

*Sent in by
Mrs B of Lawrence*

CAMP (June 29th, 1863) McLARREN

Notes by the Way Side.
On the Indian Expedition.

1st Day. June 16th. Left Camp Pope. Hodge Deserts. One team for two companies. We carry our knapsacks. 6th Regiment in lead. 7th in rear. 1st Camp at Camp Crooks 7 miles from Camp Pope. Had a swim in Minnesota River. Rocky bottom.

2nd Day. June 17th. Folsom arrives. 7th take lead. 6th in rear. 2nd Camp near Wood Lake. Camp Miller. 15 miles from Camp Crooks. Our old oven good as ever.

3rd Day. June 18th. Fine morning. 7th in rear. Cross Yellow Medicine River ($2\frac{1}{2}$ miles). 3rd camp at C. Riggs called Camp Baker $5\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Yellow Medicine. 8 miles from Camp Miller. Mail arrives with letter for me. I have one written but wait too long to get it in.

4th Day. June 19th. Rest to mend broken crackers barrels and repack loads. Called out by Long Roll. Raining a very little. Finished letter. Our Company on Guard. I am escort for Grand Rounds.

5th Day. June 20th. Co. H. part of rear guard which does not leave until 9 o'clock. We travel steady and fast. Pass Camp Release 4 miles. We get in at 6 our tents all up. Forenoon a little rain. Afternoon very dusty. 4th Camp McPhail 20 miles from Camp Baker.

6th Day. Sunday. June 21st. Rest. 5 miles to Lac que Parle. Finished letter and wait until tomorrow which proves to be too late. Sunday's inspection and dress parade. Went to meeting.

7th Day. June 22nd. Leave McPhail. Mail arrives bringing me a letter from Ella and goes out before I get mine in. We camp at Ramsey. 15 miles from McPhail which is our 5th camp. Out men are tired and dry. Ramsey is on the side of a lake where nearly all were physicked. Good news, our knapsacks to be carried.

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8th Day. June 23rd. Some doubts for enough teams. 7th stubborn. But teams come and we move once more with our knapsacks on the waggon. Hot and dusty. Prairie grass getting poorer every day. Arrive at Camp Averill 13 miles from Ramsey, our 6th Camp, near Izuzak R. and Lake.

9th Day. June 24th. 1st mess mixed vegetables for soup. Cross Izuzak R. one mile from Camp. Cross State line. Prairies on fire by Scouts. More rolling and hilly. Afternoon cross Whetsone River where we wash ourselves. One mile on its bank we camp between lake and river on nice bottom, good grass, we camp at our 7th Camp. Camp Marshall 12 miles from Camp Averill.

10th Day. June 25th. During ^{night} mail arrives and by hard work I got in a letter to (A.Laine) A. L. On guard last night. This morning I ride nearly all the way to our 8th Camp alongside of Swan Lake where we get at 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock. Over 5000 fish caught during the afternoon. Cavalry kill 1st buffalo. Camp called Jannison (8th). 11 miles from Camp Marshall. Some boys go to Big Stone Lake fishing 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

11th Day. June 26th. 7th in rear. Co. Teause De Prairie (Traverse De. Prairie) within 10 to 15 miles all day. Find sulphur water spring. Camp on rich bottom between Lake Travaire (Traverse)? and Big Stone Lake near Sisserton Village. 10 miles from Camp Jannison called (9th Camp) Camp McLarren. We get in early and I went immediately to Lake Travaire fishing and swimming, about 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles.

12th Day. June 27th. Rest to overhaul loads. Went fishing. 2 papooses on a tree. Indian burial ground on bluff. Our men tear up graves etc. etc. Coldest spring (sulphur) water I ever tasted. Evening more tired and hungry than on march.

13th Day. Rest. Sunday June 28th. Cold nights, pleasant day. Write and sent a letter by way Abbercrombie. Take a good nap in afternoon. Evening on guard until 11 o'clock. 1st Relief Dress Parade.

14th Day. Rest. June 29th. Make this book and copy notes up to date. (July 5th Camp Hays)

14th Day. June 29th. at Camp McClellan. Daily fishing parties go to fish with arms. During our stay here 10 to 12 mules kick bucket. Co. (H) on guard. Trouble with the Q.M. cause. Mean Crackers. One of the Q. M.'s put under arrest. We take back a barrel and get it exchanged with much trouble.

15th Day. June 30th. C. H of 9th I of 7th and H. of 6th Regiments go with train to Ft. Abbercrombie, also cavalry and 1/4 Section of Battery. We have orders to start very unexpectedly. We start to go only 4 miles but go 10 instead where we stop at a lake called Camp Bradley. During the day one of the Conscript drivers was run over and his leg broken. He was immediately sent to Ft. Abbercrombie in an ambulance. Here we were mustered for pay for 2 months.

16th Day. July 1st. We start early. 7th at head. We are told to take wood for the night, which we do. Stopped at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock tents up and resting in 1/2 hour. Myself and Wright go a great ways for a very poor swim. Prairie more rolling and during day we pass 10 or 12 lakes. Land poor and stony. We also march through several lakes (Dry). I was chased out of one lake. Day's march 12 miles. Camp Cook.

17th Day. July 2nd. 7th in rear. Start at 6. Country as yesterday Prairies all as if flagged so large cracks so as to let one's foot through. First notice of grasshoppers going East. Some starving for want of a spear of grass which cannot be found on level land. We pass a pretty lake on our right which has some trees. Afterwards we stop to water at another, at a third on our left we stop again this one has stony bottom where some fish are caught. We arrive at Skunk Lake at 12. Called Camp Parker. Here many pickerel are caught. Wood and bursh all around lake. Two buffalo seen. Plenty huckleberries at this place. Day's travel 12 miles. Myself and Wright swim and fish.

18th Day. July 3rd. Revilee at 3. 7th in center. start 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. This was up to this time our hardest day. The day was very hot, the heat reflecting from the parched prairie, hot air strike as if from an oven and all the ambulances full. Still we marched on until the mules begin to give out. We marched 20 miles and stopped at a Lake. The water green and thick, a quart skimmed off from one kettle. Here we could get whiskey orders. 75 cents a pint. I was somewhat amused to see a fellow catch a mule with a lasso. This place called Camp Buell. A messenger arrived from Fort with news. Prairie all burnt on other side of Shayenne. Evening appearance of rain.

19th Day. July 4th. Great celebration. Nearly all get the diarrhoea on account of water. Revilee at 3 o'clock. 7th ahead. start 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. Rains shirt deep. We march slow and stop often until we arrive at the Shayenne River where we are delayed about 2 hours while the Pioneers cut out and make a crossing and put down pontoons for Infantry to cross, and when we get up we have a running sight of an elk, some say it was an antelope. One wagon tongue was broke by crossing. After we cross we go about one mile down the river and camped on a very nice prairie. Good soil and a very large marsh (now dry) where plenty of grass can be had for a few days. This marsh looks like one at home where you can always find plenty of cattle chips, here buffalo chips, some only a few days old. After we had our tents up I had a swim in the Shayenne, then had supper after which the day's celebration ended by firing of cannon and shooting rockets, music and last of all rain nearly all night for all I know for I slept sound. We were informed that a mail was going and I wrote a hasty letter. Days travel 9 miles, camp called Camp Hays 50 miles from Abbercrombie.

20th Day. July 5th. Sundry. Rest for a few days. My turn for Police. Inspection this morning. Wood brought in out by beaver. 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles from Pope. Went up to 10th regiment to see young Sand Bill Crane and Eagle, 50 miles from Fort Abbercrombie. 14th Camp.

21st Day July 6th. Fine warm morning. Plenty reading to be had at Chaplain. 1st Indian runners. Picks and shovels used Groot and Legg scalped imaginary. Garrison excited. Strong orders against stragling.

22nd Day. July 7th. Yesterday Guard doubled and extra Guard in readiness. Wrote letter to my Father. Dress parade. Swimming. In morning ordered to drill but on account of washing is postponed. 10th Regiment have a splendid well and supply nearly the whole brigade.

23rd. Day. July 8th. A good number of Cavalry sent about 50 miles to see how about grass. Men digging on a knoll for treasure, opposite, but find only skull and bones. This is very hot sultry weather. No place in tents or out for rest. Washed my Haversack. Mail arrived, brings me a paper and letter from sister.

24th Day. July 9th. Appearance of rain. Battallion drills as skirmishes. Stinking meat row and almost a funeral. Clear again and warm as ever. Train arrives from Abbercrombie with Co. (D) of 7th regiment. Colts rifles. Wrote and finished a letter to Father and A. Laine. Also up to these notes.

25th Day. July 10th. Preparation for Review. After all is ready it is countermanded. Preparing for an early start at 2 o'clock. Weather very windy, dusty and smoky as in Indian Summer. Another grub row by Groot.

26th Day. July 11th. Leave Camp Hays at 5 o'clock (Revilee at 2) Extra precaution against Indians. Last night quite cold. Pleasant march for our side of train. Pass a ravine. Camp on Shayenne 13 miles from Hays. Fresh Indian signs across the river. Myself rather unwell take 5 pills. Finish police.

27th Day. July 12th. Sunday. rest. I take 4 more pills. But go on inspection. Dinner grub row. Reported that sign of encampment of 30 Indians had been seen also 6 across the river by a notched stick and a fresh-killed goose neck near an old fire. Arrangements made for a weekly mail, 10, 25, 50 and 100 postage. Co.(H) on guard tonight. Mail goes out tomorrow but I have none to send. Weather hot and dry. Cold nights. Precaution taken to burn all around the camp. Sibley won't carry mail but allows the poor soldier to be imposed upon by charging exorbitant postage. In fact everybody has a chance to make all the money he can except a soldier. Last night I had a dream- that I was lousy. (but thank fortune there is not, I believe, one in our Company). Dress parade.

28th Day July 13th. Earliest start yet, 4:20. Land on this side of river is very good and today notice a little better grass. Country level, not so many lakes, but pass what I call Long Lake: a beautiful lake it is with two little green geives to finish its beauty. The Right wing again on Right where we had the dusty side but it was cool and cloudy and at 11 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock our tents were up on the nicest and handiest camping ground we have had, between three (good water in such) Lakes. Larger than usual, but no wood. We had brought wood enough, having been told that there would be none. Our day march is called 22 miles. Here the boys had a fine mess of frogs, of which any amount in lake. Put tootpick in my knife. Rainy and cold afternoon. I had a fine wash in lake, but cool. Also called by Major to take a little whiskey which tasted good after so long abstinence. Plenty ducks and geese in the lakes but are not allowed to shoot a gun. The three Regiments each can use water out of a separate lake. Camp Weiser. Cavalry came, having left 4 horses and their mules very near given out. Prairie Wolf.

29th Day. July 14th. Night and morning very cold. Revillee 2. 7th ahead. Start 20 minutes of 4. Several nice lakes close to our camp. Lake land improves also grass. Pass 2 hills. Bottom a nice buffalo meadow. Very hard days march. Camp within 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles of river. Mules give out. Distance 18 miles. Called Camp Sheridan. After we arrived we had a rabbit chase.

30th Day. July 15th. Early as usual. 7th in rear. Pass one lake to right where plenty fresh signs of buffalo are plain. Then we pass over a large mound where we have a fine view of our present Camp (Smith) and the lake around the camp. This is on a nice mound or rise the shape of a horse shoe. The water on three sides and the three regiments on the 4th make a strong position. No wood to be had. Buffalo chips used by the Brigade of which there were plenty. Water is quite salty, not fit to use. Wells are dug. My first salt water swim and the first I ever tasted. Days march 8 miles. Camped and had my swim by 11 o'clock. Day pleasant Sibley thinks it only 50 miles to Devils Lake and we will be there in a week.

31st Day. July 16th. Start early. First 5 miles level after which it is broken interspersed with plenty of dry mud lakes. I was with Rear Guard and when head of train arrived at Shayenne we had a rest of 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours. While here we were amused by watching 3 elk and 1 buffalo. At this crossing Finke crossed last year enroute for Salmon River gold mines. Before we got to river a young elk ran before us and tried to get through the train where it was caught. Some few Indians had camped near river lately. From the river we marched about 5 miles and camped near several lakes all salty. Wells were dug but were salty. Here we made salty coffee and no wood to be had so the Brigade cooked with buffalo chips of which there is no end and they make a good fire. This was the most tedious day for all of us for we were on the road from 4 A.M. to 4.P. M. cause the

train was so long, not being able to double on account of road. Days march 17 miles. Called Corning. Here I was dry with full canteen.

32nd Day. July 17th. Cloudy and dusty. 7th ahead. Follow Captain Fiske's old trail. Yesterday 22 scouts were sent to James River to see whether the Indians had gone. Others are sent to Devils Lake. One elk and one buffalo were killed. "The find" (young captured elk) is taken along. It is quite tame. First 5 miles level with marshy lakes. Afterwards hilly rolling. Pass one, which I would call Sugar Loaf Mountain, being that form. After passing perhaps three or four miles further we watered teams and men out of a fresh water lake where Fiske camped. Rolling all the way to camp. Making 16 miles today. Here is a mud lake with dirty green water, but fresh. Chips must be used again. Fired tonight for the water and coffee tasted to me like salts. The men have just reported that they had dug a well with plenty of clear good water and I will go and drink a quart. Two Half Breeds come in and give us some news.

33rd Day July 18th. Warm and cloudy. Elk find follows like a cat. 7th in rear. Commenced to rain directly after we started and rained all the way. Nobody had a rubber blanket nor big coat for they had been fooled so often so we all got wet alike. First 7 miles level land (low some of it). After this very hilly. Here we came in sight of Jessie Lake and 5 or 6 others close by, but we camped this side on a very nice large fresh water lake to our left, with plenty good grass. Chips will not burn being wet. Wood can be had by going about 4 miles. Yesterday the scouts killed a large elk and brought in head and antlers. It is now in its velvet and quite soft. Today the artillery men caught a young grey wolf, we all had a fine view of the chase close by. When we were fronting on our calve line we heard a gun go off and we soon found out the cause. A lieutenant of Co. C. of Cavalry shot a half breed belonging to Co. L. of Cavalry.

The man will probably die. The lieutenant is under arrest and if he gets his dues he will be shot. We changed our course this morning to go straight west in conformity with intelligence received from the two Indian half breeds, and in all probability all the teams that are tired out will be left out and all the men that are not able and others will be left to guard the teams. Then they will push with all vigor in search of Little Crow. Being all wet the Sutler had permission to sell whiskey (one drink to each) for 10 cents. I had a good cool wash in the lake after we camped. Days march 9 miles. Camp Atchison.

34th Day. July 19th. Sunday, rest. Preparations for the forced march.

35th Day. July 20th. Land very level and marshy. Afterwards very level as far as one can see. Saw a drove of buffalo. Marched very steady from 7 to 3. No good water on the way. A few knolls, one stony, and a very large marsh and small lake. Direction S.W. formerly N. W. Make but 20 miles. This is within 3 miles of half breeds camp. Drunk died, most surprising. Here a cavalry man shoots himself accidentally. About 200 Red River men came into camp, finely dressed and carrying a nice flag, their priest and the ransomed boy with them. The boy said that their men had killed 1000 buffalo in two days. They had worked saddles, moccasins, etc., to sell but take nothing but gold and tobacco. My guard night, Camp Forbes.

36th Day. July 21st. 7th ahead. Ransomed whites stop at half breed camp to trade. 150 of them going with us. To here (James R.) the land has been hilly. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ o'clock we were crossing river on pontoons. Pleasant and sunshine. Buffalo herd complete on east bank. Nice large bottom with one large mound in it and we camp on it where the Indians lately camped. Only 7 miles today. Cloudy, Starts Thunderstorms. Sales mail arrives bringing me a letter from father. 10 cents for bringing it in. I see a man knocked down by a mule's hind leg.

37th Day July 22nd. Day events. 7th in rear. Started 5 $\frac{1}{4}$. Stop at a large fresh water lake to water at 9 o'clock, to here beautiful sloping prairie, good soil and a few grass marshes, wood in sight at times to our left. Co. Teavise De Missouri in sight from here all the time to camp a few large marshes and little water on the way. Level country. March very fast and steady put up tents at 12 $\frac{1}{2}$ having made 18 miles and within 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ miles of Co. Teavise. Poor water out of a branch of James River (Camp Kimball) I. 7 was expected this morning and last night that we were to march to here and stop about 4 or 5 hours and then start again and get to and surround the Indians, but the mules gave out. Their camp is only about 15 miles from here.

38th Day. July 23rd. Co. Teavise De Missouri looks as though only $\frac{1}{2}$ miles but it is at best 15. We cross over stony hills, land very rough and mostly poor. Two buffalo heads on the way. We got to a cluster of high stony hills about 16 miles from Co. Teavise which is in plain sight from this hill. Long Lake. Over the hill is a small lake close to the road and a large one a ways off to our right. Then we march 3 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours steady up and down hills. We stop to water teams at a lake which follows the valley of near all the hills. We camp at one. 25th camp(____)/ at 2 $\frac{1}{4}$ having come 20 miles and yet no signs of an Indian. We got word last night that the Indians had gone down the Missouri R. and we are now taking a S.W. course to cut him off at his crossing on the river. He has about 4 or 5 days start of us.

39th Day. July 24th. Start 4 $\frac{1}{2}$. 7th ahead. 5 or 6 miles very hilly and rough and then nice rolling prairie. We pass between lakes two to R. and one to L. We stop to water at last one and at 9 o'clock having come about 12 miles, before we got here a man and two dogs had quite a fox chase. We

We stopped one hour and then we resume the march and an antelope comes close and is chased and killed by our Colonel. We march steady until 12 making 18 miles. On a salt lake where we are brought to a stand very suddenly by the cheering news that we had come very suddenly on the Bird(Indians). The correll is formed and we are ready and waiting but we have no water. Men are detailed to dig for water. Afterwards we form our color line. Indians are seen in all directions. Busy times with our scouts running back and forth. At last they bring in an Indian Scout and the Staff take him through and show him our forces and talk of making peace. Then we pitched our tents and break ranks. Men are detailed to dig trenches but in a few minutes we hear shots and are ordered out for fight at 10 minutes of 4 o'clock. Then Colonel Marshall came with the sad news that Dr. Weiser was shot dead and a scout came on horse back shot through his seat. Co. (H.) and (B) were ordered out first to open the bull. We went out and Cavalry and we drive them from hill to hill for 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours not hurting anybody, not anybody getting hurt. While we are driving them it commences to rain and lightning. We see one Red Devil jump and fall shot by a cavalry man. Then they skedaddle with the cavalry after them. After a while cannon and cavalry come and go in pursuit and we follow until about 10 o'clock and not a bit of water with us and the lakes all salty. We suffered for water, was hungry and nothing to eat. and very tired, about 4 miles from our camp we find where their camp was. They left many buffalo robes and several old squaws and papposes behind, and we followed them about 14 miles and the further we went the more robes and dry meat we found. It seems they would out loose their homes and leave everything. We stopped and intended to bivouac for the night but the cavalry came back and we had to march back again, making in all about 50 miles we travelled in one day on a light breakfast, and 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ hours fight besides.

As far as I can learn of our men three were killed and only a few wounded, one the Doctor, one cavalry and one scout and during the lightning one cavalry man was struck by it and killed instantly. The Doctor was killed in cold blood while talking peace. The scout and his slayer lay side by side, and as seen by a comrade he killed the slayer after he was killed. He shot at the Indian and then rushed with his sword to kill him but the Indian shot him through, he turned his horse and with his pistol shot the Indian and they fell side by side. The 3rd was a Lieut. in the Cavalry. He was brought in this morning, scalped and out, the only one. Eight or nine Indians in all were killed. While coming home we all got lost and we marched all night and got into camp at sunrise. This is Battle of Sibley B of Big Hills.

40th Day. July 25th. We are a tired set (7th Regt.) the 6th and 10th regiment stayed in camp all the time and last night the ambulances were sent to us with provisions, whiskey, etc. and when they got out a few miles they heard that the Indians had cut off our retreat and of course they retreated in good order but the 6th and 10th wanted to go to our relief. We no doubt will all get lousy from the robes but last night we went out with nothing but our shirts on and it rained and they all kept themselves dry with them. It was the intention to move early but the 7th would not move being too tired and foot sore but all who cannot walk are allowed to ride and we got ready to start at 10 but the Indians had come back and were around the camp as thick as ever. We expected an attack, we were ordered into the trenches. The correll was formed again which delayed us until 12 when we started. I took the opportunity and rode. We only went about 3 or 4 miles to where grass and water could be had about two miles from Indian camp.

41st Day. July 26th. Sunday. Start at 5. 6th in lead. Stop a few minutes at Indian camp and burn a large amount of meat. When we get at our bivouac place we hear that the Yanotineris are in sight. Everything ready and we move on to lakes where we stop to fill canteens and water

mules. In one lake a large buffalo had got mired and died. We stopped from 9 to 10 o'clock then we marched a little further when they showed themselves in force. We stopped and had a powwow until 2 o'clock. They left and we camped at Buffs Lake. After we pitched our tents they came and now the 6th and cavalry are at it while we are in our tents.-- It lasts until near dark. We are called into line but are not needed. One cavalry man wounded badly, will die. About 25 men were killed in both battles. Wells are dug but the lake water is used. The wells are salty. The rain stops the engagement. An old squaw was taken and brought in astraddle of a horse.

42nd Day. July 27th. Camp Phender. 7th ahead as skirmishes. Rainy morning. Indians ahead at a distance we follow their trail desert. Buffalo tracks and trails as thick as cow paths in reservations. Stop at 4 o'clock on a nice lake but grass is very scarce. Days march 22 miles. I pluck a rose near a scalped Indian.

43rd Day. July 28th. 10th ahead. When we hear heavy firing and the 7th saw the enemy coming on us as if to cut out train. We meet them and charge on them and they skedaddle. They stop on hill and talk with Cavalry man. At 7½ o'clock we march on fighting as we go, they are all around us. at 10 o'clock the cavalry captures a young devil whooping for fun and did not belong to the enemy. 15 miles we found their camp fires and 7 graves just finished - 7 miles is another Indian camp, fires yet burning. Here we camp making 22 miles, 8 scalps and one just as we stopped, he took an old horse we had left and was shot and scalped by cavalry man. Today was a fine day and a nice level prairie after we left camp. First wood since we left C. Apchison. Another Indian shot who was trying to slip upon Mowers. This was called Robbert River.

44th Day. July 29th. Camp Stees. Started at 4 A. M. 6th ahead. we delay to 7 crossing the small creek where we found a new born papoose and squaw. We then start over a very level prairie with one high ridge. The cavalry and artillery go on ahead and commence shelling the woods on the Missouri River. We hurried hoping to catch them this side but they had crossed during the night. This was all the hopes we had and now that is gone. We can see the devils plainly on the bluff opposite. Once in a while a few shots were sent with what success we know not. This is a hot dry day and we dare not go to the river for water yet (11 A. M.) from last camp 14 miles. (2.P. M.) until the present there has been nothing but cannon firing all at once they fire a heavy volley of musketry. (4 P.M.) our men are recalled to go into camp. The signal guard were in and from them we got a little water. They said that when they got into the bottom the devils had quite a number of white flags up and talked to our scouts and told them to come over and that they would give up, etc. etc. Our men gathered and even were allowed to go to the river but when the devils saw them start back and not try to cross the river a signal was fired from the top where one man could be plainly seen and then a heavy volley hurting nobody. We then moved down the Missouri River 4 miles on the bank of the mouth of Apple River its water tastes strong of alkali. My guard night.

45th Day. July 30th. One staff and one private of 6th were either lost or shot yesterday and last night signal guns and rockets were shot in air. Midnight 4 shots were fired and the long roll called all to arms but that ended it. We saw signal rockets down the Missouri and are in hopes that Genl. Scully is coming. Last night I went into the river to wash and when I was through the Devils were coming up from the Missouri to cut off some of our mules, we had to get. The prairie is burning all around us but we are safe.

The cause of the alarm last night was an Indian was moving towards one of our pickets with a large bunch of grass before him. The picket fired on him and he took time to set fire to it and then left. We use a waggon for fire and one Indian was scalped and caught, the scalper was caught by the legs with both hands by the wretch. We think we hear Sculley's cannon. 3 of the best companies of each Regt. with Cavalry on boat and 2 Howitzers go to cross the river. Our company is one to go. I would like to but the y will not let me off of guard duty. 2 mules were gobbled by the devils and perhaps many more. 8 Indian children were found drowned and it is supposed that many other met the same fate. An English Lord private aid to Sibley. It is pretty certain now that he is among those that lost their scalps. 6 of the 10th Regt. were sunstruck yesterday and today it seems to be hotter. 6 P.M. A rumor is that a dispatch arrived with the good news that our forces had come on to the Indians (about 225) who were taking goods across the river and when they saw our men they jumped into the river which is very wide and our men shot about 175 of them. Later reinforcements of 2 Co's. of Cavalry are sent up and it is rumored that 700 Indians crossed above unbeknown to our men and cut them off. This was credited by nearly all in camp from the fact that Sibley ordered all to be ready for an immediate attack on camp and it was already dark. You may know that we were all anxious for their safety. I go to the Battery for rumors and while there Sibley with staff arrived and I thought from his ways that he was even more troubled than the rest but presently a messenger rode up and told him that two bodies were found one scalped and Beaver(English Lord) was not but had a bit out away from his whiskers and that only a few devils had been seen. Soon our men came, They had destroyed a large number of wagons, robes etc., etc. and had a few long range shots. We were all glad and Sibley had 2 rockets and one big gun fired for joy.

46th Day. July 31st. Forenoon all quiet and warm afternoon. Myself and Wright go to river and wash our shirts, etc., and the alkali water washes nice, but before we are finished a message is sent for all to skeddaddle to quarter for the enemy was crossing above and below in force. We went and I made some shoe pegs for my new shoes. The two dead bodies were buried this morning. They were shot with arrows. Dress parade all quiet, Rumors of Beaver's wealth and estimating the killed 120 to 150, 44 dead bodies found, travelled about 600 miles from St. Paul. Expedition complete success. Dakotas driven into Nebraska. Killed in action 3 and 3 wounded, 3 or 4 murdered. They must starve this winter and freeze. Marshall's orders saying that the 7th had taken the most active part in the engagements. Several mules die during our stay. 1st day on backward march, Aug. 1st. Last night about 10 all were ordered out as quietly as possible. Skirmishers were put in front and all of us had blankets and we laid down waiting results. All kinds of birds and noises were heard all around us and by the light of distant fires, Indians were seen. Several shots were fired by our pickets. Then we hear two volleys of musketry, then our cattle ran into a stampede which was with difficulty stopped, after this I fell asleep with the rest. Several shots were fired afterwards but we paid not attention to it. The devils we are told this morning mad a bold dash and fired a volley (heavy) at and into the camp which was returned by our men of the 10th regiment, these were the two volleys referred to, which started the stampede which was their object, no doubt. Their balls reached into the center of our camp killing a fine mule and piercing holes through many tents. No other damage done. If we had not been out the cattle and mules and horses would have gone and left us in a pickle. We left our red friends at about 6 with 7th ahead (H & B) as skirmishers.

We are prepared to fight our way back as well as forward. Windy, cloudy, and a few drops of rain. About noon a scout comes back with the intelligence that a large body of cavalry was seen to our right and we had a general Hurra, for we were told that it could be none other than General Sculley's but on taking a look through a telescope it was nothing but a large drove of buffalo kicking up a big dust. We were about 9 hours on the way but stopping to water mules and being delayed getting over Rabbit River we only made 20 miles.

2nd Day (Sunday) Aug. 2nd. We resume the March at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. 7th in rear. If grass would have been plenty we would have stayed over but the buffalo had eaten up all the little poor grass around here. Day by day our teams give up and lay behind. About 5 miles we hear cannon ahead. A few redskins were seen on a hill near a gully. They skeddaddled, next we passed a buffalo that had been killed and cut up nicely, perhaps when we were going up. After this a mule that we had left behind to die, he was wild and felt good. Then we stop at a lake to water, here was an old Indian camp, very large covering about 40 acres of land. Hereabouts it is very hilly and stony and buffalo are and have been plenty from appearances. We pass Camp Sheridan on our right where we see plainly a drove of 40 or 50 buffalo. Scouts go after them with what success we know not. Last night quite cold and today very hot. Cold nights and hot days is now the order. We camp along side of a small fresh water lake at 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ having come 20 miles I have just returned from (what I called a small fresh water lake) washing myself. It is a Reed pond. Mud knee deep and the water covered with reed blossoms as green as grass. I also took notice that the correll is more secure since the stampede, by fastening chains, ropes, etc.etc., from wagon to wagon so that not a critter can get out-- Late 20 Indians seen. Sibley cautions gun use.

44th Day July 29th. When we had camped I went to the river and did wash myself, but we all left in a hurry when we see the devils not a great ways off. I came back up the bank with one shoe off.

3rd Day August 3rd . 6th ahead. We(7th) start at 8. I march a little and conclude that I am tired so I take ride. A lively buffalo chase close to train. Shunke our best scout dies last night with a fit of apoplexy, we stop opposite Buffalo Lake close to big hills where we are blessed with good cold water out of a fine spring in a marsh close to a miserable and mud and alkali lake. No Indians seen up to time 6- Days march 15 miles also within 1 mile of ridge. Blowing hard all day.

4th Day August 4th. Yesterday eve. and all day it blew like fun After tea it commences thundering and lightening and raining as though it would blow and wash us all away. It rained nearly all night but we slept all the better. This morning it is yet cloudy and threatening but we are in motion at 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. 7th ahead. Our road leads us over a ridge of prairie. Very hilly and no end of small lakes on either side, these hills are part of the big hills(our battle ground). Our direction has been for the last 4 days N.E. Stringer tells about water spouts. At 20 of 11 we stop a few minutes to fight over old battle again in Camp Sibley. We camp between two lakes which might be called twin lakes. 5 miles from Sibley, having made 18 miles today. I go on guard tonight.

5th Day. August 5th. Thank fortune we rest today after we camped Cavalry skirmishers were sent out to find if possible the body of Brackett who has been missing since we left here. When last seen he and Taomass (who was found scalped) were chasing a buffalo. The Capt. of C skirmishers was missing last night. We had a very quiet night last night until near 8 o'clock a horseman come in in a hurry with the news that plenty Indians were ahead in the big hills where we had camped and Sibley all to be ready

to move immediately. He is afraid that they may make a dash at the invalid camp (Atchison). After we got here last night we had a hard time and with the greatest difficulty we cooked our supper with wet chips. This morning the same. Everything is bustle in camp now preparing to move. I had a good swim in one of the lakes last night. Now it is all Hurra in camp. Brackett is safe. He got away from the devils wounded to Atchison and is safe and we are not to move now for the Indians that were seen proved to be our own men with the mail and thank fortune I got 3 from my sisters, one dated July 4th , one 7th and one 12th of July for which I paid 30 cts. We also hear that Little Crow is killed and his son was captured alone by a detachment of the Invalid Camp at Devils Lake. Last night Cold and now it is warm again and all is quiet in camp. In all corners soldiers may be seen reading letters and writing while I lay quietly close to headquarters writing this on my cartridge case with my open letters by my side. I afterwards write a letter. Called Camp Williston.

6th Day Aug. 6th. 7th in rear. The route is very hilly crossing Co. Teause De Missouri, we leave Camp Grant to our left(Long L.). This is Thanksgiving Day but a good many complain of not having enough to eat and in evening 10 pounds of crackers are bought by our 2nd Leut. We made 20 miles into Camp Gillfillian. Last night we had a horrid wind storm: it blew down about 1/3 of the tents , mine we saved. It blew the sand out of the lake shore, at a horrad rate, in the evening I finished letters paid my dime and letter went.

7th Day Aug. 7th 6th ahead. We march overy stony hill and until 10 when we stop 2 hours to let mules feed. After this it rained a little. We crose Co. Teause De Jacques, leaving Camp Kimball about 7 miles S. We camped on lake where we had watered going up, about 7 miles from James River

crossing this is first time we came to our up trail since we left Twin Lakes, this is Camp Banks about 14 miles from Crown nest near our old Camp Kimball. 7 squaws, 3 paposes and 3 Buck Indians were captured and brought in this evening from and near Crown Nest by our scouts. They looked scared when we went down to see them.

8th Day Aug. 6th Course still N.E. We start for a peak which was 11 miles, road stony and hilly, we water between two large lakes then cross another branch we go some further up a large hill and camp. The peak is close by Dist. 12. Half Breed camp about 1 mile from us. The squaws are left with them.

9th Day Aug. 9th. Sandy: thank fortune we rest once more and I go on police duty for the week.

10th day. Aug. 10th Start once more. 7th in rear. Pass over a level for 15 miles. We stop 1 hour at 8 o'clock to feed, also 1 hour at 12. Cool cloudy weather, the last 5 miles very hilly. When we arrive near camp it seem like home. The Regt.'s dress up and march in with music and flags. Days travel 23 miles to Atchison. I rode nearly all the way with Eastman.

10th Day Aug. 10th. I have lost a day for this is 11th. day Aug. 11th. No rest, last night was a regular drunken night many officers and men. Several arrests were made and more ought to have been. Young Little Crow is here with his head shaved. The young Elk is well and tame, the eagle is perching upon a post near the earth works which are very strong. Received letters from Messenger.

12th Day Aug. 12th. Leave Atchison 6th ahead. Here two expeditions leave us, one for St. Joseph, one for Snake R. 1st part hilly then level I go onto Sugar Loaf Mount. 10 miles we come to Camp Pope. We stop to get water then made 6 miles, and stop at Camp Burts 18 miles.

13th Day. Aug. 13th. 7th ahead. Co. 10 miles to Camp Corning. Water, 5 miles to river crossing it takes 3 hrs. to cross, said to be 75 miles to Fort A. 3 miles further we stop at a dry river, poor water stop at camp.

14th Day. 14th Aug. 7th rear. March 13 miles to Camp Arnold. Mules give out and can get no further, mean water and few chips which are becoming scarce.

15th Day Aug. 15th Commenced my 2nd year service 6th ahead. Stop at 11 o'clock, cool, cloudy but we get very dry having had salty beans for breakfast and for a few days before we had no use for water, it being plenty but today none. We stop at Camp Stevens where is a large lake but the water tastes bad, is green and thick, 10 miles. This finishes my police, my 1st year's enlistment and two month on expedition. I had as good a wash as the muddy water could give and on Sunday.

16th Day Aug. 16th. I come out with a clean skin and shirt and clean up everything I have for inspection. It is very foggy this morning 14th mail arrived and I read letters and papers of 19th June. The 3 bucks and Little Crow who was nearly starved rides. The Elk is led with a rope.

16th Day Aug. 16th Sunday rest. The meanest place that could have been picked upon.

17th Day. Aug. 17th 7th ahead, first part rolling. Start 5:15. The rest of the way is uncommon level except two dry creeks from which we can see wood on Maple R. where we get at 12 o'clock. It was very hot and one of our Co. and 3 others of our regt. were sun struck. We had such very mean water with us and on the way there was none. At river we broke in every direction for water and filled ourselves and canteens, we also found a few ripe plums and many green ones. Our tents up at 2:30, then we go to river and have a refreshing swim and I washed my shirt and the swim refreshed me very much and I felt as though I had not travelled any.

After this we enjoyed a rest in shade of real trees, the first for a long time, then the mules and they had a glorious time getting in and out.

18th Day Aug. 18th, Rest. This evening it is raining and the police had a row about getting water for breakfast. Yesterday we marched about 18 miles crossed the Maple river and camped at Camp Ambler, which is a very nice camping ground like Bell Plain prairie, better soil and the prairie as level as a floor, wood in sight on 3 sides. My work today will be to mend my boots. I've worn out two pairs of shoes and my boots this far. The boys are all busy making rings out of buffalo horns. It is said to be 20 miles to the Shayenne our next camp. From that to Fort 25 miles. After supper (coffee) I and Wright took a stroll through the whole camp, we learned that several that had come in with game were arrested, 5 Indians were seen today (so reported) and no one was allowed out without a gun but I went and had a swim during which time I heard the Death shots were fired for the burial of a mounted Cavalry man after which we had dress parade. 1st for a long time and stringent orders were read on straying, at roll call we were told to have our canteens well filled in the morning and all the Capt. told me to see and have our barrell filled which I did.

19th Day Aug. 19th Revillee at 3 A.M. 7th in rear Bradley puts on style, saying all men who have occasion to leave ranks must have permission from the proper officers, otherwise they would be punished on the spot.

march	10	min.	Stop	25	Start at 5:10. Cool and cloudy. At 9 o'clock we cross a weed line, at 10 it commences to drizzle but does not do much at 12 we arrive on the bank of the Shayenne at 12 1/2 tents up. Gen'l. Morsey visits us. At 1, I receive your (Maggie) letter. This was the prettiest day travel we have had, the whole way is level as a floor and good soil, wood is in
"	75	"	"	20	
"	80	"	"	15	
"	60	"	"	25	
"	60	"	"	15	

sight all the way around which look like nearing land on the ocean and the train of Wagon looked fine. Afternoon turned out fine. Days march 16 m. Eve. I went swimming where the Pioneers were building a bridge across the Shayenne R. which has very high and steep banks on both sides. I was informed that we would have a Grand Review on the morrow.

20th Day . Aug. 20th. Revillee at 4:30. All very busy cleaning guns and blacking boots, Not half time enough. At 6:30 in to line where Major B. shows what he knows by commencing inspection in closed ranks, and wheeling from open Do and several other ridiculous bulls, he I think was drunk and besides he and officers wanted to do it up brown but turned out green. The inspection after many blunders on part of men and officers passed off and at 10 it was over. Morsey being an officer of the Regular Army cursed the embarassment. It was very warm and the knapsacks made the sweat roll out freely, the last part of the Review passed off very well. I will now go and get two letters for 20 cents. The letters are gone, at 11 we have dinner, at 12 strike tents, at 1:30 we are safe across R. 6th ahead. We march 5 miles on continued level land to a long poor lake and camp. Buffalo chips are played out, wood we took along from R. Camp Chase.

21st Day Aug. 21. 7th ahead at 5 we find ourselves in motion, last night and this morning there was a heavy dew, the grass wet until 9 o'clock We continue on the level prairie. We soon come in sight of wood on Rice

March	Rest	River and follow along in an S. of S. E. course
1-25	10	until 9 1/2 when we cross over. It was as dry as
1	15	many men were. There the fort was in sight over
55	10	
1.15	15	
50	50 Min.	over this level prairie. 5 ox teams meet us which
5.25 Min		made us feel as tho we were getting near civilization. Wood all around us
		now, at 11 1/2 we halt and our line is established, I go to Fort and get ice
		water first for some time.

We put up our tents being about 80 rods from Fort, then I go to see it. It is much more secure than expected to be. 4 bastions and stockade all around. The buildings are all wood except barracks which are framed being filled with brick. The _____ International lays below the river below the fort. Pies and bread were in demand when we first came in and was also beer. In fact, anything that was digestible. Men soon felt the beer and officers reeling. Then Gil among them. There are a few women in the Fort and half breeds do outside. Our men took a look with both eyes not caring the consequences. I also made a search for my 2 letters.

22nd Day. Aug. 22nd. Last night we had quite a frost. this morning all was white. We rest. We will draw clothing today. I get pass to Fort where preparations are made for Review. The troops here look as if though they were out of band box by the side of us. I pick up 50 cts in silver. The Gen'l and Staff of all Reg't. arrive and 13 guns are fired. My search for letters fruitless and I have a regular fuss with P. M. Officers still drunk. Dress parade.

23rd Day. (Sunday) Aug. 23rd. Steady rain since midnight up to 8 A. M. Drizzling cold rain all day. We had to stay in tents, outside it was awfully muddy & cold and as disagreeable as could be. Evening I go on (luckily) inside guard.

24th Day Aug. 24th Cold frosty morning. Overcoats and Blankets come in good play. Clear day and tolerably warm. Clothing drawn. I give my pants to Scurrvitlebury and take Davis's. Had shoes patched and buy blank book at Ft. Cobblers. At 2 o'clock Bradley orders Battalion drills and I go to river and wash my (Davis's) pants. Bradley puts them through like a fool on the Double Quick, the men are disgusted with him. Last night he and our Capt. were up drinking etc. until after 12 o'clock.

Commenced to copy notes. 46 loads of hay drawn by oxen from Big Stone Lake vicinity and parts of team crosses river. Late the mail arrives. Late papers sell like hot cakes and groups may be seen through the whole camp all eager to hear the late war news. Papers 2 for 15 cts. The letters are not distributed until long after roll call, I got one from Laines. Dress Parade.

25th Day. Aug. 25th. This morning I received a Pioneer of the 21st inst. probably the last. It is full of expedition news. Revelle at 4. We are once more on the move. 10th ahead, 10th starts at 6 o'clock and cross the river on the ferry which is now a complete bridge across the far famed Red River of the North. We (7th) wait until all teams are across and we start at 9 $\frac{1}{2}$ march up on East side of R. until 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ over the same kind of flat prairie. March very fast and according to an odometer on one of the Co. (C) waggons we made 11 $\frac{1}{4}$ miles. I caught cold on Sunday and today I have been half sick. I walked it out.

26th Day Aug. 26th. 6th ahead. Revelle at 3. Frosty cold morning 6 miles we arrive at Ottertail River, Ruins of Breckenridge. Land as before flat as far as can be seen except a few water courses. We are told to take wood and water with us. Quarter Master gets slabs. We follow River to the old crossing where 3 men were killed in spring. A station shanty. We cross and camp. Distance 18. Camp White.

27th Day Aug. 27 7th ahead. Start 5 $\frac{1}{2}$. 1st 3 miles land yet flat afterwards slightly rolling all the way with marshes, then we come to a lake with a little wood on its side. Here it commences to rain and we get quite wet, we pass several Red River cart trails and quite a number of small lakes. Some very good grass marshes. The prairie in places of 3 or 4 hundred acres is burned quite deep covered with weeds and flowers. We stop at a large lake called Lake _____; Pick-erel are plenty. We had a mess this morning out of Ottertail. This is a cold disagreeable rain. Days march 14 miles. 4 lakes Camp Sullivan.