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THE DIARY OF JOHN S. TUCKER:
CONFEDERATE SOLDIER FROM ALABAMA

edited by

Gary Wilson

During the Civil War a number of soldiers on both sides recorded their experiences in personal diaries. John S. Tucker, a Confederate soldier from Alabama, was one such individual.

Tucker was born in 1834 and apparently lived in Alabama his entire life except during the war years. Following the war, he returned to Greensboro, Alabama. In 1876 he was elected sheriff of Hale County, but he evidently only served in that capacity a short time. On the 1880 census he was employed as a merchant in Greensboro. Tucker does not appear on the 1900 census, although his wife, Annie, and his three sons, Walter, Tene, and Fitz James, were living in Greensboro at that time. According to Mrs. Frances Test, granddaughter of John Tucker, an unidentified individual murdered Tucker. The violent act occurred at night while Tucker worked as railroad stationmaster in Greensboro. Presently, the exact date of Tucker's death is unknown; however, it is probable that he died in Greensboro between 1880 and 1900.

On May 30, 1860 Tucker married Annie Nutting in Green County, Alabama. In May the following year Tucker departed Greensboro as a member of Company D, 5th Alabama Regiment. The Alabamian apparently did not keep a diary in the early part of the war, and evidently he returned to Greensboro in his first year of service. The initial entry in Tucker's diary is March 23, 1862, and on that date he left Greensboro destined for Richmond, Virginia.

He recorded his experiences in three small booklets. The first one covers the dates March 23, 1862 to August 14, 1862, the second volume begins August 15, 1862 and ends November 29, 1863, and the last booklet starts on May 22, 1864 and concludes February 28, 1865. There are no entries from November 30, 1863 to May 21, 1864; however, it is likely that Tucker wrote a volume for this period but it has since been lost.

Tucker was a private when he entered the Confederate service in 1861, and on June 17, 1862 he became his company's supply sergeant. Since he did not mention another promotion, he probably was a sergeant until his last entry in 1865. Throughout most of the war, Tucker lived and worked behind the lines. His comments are significant, however, because they represent the experiences of a common soldier in one of the Confederacy's most important armies — the Army of Northern Virginia. Tucker served the first part of the war as a member of the First Corps, Army of the Potomac, commanded by General P.G.T. Beauregard. Later there were several command changes which affected Company D, 5th Alabama Regiment. For much of the war E. L. Hobson commanded the 5th Alabama Regiment which was a part of Brigadier General R. E. Rodes' Brigade, of Major General Daniel H. Hill's Division. As a member of this army, Tucker was present at many of the most important battles of the war: Antietam, Fredericksburg, Chancellorsville, Gettysburg, the Wilderness Campaign, and Petersburg.

Throughout the conflict, Tucker kept almost daily records of his activities. The following manuscript includes only the most important entries of Tucker's diary, and the spelling and language has been kept as exact as possible. This author owes special gratitude to Mrs. Frances Test of Houston, Texas and Robert Dalehite of Galveston, Texas, current guardian of the Tucker diary, for providing valuable assistance in this endeavor.

Sunday Mar 23d 1862

Left Greensboro at 2 O clock AM got to selma. went aboard the Senator & arrived in Montgomery at 12M.

Monday Mar 24

spent the day in Montgomery & had quite a dull time of it.

Mar 25 1862

Took the cars at 8 O'clock A.M. got to Atlanta at night.

Mar 26 1862

arrived in Augusta got Breakfast & took the Cars for Weldon

Mar 27 1862

arrived in Weldon at 10 A.M. Met any quantity of Troops. Could get nothing to eat & had to remain until night when we took a Box Car for Richmond.

Mar 28 1862

arrived in Petersburg at sun up, after passing a *very Cold* sleepless night in an open Box Car — went through the City on foot & took the train for Richmond where we arrived at 11 O'clock am.

Sunday 30 —

still in Richmond. took Box Cars at 4 O'clock & remained at depot until 8. spending the most unpleasant night since we left home.

— 31 —

On the RR all day with scarsly any thing to eat. Got to orange C.H. in the night. went to Epis Church & slept till morning.

Apl 1st 1862

Got up cooked our breakfast & left for Camp 5 Miles east of orange. arrived about 10 O'clock & met all the Boys.

— 2 —

spent the day in Camp. went to the 6th Ala & saw a good many acquaintances.

Thursday 3d 1862

Got orders to strike Tents & report at Orange C.H. Got there about 11 O'clk P.M. & camped on the side of a hill in an oak thicket on the east side of the Town & RR. pleasant night.

Apl 5th 1862

Got orders early this morning to *again* strike tent & report at orange C.H. as soon as possible. Packed up. put out & got there at 11 O'clk. A.M. & took open cars at dark. traveled all night. got no sleep at all.

Apl 6th 1862

Got to Richmond at 12 O'Clk & was treated very hospitably by the Citizens who met us with Cakes. Pres Bread. Meat & every thing good to eat. passed through the City & took a Steamer at 3 O'Clk P.M. & at 12M got off & marched the remainder of the night without any sleep for 2 nights.

Apl 7 1862

Stoped marching at sun up got breakfast & continued the march. arrived on the Battle field at 11 O'Clk A.M. where the Roar of Canon & musketing was distinctly heard & our Reg held in reserve. put up Bunks. Commenced raining & continued all night. Got no sleep at all.

Apl 8 1862

Still continues to rain. remained in camp all day. Brisk skirmishing going on all the time in a half mile of us. Got orders at dark to march to Mulbony Island a distance of 10 ms. Mud a foot deep nearly all the way. raining & awful cold. Got to camp at midnight. as wet as a rat & so Cold I could hardly walk. Worst March of the campaign.

Thursday. Apl 10th

Still in camp to day. Very cold yet snowing. Havent had my Boots off in five nights nor slept scarsly now at all during the times. Expecting Marching orders.

Friday Apl 11 1862

clear & pretty day. Got marching orders & left for Yorktown after dinner. Camped for the night in a mile of the City. Been quite unwell all day.

Saturday 12th 1862

Got up & continued the march to Yorktown & camped on the field that Cornwallis surrendered on and closed the first "American Revolution" Plenty of Yankees in sight of us but no fighting going on. Fair pretty day. feeling much better to day than yesterday.

Sunday Apl 13 1862

In camp & doing nothing. the day most unlike Sunday. some Playing Cards. Some washing clothes & others at various other things. Went in Town & looked all over it. A very delapidated looking place. Most of the houses shelled burned or pulled down & camps in place. fine day.

Wednesday Apl 16

Fair day. Brisk skirmishing going on. Yankees in sight. Out on picket all day. In the evening a regular engagement commenced & lasted until dark. Very heavy Canonading. Yankee loss heavy. Ours not so great. Was in about 1 1/2 Miles of the Battle.

Sunday Apl 20th

Rained all night last night. All hands got wet. didnt sleep but very little. To day seems most unlike Sunday. Instead of resting from our labours & listening to Church Bells, we hear nothing but the Roar of artillery & see nothing but large squads of men at allmost every imaginable Army work & duty. those not on duty or most of them amuse themselves by playing Poker, singing vulgar songs. Cursing & swearing & etc. Rained all day.

Saturday Apl 26

Rained the whole day. got a good nights sleep last night & had a good dinner to day. Peas pork biscuit & for desert Pan Cakes & Syrup. Wrote to Annie by Mr. Corvin.

Sunday Apl 27

To day the election of officers take place still cloudy but not raining this morning. Passed the Whiskey round & opened the polls. Election resulted. Peques "Col" Hall "Lt Col" Hobron "Major" as field officers. For Company I "Greensboro Guards" J W Williams "Capt" Dr. Rawisay "1st Lt" Joe Borden "2nd Lt" WC Tunstall 3d Lt" EP Jones O.S. This has been a Big day in many of the Regiments in electing their field & company officers & a great many of the men got gloriously *tight* — Ordered from the woods back to York Town at dark 110 men in the Co & 60 odd on the sick list.

Saturday May 3d

Nothing new to note. All quiet. orders to emigrate at 7 O'Clk P.M. & evakuated York Town burning Tents spiking Canon & destroying every thing that could not be taken away.

Sunday May 4

Marched all night last night through the mud & got to Williamsburg at 12 O'Clk PM a very nice though quite an old looking place. The Country surrounding for miles being all cleared up rendered the view magnificiently beautiful. The whole plain being covd with Troops artillery cavalry. Wagons ambulances & all moving in the same direction extending as far as the eye could see. In passing through Williamsb'g all the eligible places in the buildings were crowded with men women & children all of whom wore a countenance of Sadness & deep regret They knew we were on the retreat and I could not help feeling sorry for a people who were burning with a feeling of humiliation at the prospect of their quiet firesides soon being visited by a set of "yankee Mauraders" & made desolate. We were marched out 2 ms north of the City when we camped for the night and had the pleasure of enjoying a good nights sleep all hands were much in need of.

Monday May 5th

The advance of the Yankees attacked our rear guard Yesterday & had a sharp skirmish in which we repulsed them taking 1 canon 5 caisons & a number of Prisoners. The attack was again renewed this morning with more energy & most of the Army was ordered back at day light to the scene of action a short distance south of Williamsburg. We left for the scene of action at 1 P.M. & doubled quicked it for 2 miles through mud & water. Were drawn up in line of Battle & held in reserve — the fight raged all day & rain poured down incessantly. We captured 9 canon a lot of Horses over 300 prisoners & a stand of colours, besides killing many. loss of life on our side very small until late in the evening when 2 Reg were ordered to charge a redoubt in an open field and were nearly annihilated. Dark came on & separated the Combatants each holding their own positions. all kind of wounds could be seen as the men were brought in. The Reg had to stand in lines

of Battle in an open field nearly all night without fire & in a cold hard rain. I was detailed to assist in carrying off the wounded & at dark *flew up to Roost* in a Hen house but didnt get a particle of sleep.

Tuesday May 6th

Commenced retreating again this morning at 2 O'clk A.M. The troops nearly all broken down from fatrigrs hunger & want of sleep. The Road for 5 miles was strewn with Blankets, over coats, clothing, knapSacks, Cooking Utinsils, Sick Men &c &c. Roads awful muddy & Wagons & artillery continually boging down. The Sick & wounded left in Williamsburg at the mercy of the Yankees. The march was continued 18 or 20 miles to a little place called "ordinary" (quite an appropriate name) when we camped for the night. The men were so hungary that they ate corn, collard stalks, Turnips, Beets or any thing they could get hands on.

Friday May 9th

Took up the line of march at 11 a.m. Got to Chickahomine River at night and camped for the night. Bad roads but good weather. all very tired & hungry and nothing to eat. soon killed some Beeves. got hard Bread & was all right.

Sunday May 11 1862

Nothing new to note to day. had two Battallion Drills to day which is the first drilling I have done since I've been in the service. Ed & Geo returned to camp.

Thursday May 15th

All hands roused up this morning out of our comfortable Bunks an hour before day-light & dident take up the line of march until 1/2 past 3 O'clk. Then went about 4 miles and camped. had a muddy wet & disagreeable march.

Friday May 16th

Commenced traveling again at 11 O'clk a.m. and continued until after dark. Roads very bad & all quite hungry. Truly is the life of a soldier hard.

Saturday May 17th

Traveled again to day & Bivouaced at night on a level plain covered with Honey-Suckle bushes as thick as they could stand, about waist high and in full bloom, which presented to the eye quite a pretty Flower Garden. I imagined if Annie had been there how very soon would she have had her *pretty little hands* full of them, but to the weary and hungry Soldier they did not present many charms. Drew our Rations cooked & eat our dinner & supper & tumbled down upon our blankets to rest, repose and refresh ourselves for the toils of tomorrow.

Sunday May 18th

Continued our journey early this morning & struck camp within 3 miles of Richmond at 11 O'clk A.M. where it is thought we will remain for some time — having run about as far as we can without giving up Richmond. Went to an Ice pond in the evening and had a glorious wash. Thousands of Troops in Bathing & having a jolly time of it.

Monday May 19th

Had to report on the sick list for the 1st time. Have had Diarrhea pretty bad all day & feel quite unwell. Got a pr of New Shoes to day which came in a good time.

Thursday May 22

Fine day. Still in Camp at same place. Got appointment of Clerk of the Company which relieves me of Drill Wrote to Annie.

Friday May 23 1862

On detail to day. to go to Richmond & arrest stragglers. Went all over the whole city & out to Camp Winder — the nastiest place I ever saw in my life. Got back to camp at daylight having been up all night and about as tired as I well could be.

Sunday May 25th

Left our Camp this morning & went out on picket on the same road we came up on, and about 5 miles distant making the distance to Richmond 8 miles. A fight expected every hour but every thing has been unusually quiet to day. perhaps

its owing to "McClellan^s" religious proclivities — being opposed to fighting on Sunday. Have passed the day in sleeping & reading the "Bible" only when on duty. Cloudy but pleasant Weather.

Saturday May 31st

Had 2 days rations hard bred issued fixed up & moved off at 8 O'Clk AM to attack the enemy — had to go through mud & water, the latter in many places waist deep. Creeks, Ponds & Branches — for about 5 miles. Engaged the enemy at 2 O'Clk & had a desperate fight which lasted until dark. We drove them back one mile taking all their earth works a large number of canon, small arms, amunition. Camp equipage provisions &c &c our loss very heavy. Most of our Boys exchanged their Guns for better ones. got canteens & many other little tricks from the Yankees. we slept on the field and on

Sunday June 1st

the attack was again renewed on our left & a desperate fight ensued lasting until about 12 O'clk & resulting in the repulse of the enemy with the loss of their camp equipages &c &c. We buried all of our dead this evening & at night marched back several miles over very muddy roads & camped for the night. all hands nearly broken down.

Tuesday June 3d

a fight expected to day & the whole army drawn up in a line of Battle where they remained until night without a Fight. our whole army fell back yesterday about 2 miles this side of the Battlefield of Saturday & sunday for the purpose of getting a better position & an other Big fight is hourly expected. Commenced at dark & Rained the entire night has hard as it could pour and our camp was in a complete flood.

Saturday June 7th

Rained nearly all day. Sharp Skirmishing going on a good part of the day. Issued Whiskey to the Reg: & the Boys all got pretty lively.

Sunday June 8 1862

Heavy canonading near camp this morning. Went to church to day for the first time in the army & listened to an excellent sermon, Introduction — Hym — “Show pitty Lord O! Lord Let a repenting *rebel* Live.”

Text.

2 Ch & 3d verse of second Timothy. in which was drawn a striking contrast between the C. Soldier & the soldier of the Cross — delivered by the Rev Mr. Hogue — a talented & nice speaker. He gave us much good advice, the most important of which was to abstain from the use of *Ardent Spirits* & profane *swearing*, two of the worst habits in an army. particularly the latter as an *oath* is always on the end of the tongue of at least three fourths. The former is not much indulged in as it is seldom issued — however we got a ration of it yesterday & all seemed to enjoy it freely — and I some times think that it was occasionally issued in small quantities when we are in the rain mud & water it would be an advantage — particularly to health.

Got a letter from Annie to day & answered the same — also wrote to Ma.

Tuesday June 17th

Quite cold last night & there was almost frost this morning. clear cool & pleasant day. Got the appointment of Com’y Sgt which relieves me from all company duty, gives me a horse to ride & pays \$7 a month more than a private.

Sunday June 22d

Today has passed off very quickly — at this writing I am sitting on a Breast work beside the Williamsburg Turnpike. 3 miles from Richmond in a large barren field. where I can see at a glance any quantity of Camps, Troops Wagons moving to & fro. Artillery, Caissons, ambulances, Horses and all the appliances of “grim visaged War” and in the distance far above the top of trees is plainly exhibited the Yankee Balloon taking a view of our position, works and Capitol. That some important movement is on foot is evident but what it is none

except the leaders know. The day has been beautiful and pleasant beyond description & the weather all that could be desired since May '30th, but alas! its too far from *home* & the loved ones to render the Situation agreeable or pleasant to me under any Circumstances.

Tuesday June 24 1862

Continues Pleasant & dull. Had a hard summers Rain late in the evening which effectually layed a disagreeable dust. Visited the 11th Ala to day & saw a good many of the Marengo Co boys.

Thursday June 26

Our Reg was called up twice last night. The second time at 3 O clk this morning when they were moved off about 6 miles to the Mechanicsville Turnpike when a hard battle has been going on since 4 P.M. until this writing (after Sun down) with what result I know not, having been left in charge of Com'y Stores —its quite likely our Reg and Brigade is engaged. Will join them in the morning & learn all the facts. The weather is beautiful & any quantity of fighting is anticipated on tomorrow.

Friday June 27th 1862

Went to sleep last night with the roar of Canon sounding in my ears & was woke up before day-break this morning to pack up & move Com'y Stores &c and the same sound was going on. I hastened to the scene of action & succeeded in finding the Reg at 11 AM & found they had not been engaged. I then returned to bring up the Com'y wagons & did not get with it again. Saw any quantity of wounded & dead men & all the pariphanalia of war. truly is war a horrid necessity. The weather is clear & pleasant & the roads very dusty.

Saturday June 28 1862

Got back to Maj Websters Camp last night & remained with him. This morning had the wagons loaded with provisions and returned to the Reg finding it late in evening — in going on I passed over several Battle Fields that were strongly contested & the sight of dead men & horses was appalling —

lying in every direction & horribly thick. Southerners & Yankees all together. The fight was hardest yesterday evening & Geo Price was badly wounded in making a charge. We have any quantity of goods & Chattles captured from the enemy.

Sunday June 29

Remained at the Wagon yard to day & issued Rations to the sick in camp & rested. Nearly worn out from riding night and day. The fight still goes on and the enemy continues to fall back as fast as they can.

Wednesday July 2

Commenced raining last night & still continues this morning. Went down to the Reg: & found only 10 men in Company & they were worn out. Was on the battle field also & never saw such destruction before. Returned to Camp late at night & have caught the mumps.

Friday July 4th 1862

Got a good nights rest last night and rose early this morning feeling much better. Got breakfast & left for the Reg. 16 miles below and got to them about 1 P.M. found them all lazying round doing nothing except resting. No fighting going on to day but our forces are in pursuit of the Yankees. No National salutes have been fired by the Yankees as is their usual custom. Guess they are tired of listening to the roar of artillery for last ten days. Got a letter from A & wrote to her.

Saturday July 19th

Wagon went down below Seven Pines to a Yankee Hospital & got a fine lot of Ice. Had a lot of "Bust Head" Commissary Whiskey on hand & what a time we have had drinking Cock-tails Mint Jewlips and Ice water though no one got the least *tight*. fine day though warm.

Sunday July 20th

Spent the day in writing to Annie & enjoying the luxury of our fast melting Ice. The day has been quite pleasant, thoug

dull & loansome. Capt. Adams spent the day in Richmond & with the exception of some of the boys occasionally dropping in to get some *Ice*, 'I have been alone much to my gratification. Drilling for the day was dispensed with — many could be seen reading their Bibles, while others were whiling away the times in sleeping & writing to the loved ones at home. What a reformation fighting brings about in a Regiment and what a change has come over the spirit of the dreams of the 5th Ala since the Battle of Seven Pines.

Had a good dinner but its too far from home to relish it with any degree of satisfaction.

Monday July 21st

Have had occasional showers — pleasant — Been busy making out returns all day.

The roar of artillery has been sending forth its thunder peels all day, with short intervals, and for what purposes did not occur to me until dark, when I could see numerous sky Rockets going up in the City and other excessive demonstrations in fire-works. I recollected that it was the anniversary of the "Battle of Manassas." The cars on the York River R.R. also came by our camp from the White House with a full display of fire works.

[The last entry in volume one is dated August 14, 1862]

Friday Aug 15 1862

Got up at 3 A.M. & went down to the Regt on Picket 8 Miles below Camp, gave out rations and then went to a house, spent several hours in camp with some nice Ladies, got a good dinner for \$1 and then returned to Camp. Weather Cool & pleasant.

Sunday Aug 17 1862

Went down to the Regt on picket again and got back to Camp in time to partake of a good Dinner, then went to the Hospital in Town & found Tun [Tucker's brother] pitching into the Cakes & Jelly which Davis W. brought us from home. I pitched in & havent enjoyed any thing as much in a long while. Caught Cold & feel quite unwell.

Tuesday Aug 19 1862

The whole division was stired up 2 hours before day & took up the line of march at Sun up. Went through Town Called on Tun and found him doing finely. Took the Brook Turnpike in the Northern suburbs of the Town & Bivouaced 8 miles from the City. Road was very dusty but we had a good time getting plenty of green Corn, apples, peaches, Melons, Chickens Eggs Cider &c &c. on the way.

Tuesday Aug 26 1862

Struck Tents, loaded wagons packed up & moved off at Sun up. Traveled all day nearly parell in with the Central R.R. crossing it every few miles and Camped in an old Field 2 miles north of "Beaver Dam Station" Walked all day & was tired enough to sleep quite soundly. Weather pleasant. Roads firm & free from dust.

Saturday Aug 30th

Took an early start Crossed the Rapidan River (the troops all wading across) and got to Culpper C.H. at 2P.M. Never have seen such destruction of property fences, farms & every thing in my life. Rode Over the Battle Fields of Cedar Mountain & saw any quantity of dead Yankee feet & heads sticking out of the ground, about half buried & causing the air to be filled with quite an unpleasant effluvia. The Town of Culpeper is much devastated but a pretty little place. Saw any quantity of sick and wounded Yankees in the place that Old Pope didnt have time to get away. Traveled on 4 Miles north of Town & camped on Mud Run.

Monday Sept 1 1862

Commenced traveling again early. Went by Warrenton Springs & took a good look round. Hotel burned and the place literally torn to peices. 5 miles farther on & we came to the little Village of Warrenton — decidedly the handsomest Town I've seen in Va. Came on through & got dinner at a private house and struck camp at Gainsville 8 Miles from Manassas. The Country north of Culpeper C.H. is quite broken though rich & pretty notwithstanding the Yankees have nearly destroyed every thing they could. The people rec'd us every where with demonstra-

tions of gladness, particularly the Ladies. Had a very hard rain in the evening & got gloriously wet.

Tuesday Sep 2 1862

Continued our Journey through a very pretty part of the Country. Went all over the Battle Field and never saw as many dead Yankees on a field before. Was at the store house where the 4th Ala fought on the 21 July 1861 when Bartow fell and nearly all over the old Battle Field. Camped at dark 10 miles from Fairfax CH on the Winchester Turnpike.

Wednesday Sept 3d

Cooked rations early & took up the line of March for Lusburg, passing through a delightful Country & passg through the Town after dark. The Moon shown brightly & the Ladies & Citizens crowded the side walks. Cheering us up & seemingly perfectly delighted to see us which was duely appreciated judging from the deafning yells that went up from each regt as they filed by. Went out 2 miles & camped for the night.

Friday Sep 5th

Our Regt & Brigade Crossed the Potomac just below the "Point of Rocks" early this Morning & were the first troops to make tracks on the soil of Md. I left after dinner Crossed over to the Regt and then Came back after the wagon train at Camp. riding all night & getting no sleep at all. and crossing back into Md.

Saturday Sep 6th. at sun up feeling as sleepy & hungry as a man well could feel. Took up the line of march for Frederick a distance of 15 ms from the Potomac & Camped in 4 ms of the Town. I rode in Town & saw a very pretty place. Got dinner on the way side at 2\$ and a very good one at that.

Friday Sep 12 1862

Took an early start this morning for Hagerstown but traveled very slow having quite a mountainous road to go over. Passed through Boonsborough early & found many warm Sympathisers in the place. Camped in 6 ms of Hagerstown. Expecting a fight and may remain here several days. Had another rain this evening.

Sunday Sep 14 1862

Was ordered off early this Morning back in the direction of Middletown where a hard fight is going on 9 AM — Genl Garland Killed early this morning. The 5th Ala ordered to the scene of action early in the morning. In the evening a general engagement commenced which resulted most disastrously to our arms. Our Brigade "cut all to pieces" & many of our men taken prisoners. Only 40 odd men to be found in the 5th at dark. at which time we commenced retreating leaving all our wounded in the enemy's hands. traveled all night long. The fight was at North Mountain 1½ miles east of Boonsboro from which I presume it will take its name. Never saw so much stragling in all my life.

Monday Sep 15th 1862

The army was halted 7 miles from Sparksburg & 3 from the Potomac and formed in line of Battle where they remained all day, having a little fight in the evening. Rode all day try to get provisions for the Men. Some of our Men came in. Harpers Ferry captured.

Tuesday Sep 16th

Jackson's Forces came up early this morning and in the evening a furious fight commenced which lasted only a short time.

Wednesday Sep 17 1862

The fight was opened this morning at day brake & an awful canonading continued on both sides until about 10 A.M. when it partially ceased & small arms took the place for a short time. The fight continued unceasingly & most furiously lasting the entire day & until 9 Oclk at night when all things quieted down except the rumbling of the ambulances, which were going all night. Great many wounded on our side but not many killed. Enemys loss not Known as boath parties held about the same position as when the fight commenced.

Thursday Sep 18 1862

All quiet to day except picket skirmishing. The army engaged

most of the day in burrying the dead. Wagons all crossed the Potomac into Va. Weather fine.

Friday Sep 19 1862

The whole army fell back last night several miles on the Va side of the River. Rode nearly all night long.

Saturday Sep 20th

Marched nearly all day. stoped at Smithfield got supplies & then travel all night long. camping Sunday Sep 21 5 miles north of Martinsburg at 10 am all worn out & as sleepy as possible to be. Got breakfast & slept until evening then got up & wrote to Annie.

Saturday Oct 25th

Struck tents this morning at day brake and started off in the direction of Charlestown. Got to the RR in the evening & Comc'd tearing up the track. Troops worked all night and destroyed the road within 3 Miles of Harpers Ferry.

Monday Nov 24th

started at day-brake this morning & crossed the mountain which consumed the better part of the day. Walked 23 miles. camped near Chigleysville.

Sunday Nov 30th

Continued the march early this morning & camped at night near Spotsylvania C.H. all hands pretty well tired down.

Friday Dec 12 1862

The firing was renewed early this morning at Fredericksburg & later in the day at Port Royal. Continuing until late in the evening. Got orders at Sun down to go to Fredericksburg & had to travel all night long. through the Cold a distance of 16 Miles. &

Saturday Dec 13 1862

we halted at day brake to take a short rest preparatory to opening a general fight, which commenced about sun up &

continued the entire day in sight of Fredericksburg. our men getting much the best of the fight though the loss was heavy on both sides. Our Brigade was not engaged but were under fire for some time & several wounded. Went to the Depot.

Monday Feby 16 1863

Went to Frederiksburg to day and rode all over the place. Never looked at so dilapidated a place in my life. Houses burned down & shot to pieces, furniture destroyed, fences burnt up & general destruction of every species. The Yankees were right on the opposite side of the river almost in stones throw of us with many of their huge Siegr pieces looking down upon the almost demolished old City.

Sunday April 11th 1863

Another dull week of inactivity has closed with nothing transpiring worthy of record. The weather has been warm & pleasant. Some little skirmishing has occurred along the line but not sufficient to indicate an early move on either side.

Wednesday April 29 1863

The Yankees Commenced Crossing the river this morning at day brake below Fredericksburg and our Army was very soon in motion. A general tearing up of winter quarters & throwing away old trinnpris [sp ?]. Were rumored near Hamiltons Crossing where we camped for the night. The Y——s kept Crossing all day & brisk skirmishing was kept up. Had a pretty hard rain in the evening which lasted most of the night.

Saturday May 2 1863

Train was ordered up above Spottsylvania C.H. where it Camped at night. A hard fight took place in the evening near Chandlersville.

Sunday May 3 1863

The fight was renewed this morning at day light & lasted until after 12 O'Clock, being a desperate fight all the time. The enemy was driven from every position with terrible slaughter

on both sides. Terrie wounded & taken prisoner. The Right was badly used up. went on the Battle field in the evening. Came back & wrote to Annie.

Tuesday May 5 1863

Removed this morning near Chancelorsville. Troops in line of battle all day but no fighting. Rained very hard in the evening & I got ringing wet. Still burrying the dead. Never saw as many wounded in all my life.

Tuesday June 9th

The Yankee Cavalry advanced this morning & a hard Cavalry fight took place, resulting in our men Driving them across the river at Beverlys ford. Infantry was all ordered up near the fight. Wagon train sent back to Culpeper & ordered up again in the evening to same Camp. Carter left us to go to Richmond.

Friday June 12

Took up the line of march early. Crossed the Blue Ridge Mountains & got to Front Royal in the Shenandoah Valley in the evening. Camped Near a little Town called Milwood.

Saturday June 13

Started again early this morning. passed through Smithfield & ran the Yanks out of Berryville where a large amount of Plunder was Captured. Pursued them until night & then Camped about 10 ms from Bunker Hill.

Sunday June 14

Had a dreadful hard march & reached Martinsburg at sun down and drove the Yankees out in double quick time. Capturing Several pieces of Artillery & a good many stores. Some of the women & Citizens were delighted to see us though the Town is rotten to the Core. Every where else we were greeted with the most enthusiastic welcome & in Smithfield in a substantial manner as the side walks were crowed with ladies dispensing Buttered Bread, Milk, Meat, Boquets &C. with lavish hands.

Friday June 19th

Got orders & left for Hagerstown early. Arrived there about 12M. Saw a good many *Sisih* women. Went 2 Miles out of Town & camped. Had a hard rain in the evening. Wrote to Annie at night.

Monday June 22

Got orders early this morning struck tents and left for Pa. Went through Hagerstown & large Crowds of people turned out to see us and many little *Sisish* flags were displayed Entered the state of Pa at Mutton Town at 12 O'Clock and got to Gruncastle in the evening & went into Camp.

Tuesday June 23d

Went out to the foot of the Allegany Mountains with a Squad of Cavalry after Beef Cattle and had a lively time. Men had all ran off & the women were scared to *death generally*. until they found they were not going to be interfered with. Got 100 head Cattle.

Saturday June 27th

Moved off early this morning. had a hard march and reached Carlisle at sun down all jaded & worried down. and Camped in the U.S. Barracks. A very nice Town but inhabited by very mean people.

Wednesday July 1 1863

This is to me the sadest day of the war. The troops marched to Geddysburg. where a terrible battle was fought in which poor Tunie [Tucker's younger brother] was Killed. Never shall I forget my feelings when I got to him & found him lifeless. How sudden & heartrendering the change. had parted with him only a few hours before in perfect health & fine spirits. Never dreaming that it was the last & final intermission. Thus ended the life of one of the Noblest & best boys in early youth that ever lived. & brings vividly to memory the fact that in "The Midst of life we are in Death.

Thursday July 2d

Was present at the burial this morning & saw him as decently