

Snake Creek gap. Georgia

May 14th. 1864

My wife ^{This} Priscilla, is to be
A Memorandum Letter to you
written at distant dates
and at distant times

May 14th 1864. I wish to let you know
that I am well this morning but very
much tired out from our steady and long
marches. we left East Chickamauga Creek
this morning. after we drew Rations for one
day only we traveled 20 miles this day
to this place. what is Cold Snake Creek
gap. this is a place where we cut off the
retreat of the Rebels to Atlanta at the
mouth of this gap. we have 60 cannon
planted supported by 60 thousand men
the road thru this section of Country
is awfully muddy and Crooked and Bluffy
the other 2 directions contain about as
many men as we do. so in all this East
Army - and in this place I find that there
are 180 thousand troops - the hills & dails
are covered with Union soldiers - yesterday
we caught 20 Rebel Scouts - and took
them to Chattenoga to be sent north
we are expecting the great fight to come
off on the 13th or 14th of May - we are
well informed that the Rebels are surrounded
we are put on low Rations. a three
day ration must last us 5 days this
is all that we are allowed - all the
officers must pack their things as well
as the privates. and live the same
there is not one team allowed us at
all. one pint cup is all
we have to do all our
cooking with

Gen. Ross was put out of our Brigade and
Gen. Coburn is in Command at present
to day it is quite cold - I seen young Brinker
and Doc yesterday again - the number of
Wisconsin Regts in this division are the
3rd, 10th, 22nd and 26th Wisconsin Regt,
the 5th Battery also there may be more in
but I do not no. of any more Wisconsin
troops that will be in this fight. when
you get the battle returns you can see
just what Regt. were engaged in this
great Conflict - Dalton is on the Railroad
between Chattenoga and Atlanta, and
to day the Rebels hold Dalton - to day it
is 21 month since Grantkin and myself
Enlisted - Last night the signal lights

where all in good motion on the
highest peaks of the mountains
those signals carry the news to Hookers
Headquarters. - Later May 12th.
all day to day we bombarded Dalton
yesterday the Rebels were reinforced
6 thousand there army is 80 thousand
strong at this place and we have
surrounded them with 150 thousand
troops. we have marched in advance
4 miles to day with the second
and third Divisions we are expecting
an attack every moment we have
12 Cannon and 20 thousand soldiers
at this Gap called Snake's gap
to stop their retreat

the greater number of Regt. are from
the State of New York - and a considerable
lot of them from Niagara and Erie Co
this morning there was 15 Regt. passed us
and then our Brigade fell in
making 19 Regt. and 3 Batteries - we are
camped in a battle line and not
the sound of a drum or fife is allowed
to be played on at all - I have
seen more Union soldiers together
to day than I have seen together at one

place since I am in the army
we are in the Rebel lines now
and every fence we come to we
burn it up to do our cooking
with there is nothing saved that
we can lay our hands on
this my friends will be trying
and a sad time - for the Rebels are
bound not to give up the fight
for if they do they will no that
they are lost for ever and if we
should lose this battle - then you
nor any of us can see the end
of this cruel war. if we should
lose this fight we would have to
retreat north of the Ohio River in
less than 6 weeks - I pray that God
will aid us in this great
struggle so that this wicked war
may soon come to an
end and peace and
happiness restored again

May 12th. we left Snake Run gap and
camped at the mouth of Snake gap
14 miles in battle line - we supported
2 Batteries with 20 thousand troops

May 13th -
the battle commenced at 2 o'clock
P.M. but we were reserved

May 14th
commenced skirmishing at the break
of day. at 2 o'clock the battle was
at the greatest rage. Wm. Pearl was
wounded in the Drum Corps by a
spent ball

May 15th.
battle commenced
at day light

at 3 o'clock A.M. our Brigade
and Division was put in front
and fought all day. we took one
Rebel breastwork and one fort and
captured 4 Brass Rebel Cannon
the loss of our Regt. as is reported
up to this date is 65 killed and
wounded - 2 are killed in Company
H. Joseph Wright Corporal and
one Fearland a recruit those wounded
you will see reported in the Milwaukee
news paper - I was detailed
to bury the dead in the afternoon
I went to the 3rd Division Hospital
and reported there for duty - where
I found Noly Bones with his left
arm amputated and Lieutenant
Helint shot threw a little above
his abdomen flint is not expected
to live but a short time

VOLUNTEER DESCRIPTIVE LIST and Account of Pay and Clothing of

NAMES.	RANK.	DESCRIPTION.						WHERE BORN.		OCCUPATION.	ENROLLED OR ENLISTED. (For Drafted Men, see note 10.)			MUSTERED IN. (For Drafted Men, see note 10.)				LAST PAID.		BOUNTY.		CLOTHING ACCOUNT.														
		Years of age.	Eyes.	Hair.	Complexion.	HEIGHT. Feet. In.	State or Kingdom.	Town or county.	When.		Where. (Town and State.)	By whom.	When.	Where. (Town and State.)	By whom. (In the case of drafted men, from what enrollment district.)	Period.	By paymaster.	To what time.	Paid \$ (See note 2.)	Due \$ (See note 2.)	Date of last settlement.	Total money value of clothing drawn since last settlement.														
<p>our sargent Peterson is slightly shot in the head but he will recover if well attended too. I. Come being very near shot twice while caring of the wounded one of our wounded while in our hands was killed with it piece of a shell after we carried him over it. Half of A. mile</p> <p>May 16th our drum Core Buried 30 soldiers at the Hospital 26. union soldiers and 4 Rebels this and one job full of arms and Legs and Bloody Bandages. This is it scene that no man should see on this earth for it is A. Shocking and A Horrible sight after the fight was over myself & John Youngs was not hurt. we are yet spared but how Long this may last we cannot say for we are in danger every moment so Long as we are on the advance</p>																							<p>in the night the Rebels retreated and we followed them 4 miles near to the Coosey River where I. Think another hard fight will come of such suffering and screaming is unaccountable as is here at this Hospital where they dress wounds</p>		<p>May 17th. this morning there are 6. or 8 more to bury and mostly Rebels we have killed & wounded yesterday 11 Hundred Rebels and the Report is this morning that we took 4000 prisoners. the Rebel deserters say that there force amounts to 80 Thousand and are fast Reinforcing. our force is 175 Thousand and 430 Cannon all the news will come out in the Milwaukee Sentinel and Remember that we are in the 20th army Corps second Brigade and 3rd Division under old Joseph Hooker</p>		<p>in the morning we left the Hospital & traveled 15 miles to the division in advance the Rebels burnt the Railroad Bridge on there Retreat at dericka that crosses the Coosey River - we in pursuit crossed the pontoon bridge</p>		<p>May 18th we followed the Rebel 25 miles many times on A. double quick at night we Camped in the woods</p>		<p>May 19th at 8. o'clock Cannanading Commenced - we built A. Parade in the afternoon to guard against the Rebel flanking us A. stiff Skirmishing was kept up all day and the Rebels on a fast Retreat - we traveled 6 miles in the afternoon & Camped in a corn field where the corn</p>		<p>youngs and she will no that John & Gerad is yet unhurt and are both well - John heard from Gerad to day and he is well up to my writing</p>		<p>I am out of paper so I. had to Resort to an old Descriptive List to write my Letter on - I am getting Letters all the time from other folks but from Home there is none to be found for me - we are Laying still to day up to this hour 3. o'clock P. M. nomore my distant family</p>	

- 1..The amount of any extra pay for which the soldier may be mustered, ex. gr. as Acting Hospital Steward, as Saddler, &c., and which may be still due him, must be carefully noted.
- 2..In the column headed "BOUNTY PAID," must be entered the whole amount hitherto paid him; in that of "BOUNTY DUE," the whole amount yet due him. Bounty paid by State authorities, and not by the United States, will not be entered on this statement.
- 3..Stoppages for loss or damage done to arms, or other public property, must be noted, and the articles, and particular damage to each, specified. When stoppages are due, under sentence of a Court Martial, a transcript of the same must be entered here; and the amount already stopped, must be carefully stated.
- 4..In every case of desertion, the date, and that of delivery, or apprehension, must be given, together with a correct transcript of the order of sentence or pardon.
- 5..A careful settlement of the man's CLOTHING ACCOUNT must be made, to date, and the amount DUE TO, or FROM him must be precisely stated.
- 6..Should the man have been engaged in any action or skirmish, it must be mentioned, together with date and place. A full and particular mention will be made of any wounds he may have received in action, or other injury, whilst in the line of his duty.
- 7..If the soldier is entitled to pay for the use of his horse, the company commander will certify to that fact on this list, and also to the time he has pay due for having been so mounted on his own horse.
- 8..When a soldier is furnished with final statements, his descriptive list, if he has one, should be taken up by the officer who gives the soldier these statements, and endorsed with a statement to this effect by the officer. This endorsement should exhibit a full statement of the time for which the soldier was allowed pay on his final statements, the clothing account, and all other charges against him or in his favor, so as to comprise a complete exhibit of his account. It will then be transmitted to the company commander of the soldier, who will enter all the data necessary to a full understanding of the soldier's account on the muster roll upon which the soldier's discharge is reported. The descriptive list will then be destroyed. The object of this is, that the remaining portion of the soldier's account may be settled upon the receipt of these muster rolls, and the soldier receive any pay or allowances that may be due him at the time of his discharge, and which may not appear on his final statements from the fact that his descriptive list is incomplete. These accounts for back pay, &c., are settled by the 2d Auditor of the Treasury Dept.
- 9..Where a soldier dies in Hospital or on detached service, his descriptive

- list, if he has one, should be sent with his final statements, in duplicate, to the Adjutant General, Washington, D. C.
- 10..Men drafted will be considered as mustered in from the date of their draft, and will be mustered for pay on the usual rolls for Volunteers. On the same line as the soldier's name, under the heading "Joined for Duty and Enrolled.—Commencement of First Payment by Time," will be written the word drafted, or substitute, as the case may be; and under the heading "When Mustered in" will be given the date when the soldier was drafted, or, if a substitute, when enlisted, (substitutes, under the Enrollment Act, are mustered in by enlistment.) under "Where Mustered in," will be given the place from which drafted, (or if a substitute, where enlisted;) under the heading "By whom Mustered in," will be given the No. of the Enrollment District from which he was drafted, and the State to which it belongs, thus: 4th D. Mass. (meaning 4th Enrollment District, State of Massachusetts.) Or if a substitute, the name of the officer enlisting him. (When enlisted by Board of Enrollment, the name of the Provost Marshal of the Enrollment District.)
- 11..A separate descriptive list should, as a general rule, be given for each man.
- 12..Descriptive lists must, in all cases, be signed by COMMISSIONED officers; not by enlisted men acting as such.

I CERTIFY that the above is a correct transcript from the Records of

was up Boot Heigh where we are now the spring wheat is in bloom, and whe. STATION: you are 2 gals Lots of DATE: wheat is not up yet at this present date of my writing

Isaac, G. H. H. we shot A. Hog this afternoon so I. will have a good fry for supper if I am not obliged to Leave it in the pan and march Commanding the Company. we are over 300 miles from Nashville in the State of Georgia 2 miles from Kingston Isaac