Tuesday March 22nd, 1864

The column moved at 7 a.m. 2'd Driz leads off. Cold raw wind & blowing from the north. It commenced snowing about 8 a.m. continued all day. Several inches of snow falling.

We marched 17 miles today. Camped in the woods at night.

23d. Column moved at 6 a.m. Marched 6 miles to Reidsboro after a short halt, marched two miles further to the foot of the mountains where we drew 7 days rations of hard bread sugar coffee & bacon. Hundreds of lbs. of bacon were left on the ground the troops not being able to carry it all. At 11 a.m. we resumed our march by descending the ascent of Clinch mountain after much sweating & puffing we gained the summit & had a splendid view of Clinch valley but looking
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north the sight would discourage anyone but the soldiers as far as the eye could reach nothing could be seen but mountains & valleys, high steep sides and frightful precipices. By day dark we followed the ragged ridgell paths descending in a zigzag course down the side of one mountain crossing a little valley & a quagglng brook then climbing the steep sides of the next. As we gained the summit of the highest mountain we would climb the highest rock & take a view of the surrounding country. The view is grand indeed almost equaling that from Mt. Washington. If we did not get a sight of the famous battle fields around Chattanooga no sun mountain creening in all its forms. The day was pleasant & we marched 17 miles over mountains & went into camp in the woods tired & hungry enough to eat any quantity of hard tack & think steaks for the first time.
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forms  The day was pleasant & we marched 7 miles over mountains & went into camp in the
woods tired & hungry enough to eat any quantity of hard tact & drink coffee by the quart
To-day the 24th. Column started at daylight and marched 18 miles, 13 of which was up a steep range of mountains. One could to-day have a grand panoramic view of an army marching; he could take his position in the rear of one div. as it had gained the highest point of land and looking ahead he would see the dark column winding down the sides of this mountain & stretching across the valley while the front has almost got to the top of the next range. Looking behind, the other division is just filing down the zigzag path of the last range closely followed by the long train of pack mules. It is surprising what a load these little animals will pack. Their tiny legs will make the heavy burden on their backs; but they will climb the steepest bluff or creep down the ragged cliff, never slipping or stumbling. Sometimes a little obstacle
Today the 24th

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fellow thinks he is working so hard for Uncle Sam and down the ditches in the mud and all the whipping & scouring & staving with any amount of cursing & swearing wouldn't get him up a minute sooner than he pleased. He will lay & be flogged almost to death rather than get up. I think it was today that one of our mules lay down in the mud & fuddle & tried to hold over the ground tied on to the saddle, was filled with blankets, coats & shoes, then, was all satiated in a few minutes & we wished the silly mule any quantity of bad wishes. We had no pull anything of from him and then pulled him out of the muddle any amount of fuddling & whipping was administered to him heat if no scold after being fuddling for half an hour during which time we were greeted with the exclamations of my answer by my "Give him his discharge & send him to the hospital", "Fire him to the government", "He & all the mumps & knives on as though nothing had happened. We camped at night near Broken 95th. Arrived at 7 a.m. made 19 miles today over rather a billy road. Passed a few Negroes & Indians & we thought but one home. 26th Started at daylight passed the Iron & Steel works at 10 & a few bridges during the day. Walking through the most firebreaks one I notice.
fellow thinks he is working too hard for Uncle Sam and down he droops in the mud and all the whipping pounding coffing & spuring, with any amount of cursing & Swearing won’t get him up a minute sooner than he pleases. He will lay & be pounded almost to a jelly rather than get up. I think it was to-day that one of our mules lay down in a mud puddle & tried to roll over the panels tied on the saddle were filled with blankets coats & rations these were well saturated in a few minutes & we wished the sulky mules any quantity of bad wishes. We had to pull everything of from him and then pull him out of the puddle any amount of pounding & whipping was administered to him but of no avail after coxing & pounding him for half an hour during which time we were greeted with exclamations of evry passer by viz. “Give him his discharge “Lend him to the Hospital” “Turn him over to the government” &c &c up he jumps and travels on as though nothing had happened. We camped at night near Chipwood.

25th

Marched at 7 am made 17 miles today over rather a hilly road passed a few log cabins for yesterday we passed but one house

26th

Started at daylight passed the Tenn & Ky line at 10 am making 18 miles to-day Showers during the day Walking the water & splash was very unpleasant
March 27th. We broke camp at daylight, marched 5 miles which brought us to Camp Burnside where we stopped about 3 hours, meanwhile the boys "cleaned out" three butlers taking whatever they pleased. The butlers doubled their price as soon as we came into the place but they lost more than they gained by the operation. But for the efforts of a few officers every butler in the place would have lost all his goods.

About 2 p.m. we resumed our march, making 10 miles further today which brought us two miles beyond Somerset which is a quiet pretty village. The people and I had heard of the monkey's coming also of its first performance at Camp Burnside. The cleaning out fever was still raging but soon abated after reaching Somerset. For some house was closely guarded.
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28th
Left camp at 7 a.m., marched 16
miles to a place called Blanisburg
here we camped for the night.
29th Left B. at 7 a.m. marched
12 miles to Bull's Gap where we drew
ations & rested the remainder of the
day. Very cold & unpleasant day.
Rain fell last night & it was very muddy
marching.
30th Slept in the open air & had
a good warm blanket of snow for a
covering. I went to sleep last night
little thinking of its snowing before
morning. You can judge of my sur-
prise when I uncovered my head &
found my bed covered with two
inches of snow. Today we marched
16 miles passing Stanford & Lancaster.
31st Marched to Camp Nelson 12
miles. Camped on the same ground
we left last week.
Apr. 1st Remained in camp, a cold &
severe rain storm raged all day.
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30th

Slept in the open air and had a good warm blanket of snow for a covering. Went to sleep last night little thinking of its snowing before morning you can judge of my surprise when I uncovered my head & found my bed covered with two inches of snow To-day we marched 16 miles passing Stanford & Lancaster

31st

Marched to Camp Nelson 12 miles Camped on the same ground we left last Sept.

April 1st

Remained in camp a cold & severe rain storm raged
This morning at 9 a.m. we went to Newkolsville loaded on to the cars and after much delay waiting for trains we finally reached Bovington at 2 a.m. Sunday April 3rd, 1864. There we waited till noon when teams were ready to convey our baggage to the Little Elmia R.R. depot in Cincinnati. So we left Bovington about one year from the time we made our first appearance in that state. About 3 1/2 hours the iron horse was carrying us rapidly north. The ride was very interesting after leaving the depot the railroad runs for two miles through the streets of the city, the sides walk was crowded with people, waving handkerchiefs, displaying flags, as we sped along. About 4 p.m. we passed Bank Dunigan this is the most beautiful Bank I have ever seen. As we rushed by village & city over forest & plain I could not help comparing this beautiful country...
This morning at 9 am we went to Nicholsville loaded on to the cars and after much delay waiting for trains we finally reached Covington at 2am. Sunday April 3rd 1864 here we waited till noon when teams were ready to convey our baggage to the Little Mima RR. depot in Cincinnati. So we left Ky. Just about one year from the time we made our first appearance in that state. About 3 PM the iron horse was hurrying us rapidly north. Our ride was very interesting after leaving the depot the rail-road runs for nearly two miles through the streets of the city the side walks was crowded with people, waving handkerchiefs, displaying flags, as we sped along. About 6 pm, we passed Camp Denizan [Dennison] this is the most beautiful Camp I have ever seen As we rushed by village & city over forest & plain I could not help comparing this beautiful country
with that we had just left in Conn. 
there is peace & abundance there 
April 4th we had just left about 6 A.M. we traveled
not far back to day it was rainy & drasy 
April 5th & up this remaining 
found ourselves in Pittsburgh here we
changed cars got a good breakfast provided
by the city ladies about 10th. we had plenty
plodding along the bank of the Allegheny
on the Penn. Central R.R. we crossed the
mountains soon after dark coming the
sunless view we had when leaving west
Woke up at daylight Wednesday morning
April 6th and found myself within 10
miles of Harrisburgh, & H. we got a
good breakfast and about 10 A.M. on our way to Baltimore where we arrived at 7 A.M.
April 7th. Stopped in the city over night at 10
a.m. then the steamer Columbia and steamed
down the Chesapeake to Annapolis where
we arrived at 5 P.M. We had a delightful
ride the day was pleasant as one could wish
and a three hour ride in the water secured
quite a relief from the long & tiresome ride
by rail
April 8th We are now encamped alongside the
Annapolis & Elkridge R.R. about two miles from
Annapolis
with that we had just left in Tenn. Here is peace & abundance there war & starvation

April 4th

Woke up & we formed ourselves at Columbus, train left about 6 am we traveled rather slow to-day it was a rainy & dreary ride  April 5 woke up this morning & found ourselves in Pittsburgh here we changed cars got a good breakfast, provided by the city ladies about 1 PM we were slowly plodding along the bank of the Allegheny on the Penn. Central RR we crossed the mountains soon after dark loosing the sublime view we had when going west

Woke up at daylight Wednesday morning April 6th and found myself with 10 miles of Harrisburgh At H. we got a good breakfast and about 10 am we were on our way to Baltimore where we arrived at 7 pm

April 7th

stopped in the city over night at 10 am took the steamer Columbia and steamed down the Chesepeake to Annapolis where we arrived at 5 pm. We had a delightful ride the day was pleasant as one could wish and a three hours ride on the water seemed quite a relief from the long & tiresome ride by rail

April 8th

We are now encamped alongside the Annapolis & Elkridge RR. About two miles from Annapolis