point in his diary, Mervin had included a list of his 1964 letters, including, for those sent by Melvin, the date, destination and number sent; for those received by Melvin, the sender and dates received and mailed.)

Sunday the 1. Some salutes fired by the souldiers. the 3d division crossed the river.

Monday 2. all quite.

Tewsday 3d. on city guard. some of the Corp taking transports.

Wednesday 4th. went down to the harbour.

Thursdy 5th. on (fatigue?) on the forts ----- parade by rignent.

Friday 6th. on city guard. a good deal of disturbance at the houses of ill fame. I have seen

Saturday 7th. a fine day. come off from city guard.

Sunday 8th. on (fatigue?) on the forts. drew some clothing. pants ,shirt, blouse,shoes, and ruber Blankett.

Monday 9th. Laid in camp the first that I have of from duty in some time.

Tewsday 10th. on city guard. a warm day.

Sunday 22d. West in to South Carolina to guard the Pontoon Bridge. the mud deep and it rained all of the time.

Monday 23rd. mailed a letter home and 1 to D. T. Taylor

Friday 27th. commenced the campain for the South East. broke camp at 8^o clock. marched 12 milles. camped at 2. 154th started With 131 muskett. a fine day. recieved a letter from home.

Sunday the 29. March through Springfield at 9:30. Camp ner the Savannah river. guarded train.

Monday 30th. laid in camp. one division of the 15th corp passed us. fine day.
Tuesday 31st. a fine day. mailed a letter home. in camp.

FEBRUARY

Wednesday Feb. 1st. a fine day. had a brigade review by Col Mindle of the 33d NJ Vol.
went on Pickett.

Feb Thursday 2nd. a rainy night but warm.

Friday 3^d. a wet day. a rattlesnake killed in camp 5 feet long with 9 rattles on. broke camp
at 5:30. marched 80 rods and returned to camp.

Saturday 4th. broke camp at 6.30. crossed the river at Sisters Ferry on the Pontoon bridge.
_____ 5 days rations to last 15 days. Crossed one very bad swamp on Pickett.

Sunday 5th. started at 1^o clock. Went through Robertsville at 2^o clock. camped late.

Thursday 9th. marched 18 miles. camped near the village of Blackville.

Friday 10th. guarded the corps train. on Pickett.

Saturday 11th. marched 6 miles. camped on the south side of the south Edisto river.

Sunday Feb 12th. crossed the Edisto river on Pontoon. a bad swamp on the side of the
river. Some shelling on the North Edisto found some forage

Monday 13th. crossed the North Edisto at daylight some skirmishing. laid in camp all day.
had to march 5 miles after Dark.

Tuesday 14th. on a forage party. got some hams meal flour honey. got lost. it rained and
froze. got in to camp late.

Wednesday 15th. rained in the morning. some skirmishing. camped near Lexington
one Brigade camped in it. drove the Rebels out.

Thursday 16th. guarded the train 3 miles to a Waggon. fighting in front of the capital of the
State 3d division advanced

*February 17, 1865. Sherman occupies the South Carolina capital, Columbia, which is destroyed by fire
that night.*

Friday 17th. guarded the train. laid up the river near Zion church. 6 miles from Columbia.
the city taken.

Saturday 18th. crossed the river.

Sunday 19th. on a forage party. crossed Broad river. got some Bacon and burnt some
cotton. forage scarce.

Monday 20th. returned from foraging. marched 8 miles. guarded the train.

Tuesday 21st. Took the village of Winsboro at 11 a.m. in the afternoon burnt the ties on
the railroads and destroyed the track stopped drawing hard bread draw 1 fifth ration of
Coffee.

Wednesday 22nd. tore up railroads and burnt the ties the 17th Corp set some cotton on fire
in the village burnt the town marched 6 miles after 4:30

Thursday Feb 23^d. 18 of our soldiers found with throats cut and hurry up and labeled
death to foragers. crossed the Chatoba (Catawba) river on pontoon. it rained all night.

Saturday 25th. on a forage party. had to wade a stream up to our waste. got lost. run in to
the 17-Corps twice. got some beans. staid on the outside of the lines in a fine house.

Sunday 26th. returned to the corps from the foraging expedition at Hanging Rock. got some tobacco. on Pick. B.Hitch for tobacco 1.00 I Hunt .50
Monday 27th moved camp 2 miles on the Hanging Rock road. it rained all night.
Tuesday 28th. marched 7 miles. cordaroyed 2 miles. camped at noon. it rained in the forepart of the day.

MARCH

Wednesday March 1st. rear guard of the Corp crossed _____ crick in the evening. camped on the east side at 7-3 PM.

Thursday 2nd. advance guard. rainy day. ____ guard the first time.

Friday 3rd. advance guard of the Corps. camped at Chesterfield. it contains Court house and Jail. on pickett.

Saturday 4th. rear guard the Court house and Jail burnt. camped in _____ for Sneadsville (Sneadsboro).

Sunday 5th. laid in camp. went to Prayer Meeting in the evening.

Monday 6th. went down the river in to S.C. at Cheraw. crossed the river at that place. it is a place 1 mile square. it contains a large amount of army stores. the end of the railrode. took a large amount of ammunitions of War. it also contains the last remains of Gen Frances Marion. his tomb marked by an old pile of Bricks which is a disgrace to the country for its negligence of its illustrious ded.

Tuesday 7th. marched 12 miles on NC. tore up some railrode.

Wednesday 8th. a rainy day. the rode got very bad. marched 7 miles. camped 11-30 PM.

Thursday 9th. it rained all day. marched 7 m. had to cordaroy the rode most of the Way.

Friday 10th. advance guard. the rode vary bad. vary bad swamp on booth side of the stream. on pickett. the Brigader laid on there _____.

March 11, 1865. Sherman reaches Fayetteville, North Carolina, and reestablishes contact with Federal forces in the coast.

Saturday 11th. rear guard marched until 3 on the morning. crossed Rock First crick in the evening on Pontoon. a bad swamp on booth sides of _____.

Sunday 12th. went in to the city of Fayetteville. the plac taken on the 11th. the plac contained a number of publick buildings _____ and Machine chop. Those were tore down. we took a large amount of munitions of War and 2 steamers. it is on Cape Fer river.

Monday 13th. marched out of the city at noon. reviewed by Gen. Sherman as we passed. crossed Cape Fear river on a pontoon. camped 3 miles from the place.

Tuesday 14th. laid in camp. mailed a letter home.

Wednesday 15th. a wet day. detached to guard the train. commenced the march at 4 PM marched all night camped at 4:30 in the morning. went 7 miles. the rode vary bad.

March 16, 1865. Sherman repulses Johnston's attack at Bentonville, North Carolina, and the rebels retreat toward Raleigh.

Thursday 16th. The 1st and 3rd divs had a fight on the front. loss 400. marched all night camped at 5 in the morning. marched only 2 miles through the swamp. the rode bad.
Friday 17th. had to cordaroy the rode. marched 7 miles. had to build the Bridge over Black river. the Rbels burnt the Bridge.
Saturday 18th. had to cordaroy the rode. had to go on Pickett.
Sunday 19th. Cordaroyed the rode. passed through some pine country. the 1st and 3rd division and the 14th Corp had a hard battle. we were called up at midnight to escort some wagons to the front for the wounded. the order was countermanded after we had gone 2 miles and the 1st and 3rd Brigade ordered to the front and we were ordered on Pickett in there place. all so the 73 Pa vol on Pickett.
Monday 20th. the train parked on as small a pieces of ground as possible and fortyfied around it. At noon we had order to move. marched 5 miles. we left the ground that the train parked on at 9 PM. camped at 3.30 in the morning of the 21st.
Tewsday 21st. some hard fighting on the front. one Brigade guarded the train.
Wednesday 22nd. the Corp went in to camp as mutch of it as could in the 112th Ny vol went to the right. we went in to camp at 2 PM. the wounded was brought in and the Hospital established for a day or two.

March 23, 1865. Sherman occuppies Goldsboro, North Carolina.

Thursday 23rd. went to Kinston after rations. passed through Goldsborou in the morning. went 22 miles. camped 7-30 PM.
Friday 24th. went to the Boate landing 3 miles below Kinston and looded a part of the train. 2 compy of this reg and 2 of the 119th Pa detached to stay for the remainder of loode.
Saturday 25th. mailed 2 lettr home. looded a part of the Wagons that was left and went to Kinston camp at 6 PM on the out side of the fortycations.
Sunday 26th. left Kinston at 10 AM. went 17 miles. camped at sundown. killed a hog for Supper.
Monday 27th. marched 17 miles. camped 2 miles above Goldsboro at 3 PM.
Tewsday 28th. went on a forage party with some wagons got loaded with corn. a part of the loade in 2 miles of Gen Wheelers Cav Camp. marche 32 miles. got in to camp at 10 PM. went across Mickasin river. recieved some lettrs from home.
Thursday 30th. mailed a lettr home. recieved 2 lettrs from home.

APRIL

April 2nd mailed a letter to Father

Tuesday 4th. Inspected by G Gary (Gen. Geary). and the camp arms _____.

Wednesday 5th. reviewed by the Corps Gen. Mougher and the Divis and the Brigaders. each had their flags presented to them by Gen Gary.

Thursday 6th. the first drill for some time. received the news of the capture of Richmond.

Friday 7th. received letter from home. mailed a letter home.

Sunday 9th. received orders to march on the 10th. commencement of another campaign. wrote a letter home. mailed in letter with S Stone.

Monday 10th. commenced the spring camp (campaign) 20th corps took the left. we marched 14 miles. it rained very bad. a very torrent- to go through in the night. the rebels made a stand there got separated from the company.

Tuesday 11th. it rained some in the morning. very hot in the middle of the day. the 2nd Brigade took the advance. had to skirmish some. Camped near Smithfield. Some of the soldiers sonstruck.

Wednesday 12th. Heard the notice of the surrender of Gen Lea read to the army. Ordered to the Wagon train to repair the road. Went back 5 miles. camped on the South side of the river (Swift?)

April 13, 1865. Sherman enters Raleigh, North Carolina.

Thursday 13th. on safe guard. near the town of Clayton. staid all night. the Capitol of SC. (NC) surrendered to Gen Sherman. the Cavalry went in to the City first.

Friday 14th. Went in to the City of Raleigh. camped near the asylum. A hot day. in the evening went to the 112th N.y. vol.

Saturday 15th. it rained most of the day. fell in line to march. stood in the rain some time than the order countermanded. in the afternoon went 10th Corp of the 2nd division pioneer to see some of the boys. it is rumoured that Johnson had surrendered.

Sunday 16th. a fine day. received the notice of the surrender of Johnson. the boys had a regular drunk in the night. the officers the same. Gen Jones gave us a keg of Whiskey. had preaching at noon.

Monday 17th. a fine day. received the death President Lincoln. cleaned up the camp.

Wednesday 19th. went out on a forage party. after corn and fodder. traveled 33 miles. a hot day.

Thursday 20th. the division had drill and passed review. Gen Gary made a speech to his Division.

Saturday 22nd. reviewed by Gen Sherman. a fine day. received a letter from home.

Monday 24th. mailed a letter home. received orders to march again to the front in the morning.

Tuesday 25th. Broke camp at 8 a.m. started for the front. marched 13 miles. a hot day. camped at Jones x road (Jones Crossroad)

Wednesday 26th. Laid in camp on the left of the line.

Thursday 27th. Laid in camp. the headquarters of the Corp moved to Raleigh.

Friday 28th. Commenced our march for home. camped on the old camping ground at Raleigh that we left on Tuesday. camped at 11-30. Hot day.
Saturday 29th. received orders to march to Richmond and from there to Washington. Got _____ of John Rolph (Mervin's brother-in-law who was also in the army)

MAY

Sunday the 1st. Broke camp 6-30 on our march for our home from Raleigh. passed through the city on review. camped near the Nuse river at 6-30. marched 14 mls.

Monday 2nd. Broke camp at daylight. marched 22 mls. passed through some good country. the wheat and corn looks well.

Tuesday 3^d. train guard. Broke camp at daylight. run in to the 14 Corp. marched 18 mls.

Wednesday 3^d. Broke camp at daylight. marched to the state line. camped at 11-30 for the day. marched 13 mls.

Thursday 4th. Broke camp at 6-30. Crossed the Rohonake river at 7-40 on platoon of 33 (boats?). camped in 3 mls of _____ river. marched 21 mls.

Friday 5th. Broke camp at 5-30. camped at sundown. marched 22 mls. it rained in the morning.

Saturday 6th. Broke camp at daylight. marched 1 mle laid still 3 hours marched 11 ml.

Sunday 7th. a hot day. crossed the Appomattox river at 6-30. camped near the river. a small stream. marched 20 mls.

Monday 8th. a hot day. marched 20 mls. a great number of men fell out.

Tuesday 9th. a cloudy morning.

Wednesday 10th. tore down our tents to move then the order countermanded.

Thursday 11th. Broke camp at 10. passed through Manchester on review _____ by the 24th Corp. a good deal of parade. crossed the James river at 2° over in to Richmond. passed by (Castle Thunder?) and Lily Prison. that is a hard looking place near the river. then up by the Capital in front of it is Washington sitting on his horse full size on a hard pedestal. camped 3 mls from the city. a hot day. at night a heavy shower.

Friday 12th. Went through the Chickahominy swamp. Camped in the village of Ashland the regiment was on safe guard there. it is a strong secessionist feeling there and very interesting place. it is on the hard road.

Saturday 13th. crossed the south Anna river. rode in the Ambulance. lame foot. 16 mls.

Sunday 14th. a hot day. very lame. marched that day got very lame.

Monday 15th. Crossed over the Battlefield of Spettssylany (Spotsylvania) Court House the timber cut down by cannon balls it looked like a fight a number of men not buried. passed in the afternoon over the Battlefield Chancellorville. crossed the river at 6-30. camped on the north side of it Rode in the ambulance 22 mls

Tuesday 16th. a hot day. rode in the ambulance. camped at 4 o.

Wednesday 17th. rode in the government wagon. the hottest day of the season. camped at Grantsville (Garrisonville?). rode 14 mls.

Thursday 18th. Broke camp at 8 AM. camped near (Hartfield Station?) on the hill. it rained hard from 6 until 11 P.M. in the Knight. a maple (tree) down hard on the tent and broke it injured some as well as myself

Friday 19th. camped near Alexandria at sundown. very lame.

Saturday 20th. laid in camp. it rained. Ira (a relative) came to the camp

Sunday 21st. laid in camp. it rained.

Monday 22nd. Edmon (Edmond, a relative) came to see me. he is in the 2nd Corp

May 23, 1865. A two-day Grand Review of the Federal armies up Washington, DC's Pennsylvania Avenue begins.

Tuesday 23^d. The army of the Potomack reviewed. a pleasant day.

Wednesday 24th. Broke camp at 5 am. of Sherman's army review it took 9 hours to pass through the town. it was estimated at 75,000 in the afternoon the trains moved on the North side of the river. camped near the village of Bladensburg 4 miles from the city.

Saturday 27th. Went to the (cavalry?) to see the Boys. Stanley was at (Parall?) camp

Sunday 28th. went to the city of Washington to see Maj. Haywood. he let me have \$5 in cash.

Monday 29th. went to the capitol and through the most of it and then took the street cars to the navy yard. Went aboard of 2 ironclads or monitors. Went through the lower part of the Boate 14 ft under water some of the guns in the yards was captured in the Tripoli war then took the cars for the Smithsonian Institute that is a splendid site. it is worth seeing. Went in to the Patent Office. saw tents and equipments of Washington and his plantations house had furniture his sword and equipments the coats that Gen Jackson wore at the Battle of New Orleans and a number of other relics

Tuesday 30th. the 154th and the 119th N.Y. vol had a nice flag presented to them by the Governor of the state with the Battells marked on them. he made us a fine speech.

Wednesday 31st. Moved camp across the road. a hot day. the troops is going home or at last the army of Tennessee is going to Louisville to be mustered out.

JUNE, 1865

Thursday June 1st. a hot day. the road is full of troops.

Friday 2nd. received a letter from home.

Saturday 3^d. mailed a letter home. a very hot day

Sunday 4th. one of the hottest days of the season. not well

Monday 5th. a sultry morning and a very hot day. Traded (rubber?) with (horrible?) and gave him 1.50

Tuesday 6th. a cool day. went to the city and in to the capitol and to the Smithsonian Institute and to the navy saw some shells and shot that came from parrott 600# 20 inch round shot 1146# and a 18 inch Blakely that the Rebels shot at Charleston and a solid shot that was fired from the Pirate rebel Boate Alabama in to the Hersage and the parts of the boate on fragment and the gun carriage of the pirate Florida and the first gun 15 inch fired 864 times and burst charge of 35# per shell 356# shell and 71# for shot of 450# canister one cannon that was made in year of 1490 and a long piece that was captured at Tripoli by Com Decatur. one large torpedo from the -----at Mobile. one 15 inch cannon that was fired 1600 times on the test and is sound. one Ostrich Egg that is 12 inch long and 7 in in diameter at the Institute.

Thursday 8th. Went to the City and went to the Patent office. saw the coat Gen Pueze the associate of Bollivar the coat that Gen Jackson wore at the Battle of New Orleans. the coat that Gen Washington wore at the time his resignation of --- and his whole suit in citizens dress also his old compass that he used in surveying and the Printing Press of Franklins that he worked on in London and afterwards he purchased it and carried to the States being 10_ yer old in the yer of 1833. and a field compass used in yer 1600 and Capt. Cooks old razor.

Saturday 11th. Mustered out of the U.S. Service at 1 PM. a hot day.

Sunday 12th. Broke camp at 1-30 PM for Washington. took the cars for Baltimor at 10.30 PM. arrived at Baltimor the next morning. took Breakfast at the souldiers home.

Monday 13th. marched through the City of Baltimore. took the cars at noon for Elmira. crossed the river above Harrisburgh at sundown. arrived at Williamsport the next morning. a cool day.

Tuesday the 14. Arrived at Elmira at 10. am. took dinner at No 1 Barracks then marched to the camp near (Chemsory?) Barracks.

Wednesday 21st. signed the pay roll for the last time in the U.S. service. a hot day.

Letter to home from Savannah:

Savanah Geo Jan 18

I thought that I would send you some things for I donot need them for we expect a campaign and I could not carry them. as long as Gage was going to send some things so I will fill up the Box. you can do with the things as you choose. I know that you would like this Book. I shall send my over coat in the spring if I can that stone is coral stone that comes from the depths of Florida. I shall not carry a knapsack in the spring. that is the reason that I send you my house _____ to you. the shoes was captured on the road and they are too small for me they _____ for the children.

I am well and hope that you are the same and the Boys _____ is all the same. you will see how we have lived on this march and may God bless you _____. Will you write soon as you get these things. from your lonely husband. M.B. Barber

Mervin's "housewife" which a great grandson, Paul Lockwood, now has is a cloth kit 16.5 inches long by 7.5 inches wide. The back was from an oil cloth material with a brown inner layer with polka dots of two shades of brown. The three inner pockets were made of 3 different materials. The small flap pocket was of a different material. The flap has 3 strings to close the housewife.

It now contains:

New testament

Pen knife that has been sharpened many times and is worn down

A folding fork and spoon with a common handle. Spoon is table spoon size, fork is small with 2 tines..

Coin purse.

Sewing case with needles and pins. Space for thread.

Diaries,

Scissors

Note:

The following list of tools was in the original copy, with the heading too scorched to be legible. This list appears to be what tools Mervin had in his role as carpenter in the Pioneer Corps.

----- saws

3 2 inch augers

3 1 1/2 "

3 1 "

3 2 inch chissels

3 1 1/2 do

-- new tools acc__ of the quarter master of the brig 2 div army corps

1 broad axe

1 squire

1 auger