

Jan. 27th 1865

Broke camp this morning at 8 A.M. Took the Augusta road & marched 12 miles & camped at 4 P.M. Road verry muddy. Weather clear, cold & windy..

28th

Started at day break. cold & frosty in the morning but pleasant through the day. made 10 miles & camped at 5 P.M. Warm & pleasant.

29th

Left camp at 7 A.M. passed through Springfield about 10 A.M. found it mostly destroyed & its beautiful grove of Live Oaks cut down for fire wood, by Wheelers Cavalry, since that we passed through here before. marched 12 miles & camped at 5 P.M. beautiful day. have not seen but 6 houses that were occupied since leaving Savannah. The country has been quite level & swampy

30th

Another beautiful day. Laid in camp waiting for the pontoons to be laid & for the swamp on the other side of the river to be corduroyed before that we can cross.

31st Feb. 1st (wrote to many) & Feb. 2nd Still in camp
Weather pleasant.

Feb. 3rd

Pleasant until nearly night when it commenced to rain & rained most of the night. Packed up in afternoon & mooved down to Sisters Ferry 4 miles. Paid \$.51 for Washing & papers

4th

Packed up in the morning but did not get a chance to cross the pontoons until afternoon some ~~gun~~ Gun Boats & Steamers are lying in the Savannah which is here 450 feet in width. Marched 4 miles & camped at 4 P.M. cleared off in afternoon & was quite warm. Timber here is mostly Cotton Wood, Cypress, Pine & Magnolia

5th

Was until $\frac{1}{2}$ past 1 o cl. getting through about 3 miles of swamps, at 2 o clo. passed through ~~Robbertsville~~ Robbertsville which originally consisted of about 20 houses & one fine Church (Baptist.), but the Smoking ruins & bare chimneys tell a sad tale of war. The Church is all that is left of this once handsome village. made 10 miles & camped at 9 o cl. am very tired. was very warm in the middle of the day.

6th

Broke camp at 7 A.M. found the roads quite good, but few swamps today. about 9 passed a large Plantation that had not been touched by the soldiers. They had the "Stars & Stripes" flying from a window. Passed through the ruins of Lawtenville, & another small vill, both totally destroyed by our troops. a very good country through here; but looking rather desolate with buildings & fences destroyed. The crops raised through here are cotten, corn, beans & sweet potatoes. Some wheat was sowed last fall which looks rather poor. rained all afternoon. marched 16 miles & camped at 7 P.M.

7th

Started from camp good season in the morning but as it rained hard all day & made the mud very deep we made but slow progress. made 5 miles by 2 P.M. & waited until night in the rain for the troops to corduroy a swamp & finally put up tents & camped where we were about 9 P.M. The wind shifted in afternoon to the north & was cold & disagreeable. Foraged sweet potatoes, Turnips & hogs & are living well. Mail came this afternoon but nothing for me

We met many "Darkie" Families on the way to the arms of Abraham (Savannah.) Soil today sand, with sub stratum of clay & quick sand.

8th

We were called up at day light but had to wait in the cold & wet until daylight to cross the big swamp. soon after crossing stopped for breakfast. Marched 14 miles during the day & at sundown crossed the Susquatchie river & swamp & camped on the north bank. The rebs had ~~strongly~~ strongly fortified here, but were flanked out of their works by troops crossing 10 miles above this ford. clear & pleasant. but the roads are still quite muddy. land some what rolling

9th

Mooved at 6 A.M. found the roads quite good. The land is higher & swamps less ~~fr~~ frequent as we travel north. Passed some nice plantations with good buildings today. a good ~~deal~~ deal of forage was obtained today. Quite cold & windy & about noon it snowed about 10 minutes. the first that I have seen this winter. Made 16 miles & camped at Blackville. (or near it rather) The land today has been high & rolling & timbered with Shrub Oak, Live Oak, Cypress, Pine, China Tree, Magnolia & cotten wood. Pleasant. Hear many rumors of Peace.

10th

Mooved our camp about 1 mile this morning & laid in camp the rest of the day. Blackville is a village on the Augusta & Branchville R.R. about the size of Little Valley. most of the place is destroyed. The troops are busily engaged destroying the Rail Road. Pleasant day

11th

Started at 7 A.M. had a good road & pleasant day. Marched 5 miles to the Edisto River when we had to wait until midnight for a bridge to be laid for the troops & trains to cross before our turn came, when we crossed & went 1 & $\frac{1}{2}$ miles to high ground & camped at 2 A.M. The Edisto is divided into 7 streams all of which our troops bridged in a few hours. ~~cont'd~~ cont'd

Feb. 11th continued
altogether they would make a stream about the size of the Alleghany.
heard cannonading in the direction of Augusta.

Sunday Feb. 12th 1865

Left camp at 7 A.M. Made 18 miles & camped 1 mile from the north Branch of the Edisto. This afternoon our division (which was the advance of the army) drove the rebs across the river. The rebs had a battery on the opposite side which they opened on us Killing 4 & wounding 7. We at last dislodged them & by morning had the Div. on the ~~the~~ north bank of the river. Water has been scarce today. have not seen a building burned today. Are on the Columbia road

Monday Feb. 13

We lay in camp until 4 P.M. waiting for 1st & 3rd Divisions to cross, when we crossed & marched & camped at 9 P.M. No timber through here but Pitch Pine The fire of which makes us very black in the face. Left the Columbia road tonight.

Tuesday 14th Valentines Day

Left camp at 8 A.M. Marched 7 miles & camped at 12 A.M. soon after which it commenced to rain & before night it turned cold & froze ~~the~~ & every thing was soon coated with ice
Are on the Lexington Court House road.

Wednesday Feb. 15th

Mooved at 8 A.M. Still some ice upon the trees this but by noon it was all melted off. Misty most of the day. had a skirmish with the rebs in a swamp about noon captured a few. did not have any wounded. Made 10 miles & camped at 4 P.M. Hamptons Legion from Va. arrived in our front today.

16th

We were in the rear today & it was afternoon before we started from camp marched 5 miles & camped at 4 P.M. Today our road was by the side of the new Rail Road that is being built from Augusta to Columbia, so far inland as to be secure from interruption by Shermans Vandals. it is mostly graded & was worked upon yesterday.
Warm.

17th

Moved at 7 A.M. Arrived at Zions Church a ford on the Saluda river at noon. here we waited for the 14th corps & Killpatricks cavalry to cross until midnight. When we crossed & went into camp at 2 P.M. Made 8 miles today. Verry hot. high wind & clouds of dust. The woods have been burning all day.

18th

Did not get but three hours sleep last night. ~~the~~ Waited all the forenoon for the road to get clear, about noon started & marched 10 miles & camped at 5 P.M. I counted 54 prisoners today that our Div. have picked up on the march. Our right wing occupied Columbia yesterday. all the buildings on the road today were burned. Warm

Sunday 19th

Pleasant. As our Div. is in the rear today we did not leave camp until noon the country was quite hilly & the roads bad. made 5 miles & camped at 8 P.M. 1 mile from the Broad river. Received Orders from W.T. Sherman to prepare for a 40 Days campaign all extra baggage to be burned & provisions to be carried instead. heard cars this eve. to the north.

Monday Feb. 20th 1865

The Troops were crossing the pontoons all night last night, our turn to cross came about noon. The river here is 623 feet in width & quite rapid soon after crossing we came to a R.R. leading west from Columbia our troops are busily at work destroying it. country quite hilly. Warm & pleasant. made 9 miles & camped at 7 P.M.

21st

Broke camp at 6 A.M. Our Div. has the advance today. Made 14 miles over an exilent road & arrived at Waynesbro about 2 P.M. & went into camp on the common. This is the largest & handsomest place that I have seen as yet in S.C. & is the county seat of Fairfield Co. The stores that contained cotten were burned but all other buildings were strictly guarded. about dark a Church near us was fired by some miscreant and burned to the ground. The town is about the size of Ellicotsville & contained a large amount of Cotton. I went foraging today. Country quite rich. warm & pleasant

22nd

Lay in camp until noon. then mooved out on the Charlotte road. made 18 miles & camped at 2 A.M. The country through which we passed today was extremely hilly Weather fine.

23rd

Left camp at Nine marched 2 miles to the Watteree which is here 642 feet in width. The banks of the river are 2 or three hundred feet in heighth & clayey. did not get to cross until after dark. had a hard time getting up the hill on the north side of the river marched 5 miles farther through mud & rain & camped at 10 P.M.

24th

Rained all last night & most of the day today making the roads almost impassible. started good season in the morning but did not go but 2 miles during the day. camped at 6 P.M. Passed a very disagreeable day.

25th

Still rainy & the roads so bad that we did not moove. I issued medicine to about one half of the regiments in the Division.

Sunday Feb. 26th

The sun came out pleasantly this morning & at 8 A.M. we left camp. The roads were so bad that we had to Corduroy most of the road with rails & poles, saw Gen. Williams carrying rails to the road. We made 10 miles & camped near Hanging Rock P.O. & creek of the same name. Quite a poor country through which we have been passing for the last three days. Timber, Pitch Pine, Black Oak, Shrub Oak, & Small Hickorys, Land, Red Sand & High & rolling

27th

Lay in camp until 10 A.M. when we crossed the Hanging Rock creek, (a small stream) & went two miles to the top of the ridge & camped. Are waiting for the 14th corps to cross the Watteree & get into position on our left. Clear & warm,

28th

mooved at day light & soon after it commenced to rain & rained most of the day. The roads were bad & had to corduroyed. marched 8 miles, & camped at 3 P.M. crossed the Little Lynch river about noon. it is about the size of the Conewango. verry good country. Heard today from reb. prisoners that Willimington was ours.

March 1st

Mooved at noon. Cloudy, roads fine. Crossed the Great Lynch creek at Blackneys Bridge at 5 P.M. & camped 2 miles from the river on the Chesterfield Court House road. came 12 miles today. saw but few plantations today. It was mostly Pine woods. Pines from 1 foot to 18 inches in diameter. We are running all the ~~the~~ Grist Mills on the route whilst the army is passing. soil white sand. Surface of the country quite rolling.

~~March 1st~~ March 2nd 1865

Broke camp at 8 A.M. March 10 miles & camped at 1 P.M. on the bank of the Black Creek. The 1st & 3rd Divisions crossed over. Land poorer today. Pines smaller. had a drizzling rain most of the day

3rd

Mooved at daylight. roads poor. Made 14 miles & camped at 9 P.M. near Chiesterfield Court House. crossed a number of swamps & small streams today. Chiesterfield is about the size of Little Valley. has a handsome brick court house & Jail. rained a little in the morning but cleared off in the afternoon.

4th

Left camp at 10 A.M. after burning the Court House & Jail. crossed ~~the~~ Anderson creek & several smaller streams & camped at 7 P.M. 3 miles from Sneedsborough. came 10 miles.

5th

Laid in camp all day waiting for Pontons to be laid acrost the great Pedee. Isued medicine to the regiments. Pleasant. are $\frac{1}{2}$ mile north of the North Carolina line.

6th

Broke camp at 7 A.M. & leaving Sneedsborough on our left marched down the river to Cheraw (10 miles) which place we arrived at about 1 P.M. & whilst waiting for the troops to cross the river I looked the town over. It is (or was rather) about the size of Jamestown but the public buildings & stores have been burned & many dwelling houses were blown down this morning by the explosion of an immense amount of Ammunition captured from the rebs. They run up a large amount of arms, stores, cannon, 28 Locomotives, cars &c which we destroyed In an old Church yard I saw the grave of Gens Francis Marion, & Sumpter. Nothing but some small brick Vaults mark the resting place of the heros. There is not a word carved upon either. Near them is a large marble slab with the inscription

My name my Country-What are they to thee?
What-Whither high, or low, my Pedigree!
Perhaps I surpass all other men!
Perhaps I fell below them- What Then?
Suffice it, Stranger- That thou seest- a Tomb-
Thou Knowest its use- it hides- no matter whom

We crossed the Pedee about sundown & marched 5 miles & camped on the Fayetteville pike at 8 P.M. The Pedee is 400 feet wide & 7 feet deep where we crossed. The right wing crossed before us The 14th corps & Killpatricks Cavalry crossed at Sneedsborough

7th

Left camp at 6 A.M. The ground was white with frost. We are now fairly in the Pineries About noon we passed into N.C. just on the S.C. side of the line we came to a Turpentine manufactory which our advance had fired. It was the most splendid sight that I ever witnessed. 2000 bbls of rosin was on fire at once & melting ran across the road into a swamp. About \$1,000,000 worth of rosin was destroyed. Made 14 miles & camped at 1 P.M.

8th

We being in the rear today did not move out of camp until afternoon. Commenced raining about 9 A.M. & rained hard all day. roads became very bad & we did not make but 8 miles & camped at 7½ P.M. Saw but one house today.

9th

Broke camp at 6 A.M. Made 13 miles & camped at 6 P.M. 1 mile from the Little Pedee. rained hard most all day. saw but two small clearings today.

10th

Left camp at 10 A.M. The roads have to be corduroyed most of the way now. The Little Pedee is about 50 feet across & very deep. it hailed a few minutes about noon. cleared off just night. Made 7 miles & camped at 6 P.M. have been in the rear three days.

11th

Moved at 6 A.M. crossed Dowlings creek about noon. Pleasant day. had to bridge some small streams today. country grows better. soil White sand. Made 15 miles & camped at 9 P.M. on the Fayetteville & Rockingham plank road.

March 12th

Left camp at 7 $\frac{1}{2}$ A.M. Made 14 & $\frac{1}{2}$ miles & camped in Fayetteville at 4 P.M. All of the army is here together. Sherman opened communications today. Pleasant

13th

Our corp was reviewed by Sherman in the streets of Fayetteville & after wards crossed the pontoons. but we did not get any farther with the train than the bank of the river, where after waiting all day to cross we went into camp at 10 P.M. The town contains about 16,000 inhabitants & is strongly fortified. Most of the people appear quite Loyal. Hundreds of are going through with us. here as at Columbia & Cheraw we captured a large amount of arms & stores. warm.

14th

Broke camp at 8 A.M. but did not get a chance to cross the river until noon. & then went into camp near the river so as to send our sick & wounded off by Steamer. The Cape Fear river is 350 feet in width. banks high. Bought New York Tribune (March 1st) only ~~\$.25~~ \$.25.

15th

Moved about a mile this morning at 4 P.M. Sent of 36 sick & wounded from our hospital. sent a letter to "Mary" by Dr. Light. very warm. rained in the afternoon.

16th

Broke camp at 6 A.M. roads horrible. made 15 miles & came up with the division at 4 P.M. made but about 1 mile farther & camped at 10 P.M. rained all afternoon The 1st & 3rd Div. of our corps stormed some reb work today & captured three cannon & some prisoners.

17th

Left camp at 6 A.M. marched 5 miles & camped at noon. ~~crossed~~ crossed the South river on a bridge made of poles ~~logs~~ & logs. pleasant ~~day~~ day our Div. is now guarding the corps train Ben. Bently (our Cook) captured a double ~~barrel~~ barrel shot-gun which he gave to me

18th

Broke camp at 6 A.M. passed through a low swampy country. made 8 miles. (7 of which corduroyed) and camped at 7 P.M. heard cannonadeing to the north of us. are now half way from Fayetteville to Goldsborough. it has been a warm & pleasant day. Peach & Flumb trees are in bloom. Paid ~~\$.40~~ \$.40 for washing.

19th

Left camp at 6 A.M. very clear & still today but uncomfortably warm at noon. The land grows better as we advance & the country more thickly settled. The surrace of the country is nearly level & is ditched when even it is cultivated. Saw some pieces of winter ~~wheat~~ wheat today that looked well. heard cannonadeing most of the day. made 8 miles & camped at dark.

20th

Was awakened at midnight last night, by Dr. Wolf (our Division Surgeon) to go with a branch of the hospital to where the 1st & 3rd Divisions of our corps were fighting yesterday. Left the train with the 2nd Brigade. The 1st & 3rd going with us. arrive at the battle field of yesterday about sunrise. The rebs had attacked ~~the~~ two Div. of the 14th corps that were in the advance & after fighting some time one division of the 14th corps gave way & lost 3 cannon & some prisoners our 1st & 3rd (20th A.C.) then went in and drove them back & at night held the ground with the reb dead & wounded & many well prisoners. among the prisoners I saw Col. A. Rhett, son of Barnwell Rhett of the Charleston ~~the~~ Mercury who was one of the foremost in getting up this rebellion. no fighting today. we burried 900 reb dead. Pleasant day.

21st (Sun)

At 10 A.M. We started on the back track with the sick & wounded from the fights on the 16th & 19th numbering in all about 350. commenced raining soon after we started & rained hard all day. The roads were horrible. made 18 miles & got up again with the corps trains & hospital at midnight. got very wet & tired. but ~~one~~ one regt. came back with us as guard. Terrys Div. 24th Corps passed us on the way to the front. heard some cannonadeing to the north.

22nd

Broke camp at 6 A.M. marched 8 miles on a good road & through a good country & parked near the Willmington & Goldsborough Rail Road & 4 miles from the latterplace. We have to help take care of the 1st & 3rd Div. wounded. high wind & very dusty. warm.

23rd

Repacked my medicines. more wind & dust today.

24th

Mooved the sick to Goldsborough. had to make two trips of it & I did go until the last. reached camp at 1 P.M. Crossed the ~~neuse~~ neuse river on 8 pontons clear day high wind

25th

are camped in the out skirts of the village which is about the size of Randolph. Wrote to "Mary" Took an inventory of hospital property Pleasant day. Paid 30 for washing.

26th

Made out a requition for medicine Wrote to "Mary" Pleasant

27th

mooved our hospt 2 miles to where the Division are encamped. have a good camp in Pine woods. Received 2 letters from Mary dated Oct. 30th 1864 & Feb. 11th & one from Elias Kenyon of Feb. 14th and one from B.F. Carter (of my co) of Feb. 12th. Pleasant

28th

Pleasant day. Received a letter from "mary" dated Nov. 5th 1864 with my old furlough. it was broken open. it was directed to 2nd Div. Hospt. (without any corps on it) Wrote to "Mary" & to Bro. Wheat

March 29th

Wrote to Father. Isued medicine. pleasant

30th

Commenced re writing my diary to send it to "Mary"
rained some today.

31st

still writing up my diary Received a letter from "Mary" of
Feb. 24th containing one from Wesley & Malvina nice weather
Thermometer at noon °76

April 1st

Took an invoice of hospital property & finished re writing my
Diary Pleasant.