DIARY of ANDREW BLOOD

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September 14, 1862 to September 26, 1863

The diary was copied in order to make the writing legible. The original belongs to Audrey Waite, Granddaughter of Andrew Blood.

Alan D. Henry 1199 Ashland Drive Temperance, MI., 48182

A YEAR IN THE LIFE OF ANDREW BLOOD.....

Introduction
Andrew Blood was born 7 June 1837 at Carroll, Chautauqua County, New
York and died 9 October 1910 at Steamburg, Cattaraugus County, New
York. Andrew served from 2 July 1862 to 11 June 1865 in Company A of
the 154th Regiment of the New York Volunteer Infantry. What follows is
taken from a diary Andrew kept during the first year of the Civil War.
The first 21 pages of Andrew's diary were missing and page 22 had been
exposed to the elements too long and was unreadable. At the time the
diary starts he was at a camp [Camp Brown] a short distance from
Jamestown, NY. The time period is September 14, 1862 thru September 26,
1863. Andrew would have been about 26 years old. The data in brackets
was not in the diary but added from information on the history of the
154th Regt., "The Hardtack Regiment", published in 1981 by the
Associated University Press, Inc.

SEPTEMBER 1862

SUNDAY Sept 14th

This morning was detailed as guard and came on the second relief and went at eleven o'clock and ______one while standing any this tour. My Sister Lydia came to see me and brought me my dinner of which was very gladly accepted. I have got a pass from the Colonal to go down to the villa and stay untill half past five o'clock. I went down with my Sister and stopped with a young lady with whom I am acquainted about one hour.

MONDAY Sept 15th

As I was sitting on my bunk today awriting I looked up and there stood Mr. Woods young people and my sister Rhoda and had a good visit with her and them.

TUESDAY Sept. 16th

This forenoon there has nothing of importance taken place. The boys have just come from dinner and there is a couple of ladies from Carroll to see us. They have brought us our dinner but we have had to go on battalion drill and have not had time to eat it and consequently they are going to bring it to us for our supper. It is a chicken pot pie apple pie two kinds and soft cake.

WEDNESDAY Sept 17th

This morning W.H.H. Campbell and myself concluded that we would take a dark pass and go down to Jamestown. So when it began to get a little dusky we run the guard without being noticed. We have reached our stopping place; we knock. The door is opened by a young Lady. Then there is another appears and we have a good visit with them. The time has come for us to leave and our only fears now is being catched by the police. We are nearing the Camp waiting for a chance to go through. While so doing, we hear them yell Corporal of the guard post number seventeen someone is running the guard. At last we start from our hiding place to try our chances. The time is a quarter past three o'clock in the morning. We have got in to the woods near the high fence that encircles our barracks. A limb cracks of _____. We are in thirty feet of a sentinel. We stop until all is quiet and then we resume our march. We have climbed over the fence which is 8 or 10 feet high and ____ near the guard the sentinel is waking to the lower end of his beat and now is out of time. We have run in and now hear the cry Corporal of the guard post No. 15 double quick but it does no good for we are in our bunk. In about 2 minutes in rushes the police in our barracks but it does no good for we are still and therefore safe.

THURSDAY Sept 18th While standing by the Capt's office this morning I heard that there was some 14 boys got into the guard house last night but not one of Co. A and our orderly Johnson said that just one of our company was gone last night for they were all here at roll call at nine o'clock last night and all here this morning at roll call but I think he was mistaken for I know of 10 or 15 that went away last night.

FRIDAY Sept 19th
This morning it is quite cold. The sky is quite cloudy but never the less we are off for a drill. We have returned and now I am off for a ball play. We have had a good game and at the present time I am listening to W.H.H. Campbell and B. Myers sing by note.

SATURDAY Sept 20th
This morning Caster has given Campbell and myself a pass until four o'clock. At the present we are down in town and at the depot to see if some of our friends are there. We find Mr. Burdick's folk and Miss Crook. We have returned to camp and I find Miss Susan Cowan and she

I should go home with her. I am off to see the Capt for a pass. I have succeeded in obtaining the much loved pass which says I may stay until six o'clock to morrow evening.

SUNDAY Sept 21st
This morning I awoke about five o'clock. At the time of roll call the same as usual arose about half past six and took breakfast after which Susan and myself went up to Mr. Simeon Wheelers and stayed until half past one. We then went back to Mr. Cowans and there stayed until three o'clock. I then started for camp and Miss Sally Ann Cowan goes a piece with me. When we come to part it seems to me with her that it is quite hard but I leave her with a hearty shake of the hand and now are on my way to camp at which place I arrive in time. The guard is passed and I am once more at home.

MONDAY Sept 22nd
This morning was detailed as guard and got on the first relief which stands from nine o'clock until eleven. My tour is off and I am playing ball. I happen to cast my eyes toward the gate and my mother, Alice, Miss Lucy Campbell, Miss Carr, Mrs. Wait, Mr. Carr and Mr. Warren Campbell. They brought us out a baked pig and we have had a good I go on guard again at three o'clock and stand until five. I am off again and now I am having a good visit with our folks. I go on guard again at nine o'clock and stand until eleven.

TUESDAY Sept 23rd

Go on guard again at three o'clock and stand until five. It is nine o'clock and we are discharged and now we are called up to sign the pay roll. My Mother is here and the rest of the folks that came from our place yesterday. Harrison has concluded to run the guard and at supper to night he starts and goes through nicely. I am to answer to his name in the morning. I have answered to it and now he has arrived here safe

WEDNESDAY Sept 24th
This morning it is quite cold with a very little frost. It is noon and we hear the cry of "fall in receive your pay" and at that call we all fall in of course and receive \$27.00 which is our advance government bounty and our two dollars premium. The Miss's Garfields are here and want we should go home with them and Campbell and I think we will go so when we go to supper, we pass over the fence and go down and stay there all night.

THURSDAY Sept 25th

This morning we arose at ten minutes of six and prepared to go to camp. We are near the camp and are now moving cautiously. We have got to the mess room and there is a company going out. We fall in to their ranks and pass through the guard all right. We have not been missed by our Sergeant and all is well.

FRIDAY Sept 26th

This morning I arose to answer to Campbells and Byron Crooks names. They both run the guard last night. I have answered to them and it has worked like a charm. They wait until breakfast and then fall in and it is all right. Harrison and myself has gone down to town and we shall be there when Lucy ____ and Helen leave here. We are at the Depot and find the girls. Here they take their departing with tears in their eyes as they think it is the last time they will see us.

SATURDAY Sept 27th

This I was detailed as guard and got on the second relief which stands from eleven o'clock until one, from five until seven. About eight o'clock this evening I was up to my barracks and I heard the boys saying that the boys were forming in squads to run the guard. I went back to the guard house and they had from fifteen to twenty prisoners and they are getting up very noisy. I have laid down to get a little sleep but just as I get in a drouse, I hear a yell and look up and the guard house is all on fire. In thirty minutes the building is leveled to the ground and the prisoners has run in all directions but soon they are all found and sent to the lockup at town. I go on guard again at eleven o'clock and stand until one.

SUNDAY Sept 28th

This morning I stand guard form five o'clock until seven. At nine o'clock we are dismissed and at ten o'clock there is to be preaching and I am going to attend. As I am sitting here I look towards the gate and see Miss Cowan, Miss Swift, Miss Rowland and Mr. Campbell coming. The services are ended and we have met and are having a good visit. The Ladies are going in to dinner with us. We have a good dinner and the Ladies and ourselves are having a fine time. Tomorrow we are to leave here.

MONDAY Sept 29th

This morning we are the most of us here at roll call. The boys are mostly packing up ready to move at precisely one. The camp is to be broken up. We have been to dinner and when I get back to my barracks, I find my sister Rhoda but the time has come for us to leave out. Therefore I can not visit with her. The Regt had got down to the Depot and at the present are loading and bidding our friends good by. The cars have started and our first stopping place I suppose is Elmira. [The twenty-three car train left Jamestown and went through the little towns of Randolph, Olean, Cuba, Corning and arrived at Elmira at 6 PM]

TUESDAY Sept 30th

We are at Elmira and have been cheered our whole Route and I have been led to say in my own mind Who wouldn't be a soldier? We are marched to a field to receive our arms and when we receive those we are to take the cars for Baltimore which place we shall reach to morrow about one o'clock if we get started when we calculate to that is twelve o'clock. We are loaded and the cars have started and the boys are all feeling happy for they all say they are bound for Dixie.

WEDNESDAY Oct 1st

To day at one o'clock we start for ___ Baltimore. The train has began to move. Oh one thing I almost forgot. That is I am to watch the boys to Washington. My business is to watch the doors of the cars so that none of the boys may not get off when the cars stop and get left. We are on our way and as yesterday, we are cheered by old and young, great and small. At the present I am standing guard. The time is eight o'clock. We have just crossed the Susquehannah river and now we are running along the bank. The scenery is most delightful.

THURSDAY Oct 2nd

This morning we arrived here at eight o'clock after having been on our way from Baltimore eleven hours a distance of 40 miles. [The engineer was concerned that the rebels may have tampered with the tracks] What the cause of our delay was I do not know. At the present we are laying in plain sight of the Capitol but we have orders to be ready to march in five minutes. We are to go to Camp Seward so I hear. No more at present.

FRIDAY Oct 3rd

Last night laid down in the open field to sleep and I slept as sound as though I had laid in bed in my father's house. The dew here is very heavy. Almost as much as a light rain. It is said that there is fifty thousand men here in camp.

SATURDAY Oct 4th

This morning I was detailed as guard and now for the first time I have stood on post in Dixie and I mean to do my duty as a soldier. I get on the second relief which stands from eleven until one and from five until seven. At nine o'clock we are relieved after which I write a letter home to Miss Lucy Campbell.

SUNDAY Oct 5th

Today my time is to be occupied in reading the news of the day and writing a letter to Rhoda. The letter is finished and now I have to go on dress parade which parade I call a perfect nuisance.

MONDAY Oct 6th

This morning I arose at six o'clock and at seven o'clock we took our breakfast after which we drill in the manual of arms. We drill here a short time and then we are ordered to get ready to go down to Washington for a review. We get down there and find three other Regiments there. We are to go in General Casy's [General Silas Casey] division and here we find the man that is to command us.

TUESDAY Oct 7th

While eating my breakfast this morning Byron Crook comes to me and asks me if I do not want to go over to the New York 37th and see some of the boys. I tell him I will go so we start and after a walk of some six miles we find them. Frank Males (Wales) and George is feeling well. They take us down to Falls Church and treat us to all the pie, beer and segars that we wish for.

WEDNESDAY Oct 8th

This morning I am not feeling very well but I am in hope that I shall soon feel better. Today we are going to fix our tent over and see if we can not have it better. Harrison, John and myself have gone to confiscate the boards to do it with.

THURSDAY Oct 9th

As soon as roll call is done with this morning I ask Bryon Crook if he does not want to go and see Henry Whitmore over to the Fairfax Seminary. He thinks he will go so we take a pass and start and get over there and we can hear nothing from him but we see some new country and that pays us for going.

FRIDAY Oct 10th

Last night I was pretty sick but this morning I feel a little better but not well enough for duty. Byron Crook and George Brown has gone over to the NY 37th to see the boys. It is nearly time for battalion drill and then I suppose that I shall have to go whether I am able or not.

SATURDAY Oct 11th

Today Giles Washburn has come over to see us for which I am very glad. It is evening and Byron Crook, Alonzo Casler, John Campbell, Giles Washburn and myself thought we would go over to the S____ and get some thing to eat so we start to go across the guard. And now the next question is how are we to get along but By Crooks says form in two ranks and I will tell you how to do it. So we form in and come up to the guard and he halts us. By steps up and whispers to him that we are after a couple of our boys, he says all right and we pass. We get what we want to eat and the consequence is that I am the sickest that I have been since I came in to camp.

SUNDAY Oct 12th

This morning as I am very unwell, for the first time in camp report myself sick. At nine o'clock we have orders to get ready to march. At half past eleven we are ready to march and at precisely twelve o'clock we start for Fairfax Court house a distance of 14 miles. We go about six miles and stop to rest and while so doing there are nine rebel prisoners marched by us. They are guarded by some of our Cavalry. The bugle has sounded forward march and we start and march about three miles further and camp for the night. We have got a nice spot of ground and soon our tents ar pitched, our supplies are eaten and we go in to our tents to enjoy a good nights sleep.

MONDAY Oct 13th

As soon as it is daylight we arise and eat our breakfast and prepare to march. We start at seven o'clock and at half past nine _____ we arrive at Fairfax Court House and encamp on what I call a very pretty place. [Here the 154th became a part of the Army of the Potomac under Major General George Brinton McClellan] I am detailed as guard to day to stand as usual eight hours in twenty four.

TUESDAY Oct 14th

Today at nine o'clock we were relieved from guard and Byron Crook, John Campbell, Alonzo Casler and myself conclude to go a chestnutting so we pass through the guard and we stroll through the woods and have a fine time find some chestnuts and return at three o'clock and get ____ all right.

WEDNESDAY Oct 15th

Today we are to go down to Fairfax to be inspected. What it will amount to I do not know. It is one o'clock and we are ordered to sling our knapsacks and when this is done we shall have the word to march and we are on our way. We have reached the field where we are to be inspected. All this has amounted to is that Carl Schurz [Probably this was Major General Carl Schurz] has rode along in front of our lines.

THURSDAY Oct 16th

Today there has been nothing of worth of notice taken place. I more than this I went out and set down to write a letter home and in so doing lost my pocketbook with about four dollars in it. All the money that I had.

FRIDAY Oct 17th

To day as soon as we have been to breakfast we are to go on drill after which I am going to do some washing for myself. I have got my washing done and now I go to dinner after which we drill again and when we get through with this I have got to mend my socks. How I shall make it in this new business, I can not tell.

SATURDAY Oct 18th

This soon after breakfast it was announced that the mail had come and sent by one of the boys to see if it had any letters and when he came back, he had two for me, one from home the other from Jamestown. This afternoon, Harrison and myself is a going to do our washing.

SUNDAY Oct 19th

This morning at half past eight o'clock we have to go and be inspected. That is, we have to take our guns and knapsacks after which we go to church to hear our chaplain speak. I have got back from church and now I am going off to write a letter to my lady love and likewise one to my sister Lydia.

MONDAY Oct 20th

This morning we are ordered to march at eight o'clock. We are to go down to a general inspection. We have marched down below Fairfax and here is nearly ten thousand men. I see in the distance a regt of cavalry. They look splended, I assure you. The seven Regts that are drawn up in ____ colums look very nice. ____ the artilery is handled very splendidly. We march out nearly to Centreville into a large field and here we are go into a sham fight. While we're gone one of the boys of Co. D dies with conjestion of the brain.

TUESDAY Oct 21st

Today at twelve o'clock is guard mounting and I am detailedas guard. I stand from twelve untill two o'clock and then I am relieved. I then attend the funeral of John Myers the man that died yesterday, the first funeral of the kind that I ever witnessed by our chaplain Elder Lowing.

WEDNESDAY Oct 22nd

Today at twelve o'clock I am relieved from guard having stood eight hours in twenty four, the usual length of time. Today it is the most _____ I think of any day since we crossed the Potomac.

THURSDAY Oct 23rd

Arose this morning and went after some water for breakfast. We _____ after my rations which consists of a small piece of meat and a cup of coffee. Reached out my plate for my __meat and ____ says you have had it. I tell him I have not and the consequence is that I have a regular jaw for it and succeed in getting it. It is hard for a man to have to fight for a share of meat not more than a half inch by 2 inches square but never the less it is time and I will fight for it if I can not get it without.

FRIDAY Oct 24th

This morning when we arose for roll call there was a very hard frost. The first one that amounts to any thing since we came into Va. This afternoon we are out on skirmish drill and have had a good drill.

Nothing more worthy of note has taken place today.

SATURDAY Oct 25th

This morning Bryon Crook, W.H.H. Campbell and myself went off to do some _____ and when they went on _____ drill we over missed and some of the boys said that we were reported but I have heard nothing so since therefore I guess that it will not amount to much. This afternoon Harrison and I done our washing and we made it go first rate.

SUNDAY Oct 26th

This morning it commenced to rain at eight o'clock and it has continued all day very hard. I received a letter this morning from Miss Amanda Wetmore, Miss Rhoda Blood and Horace Wetmore and I proceeded to answer them immediately. Nothing more worthy of note has taken place to day.

MONDAY Oct 27th

This morning it continues to rain with unabated fury and it continues to blow and it is very cold. It has rained so hard that it is at the present time very muddy. We have been and got something to put in our bunk. I think we shall be comfortable to night.

TUESDAY Oct 28th

This morning I went out to drill after which we had orders to fall in and thirty five of us is detailed to stand picket duty and now I am off from camp about two and a half miles in the woods enjoying myself finely. Nothing worthy of note has taken place during the night.

WEDNESDAY Oct 29th

This morning I arose at day break and got my breakfast after which I went out to Post No. one and staid and short time and then went chestnutting. Got some chestnuts and returned to my post. When we returned to camp, we found our tent struck and we were ordered to get ready to march in ten minutes. We marched 1-1/2 miles and pitched our tents.

THURSDAY Oct 30th

Arose this morning and ate my breakfast after which we were ordered to strike our tents and clean up the camp. When this is done we shall pitch our tents for the night.

FRIDAY Oct 31st

This morning at eight o'clock we were ordered to go on review and accordingly we got ready and marched down below Fairfax about a half a mile and here we formed I should think from ten to fifteen thousand men drawn up in solid columns. They looked very splended to me.

NOVEMBER 1862

SATURDAY Nov 1st

This morning we have to go and be mustered for pay at nine o'clock which takes untill nearly noon. As soon as we have been to dinner, I am detailed to go down to town to stand guard. General Bushbeck's house [Colonel Adolphus Buschbeck], and likewise some commissary stores. It is reported that we march to the field of battle tomorrow but perhaps it is nothing but a camp rhummer.

SUNDAY Nov 2nd

This morning we are ordered to be ready to march at eight o'clock. We are ready and are marched to the color line and here we stay untill noon and then we take up our line of march and _____ about four miles before we stop. Here we rest ten minutes and then we go on to

Centreville and rest five minutes longer and then resume our march and go over beyond Bull run and stop for the night.

MONDAY Nov 3rd

Started this morning at seven o'clock and marched about two miles and rested and then took up our line of march and crossed the battle field.

Here we saw cannon balls, shells and all kinds of misles with which to kill men. Here on this field we saw mens head and arms. And legs that were left half buried and have since washed out in sight. We marched out about two miles beyond Hay Market and stop for the night. A while waiting the above, some of the ninth Cavalry is telling they have been fighting the enemy all day and drove him from Thoroughfare gap.

TUESDAY Nov 4th

This morning I arose at roll call and got about the same as nothing for breakfast. The boys have been out today and confiscated two hives of honey to day besides some chickens and geese. They are bound not to starve. At the present, a battle is raging a distance from here for I can hear the booming of cannon plain.

WEDNESDAY Nov 5th

This morning I am quite unwell. The same as I have been for a number of days past. It is nearly night and nothing worthy of note has taken place more than this. The cars passed here to day for the first time since the bull run fight and they were cheered by the Regts here most heartly I assure you.

THURSDAY Nov 6th

This morning I am detailed as picket guard. We are on the lines and I am going out on a forageing trip. We have arrived to a large brick building and the first place that I go is down cellar and I rummage the house from cellar to garret and do not find much of anything. But we go in to an out house and find plenty of apples. We load up a cart and make a Negro drive it in to camp. Our load consists of apples, turnips, cabage, pigs and sheep. [About this time General McClellan was relieved of command and Major General Ambrose Everett Burnside superseded him in command of the Army of the Potomac].

FRIDAY Nov 7th

This morning we are ordered to march at seven o'clock. It is cold here. So much so that it snows quite briskly. It is two o'clock PM and we have stopped for the night. It has snowed the whole of our way. We have got our tents pitched and now I am going off to see what I can find to eat. I have got a drink of milk and have brought off a hen of which I mean to make out my supper.

SATURDAY Nov 8th

This morning I arose after a good nights sleep and took some more chicken for breakfast. I do not know whether we shall march or not. It is evening and we have not had to move to day and Byron Crook has gone off to see what he can find. He has gone and brought some apples.

SUNDAY Nov 9th

This morning we are to march at eight o'clock and are to go back to Thouroughfare gap. We have started and our way is over hills and through valeys. The road is a hard one for a march but the hills are passed and we are at the gap. Here we stop and because I talk a little saucy to the Captain he put me under arest, in which position I am now at eight o'clock P.M.

MONDAY Nov 10th

I am still under arest and there fore I have no duty to do. There has been nothing done as yet about my arest. Nothing worthy on note has taken place to day.

TUESDAY Nov 11th

This morning the Capt and I have had a talk about my Arest and he has released me. I am detailed to go on picket guard. We have passed through the Gap and our position is on a hill beyond. Some of the boys has killed a Rebels sheep so we shall have plenty of fresh mutton for supper.

WEDNESDAY Nov 12th

Stood picket las night and we had to stand four hours on and two off but the night has passed with but little sleep to me. Three of our boys went over to a rebel farmers this morning and drove his flock of Sheep in to the barnyard and picked out one of his best ones and killed it for breakfast. But I did not trouble it for I went to a farmers and got what light wheat bread and milk that I wanted for breakfast and it cost me seventeen cents. This was a grand treat I assure you.

THURSDAY Nov 13th

Henry Whitmore has been to see me today and we had a good visit. For some reason or other we have roll call once an hour to day and we have answered to our names fifteen times to day and if a man is absent he is reported to head quarters and the penalty is to stand guard for three successive days with a musket on each shoulder and a heavily loaded knapsack also on his back.

FRIDAY Nov 14th

Nothing of importance has occured to day but the roll call which continues every hour.

SATURDAY Nov 15th

Today at nine o'clock we go on Brigade drill. We have had a good drill and have returned to Camp. It is one o'clock and Campbell and myself is going to do our washing. We are going to wash our drawers, shirts and socks and handkercheifs.

SUNDAY Nov 16th

Today I am detailed to go throug the Gap to stand picket guard. We are through the Gap and have relieved the old guard and now we have go to lookout for the Rebels as it is said that they are only six miles from us. It is nine o'clock P.M. and the Officer of the day has been here and he is scared and has ordered a patroll guard in advance of the main picket and I volunteer as one of the patrolls.

MONDAY Nov 17th

We are still on guard and I have got some milk and have had a good breakfast. We are relieved and are back in Camp and we have orders to march and are off at five and stop to haymarket for the night.

TUESDAY Nov 18th

We start again at eight oclock and march untill eleven oclock and stop on the battle field of Bull run and take dinner. At twelve we start and cross Bullrun creek and stop about two miles beyond for the night. Our tents are pitched and By and I have confiscated some straw for a bed and we expect to have a good sleep as we are all pretty tired.

WEDNESDAY Nov 19th
This morning we started on our march again at eight oclock and passed

Centerville about two miles and stopped to take dinner after which we pass on untill we reach Germantown. This is passed and we camp for the night on the bank of the Chantilly creek.

THURSDAY Nov 20th

Last night I went and stayed with Darwin Graves and came back to roll call this morning. I have sent to Fairfax Station today to see if I can hear any thing from our box. It has rained all day to day steady. At the present it still continues to rain which is half past eight P.M.

FRIDAY Nov 21st

Today I am sent out as picket guard. We are stationed at a barn 3/4 of a mile from camp. Here we can get a plenty of corn cake. We got some warm corncake for dinner and for supper we have had all of the warm biscuit and butter that we could eat. Nothing more worthy of note has taken place today.

SATURDAY Nov 22nd

We have had a good night for standing guard and daylight has once more appeared in the East. I have just been and got Byron and I some warm bread for breakfast. We have made out a good meall and at the present I am seated in an old fashioned Va. Grist mill writing. In this old mill there is but one set of stone and those are very poor and are used only to grind corn and horse feed.

SUNDAY Nov 23rd

This morning we have to go out on inspection. It is cold and we have to go through a thorough inspection and takes us until noon. At two O clock I attend meeting and hear Elder Lowing speak while Harrison and Byron goes off and gets a hoe cake for supper.

MONDAY Nov 24th

This morning it is quite cold but at nine Oclock we have a drill in the manuel of arms of one hour. It is one oclock and Byron and I have gone down to the creek to do our washing. It is nearly sunset and our work is done and off we go to our camp.

TUESDAY Nov 25th

Today we have squad drill from eight till nine. Co. drill from ten untill half past eleven and batallion drill from two untill five at which time we have dress parade. Harrison has been down to Fairfax to day to see John. He is getting quite smart but not enough so to rejoin his Regiment as yet.

WEDNESDAY Nov 26th

Today it is quite cold so much so that Squad and Company drill is omitted. In the afternoon we fall in for battalion drill and for some cause or other we do not go.

THURSDAY Nov 27th

As today is thanksgiving in old York state our Regt does not drill but holds the day as they would there. That is by holding meeting. Our Chaplain preached a good discourse from the one hundredth and forty fourth Plsalm, the third verse and our singing was some of the best.

FRIDAY Nov 28th

This morning we are to go out on inspection at eight oclock. We pass a pretty thorough inspection and get back about two oclock and get our dinner after which I am detailed to go on picket guard, at which I am at the present, although I am as good as sick. I am standing guard at head quarters, guarding the Officers tents and a house that I presume

belongs to a Rebel.

SATURDAY Nov 29th

This morning it is quite cold but as I am standing my last tour I think that I can get through with it. I am relieved at noon and go to the camp. After dinner I take the ____ tub and board and wash out my shirt, drawers and socks.

SUNDAY Nov 30th

Today is the last day of November and is very pleasant. We have preaching at eleven Oclock but as I have received four letters this morning I do not attend the meeting as I must answer some of them.

DECEMBER 1862

MONDAY Dec 1st

It is somewhat raining this morning and consequently do not go out on squad or company drill. It is two Oclock and the drum has beat for us to go out on batallion drill. Here we stay untill half past four at which time we go to camp and get our supplies after which our Co. goes to the General headquarters to stand guard. During the night I stand four hours.

TUESDAY Dec 2nd

Last night just as we were going out on guard there was about thirty Rebel prisoners passed by here. This morning when we return to camp we find every thing all packed and ready to march but as it is now noon and we have not gone yet, nor do I think that we shall move to day.

WEDNESDAY Dec 3rd

Today is pleasant for the time of year. We have just returned from drill. It has been a good one. Our Commander was Lieut Casler. We have just returned and I have heard some of the best news I have heard of since I crossed the Potomac. Our Capt has _____ in his resignation to day.

THURSDAY Dec 4th

This morning there is a heavy frost as last night was pretty cold. This morning at eight Oclock we had squad drill and at ten Oclock we had Co. drill and I went out with them but was so sick that I had to get excused from the ranks and when they come to detail the picket guard I was excused from going.

FRIDAY Dec 5th

This morning it looks as though it was going to snow. The picket guard is being detailed and to day I have to go although I nearly down sick with a cold. It is snowing very fast and the weather is quite cold. We have got our post which is about two miles from Camp. Here we stay twenty four hours.

SATURDAY Dec 6th

It is morning and we have had a cold night but it is passed and we are all right. It is half past eleven and we are soon to go to camp as we are to be relieved at half past twelve.

SUNDAY Dec 7th

Today it is quite cold but we have resolved to build us a larger bunk. We have worked untill two Oclock and as I am unwell we have concluded to let the thing rest untill some other day.

MONDAY Dec 8th

Today I have been excused from picket duty on account of a very bad cold which I have. Last night I did not get to sleep untill twelve Oclock on account of my cough.

TUESDAY Dec 9th

Today it is pleasant and warm and the Co. has been out on drill and I went out although I am nearly sick. Some of the boys in our Co. are getting their discharge from the service today and are long I suppose will be on their way home.

WEDNESDAY Dec 10th

This morning it is cold and the ground is frozen very hard and we are to march at Seven Oclock. [General Burnside, after taking over army command, had decided to move against the enemy once again] We are ready and start towards Fairfax. This town is passed and we turn towards Fairfax Station at which place we arrive at ten Oclock. This station is located in a deep hollow but we do not stop here but we cross the Rail Road and climb the hill on to the deep yellow pine woods. We go over hills and through valeys untill 12 Oclock. Here we stop for one hour and a half. We then resume our march for about three miles and then we turn to our right and march in to a grove to stop for the night. We find plenty of wood and confiscate some corn stalks to sleep up on.

THURSDAY Dec 11th

This morning it is frozen hard but we start again on our march at eight Oclock. We start and soon we are on the top of a high hill with a very deep hollow on each side of us. We continue to march this ridge for quite a distance when we begin to decend in to the valey towards the Occoquan Creek [Occoquan River]. This creek is crossed which is quite a large stream and soon we stop and rest for a few minutes. Then we take up our line of march up the mountain and stop at eleven Oclock for one hour and a half for dinner. The time is passed and we have three miles through the mud to travel before we stop for the night. The ground is passed over and By and I are off to see what we can find. We have got some straw for our bed and some honey for supper. Byron and myself are detailed as picket at which place we are now.

FRIDAY Dec 12th

This morning I started from picket for some chickens and while out orders came to march. We hurried in to camp and our company were ready to go so we had to start without our breakfast. We marched about six miles and our officers got news that the Rebel cavalry were near so we were ordered to load our pieces and then we went on and soon came to a piece of woods and here the 1st plattoon of our company were ordered to deploy through the woods as skirmishers and here we found hard work as the brush were thick and the _____ were deep. we passed through the woods and saw nohing and then came back to the road and went on untill we come to Dumfries Creek and here we stop for the night.

SATURDAY Dec 13th

This morning By Crook has gone out to see what he can find. We stay here untill two oclock and he has not returned and we have orders to fall in. We do so and marched about five miles and camped for the night. We had nothing to eat only what we can find so we go out and find some cattle which we quickly slaughter so that we have plenty of beef for supper.

SUNDAY Dec 14th

This morning we start at just day break and as it is very muddy and as

our road leads over hills that are high and through valleys that are deep the march is a hard one but we finely stop at Stafford Court house at three Oclock P.M. Here we stop for the night and draw a ration of for supper. Our march today was a forced one in order to get to our provisions. To night I sleep in the open air with out even a tent to shelter me and I have a good nights rest as I was very tired. [All during their marches of the 13th and 14th the 154 Regt. could hear the roar of cannon as Burnside's artillery on Stafford Heights across the river from Fredericksburg pounded at the Confederate line of defense. But by the time the regiment arrived at Stafford Court House the Battle of Fredericksburg was over and the Union Army was retreating back across the Rappahannock at a great loss of lives. It is noted that Andrew says that they arrived at Stafford Court House on the 14th while the History of the 154th says they arrived on the 15th of December.]

MONDAY Dec 15th

To day we leave at half past ten and march over hills and through vallys and through mud and dirt untill four Oclock when we stop for the night about three miles from Fredricksburg and as Byron come up with us this morning we concluded that we would not pitch any tent so we lay down on the ground and about four A.M. it begins to rain and we hustle up and get our things under our ruber blankets and there fore keep dry.

TUESDAY Dec 16th

Today there is nothing going on as yet but the inspection of arms to see that they are all right as we are nearing the enemy. We are to have our cartridges inspected at twelve Oclock to see that they are all dry and good. It is sunset and we have got our tent pitched for the night but soon after dusk we have orders to march and we go around from 5 to 6 miles and finaly stop at twelve Oclock having reached a distance of one mile and a half from Camp. [The history reports that three-quarters of the regiment were drunk and Colonel Loomis was "three sheets over." The regiment was divided into two battalions and marched by the left flank until about midnight. Many of the men lost knapsacks, guns, caps and the like from being drunk.]

WEDNESDAY Dec 17th

Last night slept on the ground and found it pretty cold. It is now ten Oclock A.M. and we have received no orders as yet to move but they may come in less than ten minutes. It is two Oclock and we have to sling our knapsacks and march. We go about a mile on top of the hill and in to a piece of Woods. Here we pitch our tents and remain all night.

THURSDAY Dec 18th

There has nothing of importance occured today. We remain her all day in sight of the enemies guns. nothing more today.

FRIDAY Dec 19th

I do not know as there is much to tell of to day more than this. We are quite short of rations to day as we have been for several days past. The weather is pleasant to day but cold.

SATURDAY Dec 20th

Today it is cold but pleasant as usual and we have to go out on inspection. We have been out but the inspection was not very rigid and did not last long. we are back in camp ready to get supper.

SUNDAY Deo 21st
To day I am quite unwell so much so that I hardly feel able to be around.

The next entry in Andrew's Diary states "This blank from Dec 21st untill March 1st was on account of a severe fit of sickness, disease Typhoid fever and Inflamation of lungs."

The Company A Muster Roll for January and February 1863 shows Andrew Blood absent with the remarks "Sent to Genl Hospital from Camp near Falmouth Va. Feb. 9. 1863"

Pension records contain a statement written in 1891 by Henry Van Aernam M.D, Late Surgeon 154th N.Y. vols as follows:

Henry Van Aernam M.D. being duly sworn says he is seventy two (72) years of age, a resident of the Village of Franklinville, County and State aforesaid (Cattaraugus, NY.) and has resided there, since 1848, engaged in the practice of his profession as physician and Surgeon, except when temporarially absent, in the Military or Civil service of the government. And this affiant further says, that he was Surgeon of the 154th Regt. N.Y. Vols in war for the suppression of the Rebellion, and as such Surgeon, he was well acquainted with Andrew D Blood a member of Co "A" 154th Regt N.Y. Vols and a Pensioner Cert 281,707. When the said Andrew D. Blood enlisted into the Military Service of the U.S., he was a very vigorous, strong, healthy man, and remained so, faithfully discharging his duties of a Soldier, until after the battle of Fredericksburg Va, December 1862, when he contracted Tyhoid_ Fever, complicated with Pneumonia, while in the line of duty as a soldier. This affiant further says, that he treated him, the said A.D. Blood, for such Fever and complication in Brigade Field Hospital, near Falmouth, Va. Early in the progress of the disease, he became unconscious, and remained so for two weeks or more and when he rallied from that profound stupor, it was discovered that he was totally deaf. Before he was fully convalescent, the Command to which we belonged (2nd Brigade, 2nd Division 11th A.C.) was ordered into winter guarters near Stafford C. H. Va. So, this affiant did not treat the case of the said Andrew D. Blood, through to recovery, but went with the Command to their winter Quarters and most of the sick in the Brigade hospital near Falmouth Va., were sent to the rear for treatment in General Hospital and the said A.D. Blood was sent with the rest. According to the best recollections of this affiant, the said A.D. Blood did not rejoin the command until it was in camp in Lookout Valley Penn, late in the fall of 1863, or during the winter of 1863-4. This affiant was at, and during that time, on detailed service as Surgeon-in -chief, of the 2d Divsion 11th A. Corps consequently, he saw very little of the said A.D. Blood until the Atlanta Ga Campaign in 1864. Whenever this affiant saw the said Blood during the Atlanta campaign he always observed that he was quite deaf, troubled with cough, and asthmatic breathing, and had evidently never fully recovered from his severe sickness of the winter of 1862-3. Most men in his condition in 1864, would have obtained a discharge from the Service, as no longer fit for active service in the field, or, procured a transfer to the Invalid Corps. But the said Andrew D. Blood, was two earnest in his patriotic seniments and sense of duty to the country, to seek such personal relief, so determined to remain at the front as long as possible. This affiant has occasionally met A.D. Blood since we returned from the Army, as we both reside in the same County, an this affiant has always observed on such occasions, that he was still troubled with cough, and asthmatic breathing and quite deaf, and this affiant is of the belief, that these troubles are the direct results of his severe sickness in the Army during the winter of 1862-3. And this affiant further says that he has no interest in the prosecution of this claim for pension, neither direct or indirect.

Signed 20 Mch. 1891