Diary of John S. Morgan, Company G, Thirty-Third Iowa Infantry

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JOHN S. MORGAN
Company G, Thirty-third Iowa Volunteer Infantry.
DIARY OF JOHN S. MORGAN, COMPANY G, THIRTY-THIRD IOWA INFANTRY

John S. Morgan, the writer of the following diary, was born at Crawfordsville, Indiana, March 4, 1841, and died at Pella, Iowa, June 15, 1874. He came with his parents in their removal to Pella, Iowa, in 1854. While a student at Central College, Pella, he enlisted as a fourth sergeant in Company G, Thirty-third Iowa Infantry, on September 4, 1862, was promoted to first sergeant July 21, 1864, to second lieutenant January 6, 1865, and was mustered out at New Orleans, Louisiana, July 17, 1865. He was graduated from Central College, and from the Iowa Law School, Des Moines, June 9, 1868, and practiced for a time in Adel, being a partner of D. W. Wooden.

The Thirty-third Iowa Infantry was organized in August, 1862, at Oskaloosa, the companies coming from Marion, Mahaska, and Keokuk counties. Samuel A. Rice of Oskaloosa, attorney-general of the state, was appointed its colonel. On October 4 it was mustered into the United States service, and on November 20 it marched to Eddyville and went by train to Keokuk where it took a steamer and arrived at St. Louis the night of the 21st. Here they were engaged principally in guard duty until December 21 when they went aboard a steamer and on the 24th they were landed at Columbus, Kentucky. There they did some fortifying and on January 1, 1863, proceeded to Union City, Tennessee, expecting an engagement with the enemy. On January 3 they returned to Columbus. Soon thereafter they embarked and reached Helena, Arkansas, on January 13. During the early part of February some of the regiment assisted in clearing out the Yazoo Pass, which was some seven miles below Helena and on the east side of the river. It was a narrow channel connect-
ing the Mississippi River to the east with the Coldwater River. On February 23 they returned to their old camp at Helena, and at that date the diary begins. We have followed Lieutenant Morgan's spelling, capitalization, abbreviations, etc. as they appear in the original diary.—Editor.

Tuesday, February 24, 1863. Reg. rec'd State pay, At 6 P. M. took boat Citizen dropped down to head of pass anchored in camp of 4 others for the night.

Wednesday, February 25. Rained hard in the night to Moonlake at 7 A. M. anchored in lake most of day, went shore to cook in evening. Rained hard most all time.

Thursday, February 26. Rained very hard all night. Entered pass 8 A. M. Rain continued falling fast to 1 P. M.; afternoon clear. Tied up in pass at 6:40 P. M. 5 miles from Moonlake.

Friday, February 27. Pleasant night. In morning a woman on shore in distress, moving soon after sun up, during day got as far as Gen Alcon's [plantation] where we tied up for night. Weather fine all day writing till midnight.

Saturday, February 28. Left Alcorns at 8 A. M. one man hurt by falling limb. took on logs to protect boilers from canon shot. mustered again today. Went on shore in yawl at night to do some cooking. A powerful and sudden blast of wind blowing the tops off of the dead trees. some rain & clear after dark and beautiful moonlight. At one place where we stopped took on a lot of house logs to build a protection for boilers.

Sabbath, March 1. Passed the sawmill early in morning where we took on boards. Passed a large cotton field below it. Boilers protected by house logs. Preaching in cabin at 3 P. M. Just at dark ran into a tree tearing the posts out half the length of one of the sides, throwing overboard one gun save beds and haver sacks, day pleasant prayer meeting in cabin at night.

Monday, March 2. Breastworks of wood put up around all the decks. Afternoon 2 rans 1 gun boat 1 morter boat passed down, news of fleet of 22 other boats coming down. Lay in cold water stream tonight, have not advanced more then 1 1/4 miles today.

Tuesday, March 3. Luela passed down. Key West passed up Nigger Joe died—Gun boat left nigger sick on shore. Weather cool and clear. on shore after dark to cook, fine moonlight. Sperry—

Wednesday, March 4. Started early, landed at 10 A. M. at Jones plantation (deserted). Had Battlin drill in cornfield, Rebels left this place sunday advanced in the afternoon about 8 miles down the stream, but lay within 8 miles from our starting point in morning 22 years old today. Weather fine.

Thursday, March 5. One of Pilots left us this morning. Mail come
down on Wadena. Boat injured considerable today Run down Lake about 20 miles Weather cool and cloudy.

Friday, March 6. Had a good run all forenoon. Passed many plantations; took on board about 100 bales cotton found one pile in cane brake of 130 bales run after night

Saturday, March 7. Rained during the night. Passed quite a no. of good looking plantations, all having more or less cotton Run into Tallahatchee at 9.15 A. M. One very short bend where we landed and cooked. Rebel battery reported 6 mile below Run after night till 8.30 P. M.

Sabbath, March 8. Day warm. Passed 2 muskete boats and motor boats tore our co. quarters by running into limb, lost 6 guns &c river very crooked. No rebel battery found. Tall cane brakes, and much water, no plantations today.

Monday, March 9. Travel more rapid, stream more crooked, plantations more abundant cotton burning, negroes happy, stayed at night at Mr. Sharpy's place. Cloudy Heavy thunder.

Tuesday, March 10. Started early. Plantations more numerous and on larger scale, houses very fine but small, white folks more plenty. Negro women, no end to them. cotton burning nearly every place. One warehouse about 500 bales burning. After dark passed boat load cotton burning, fire far as could see. Raining all day.

Wednesday, March 11. Rained all night, and till 8 A. M. cotton for 10 mile on fire in the water from the burning boat. Landed at 7. P. M. Gun boats advanced. Troops disembarked 1 reg. sent to reconnoiter fort. 3 killed 14 wounded. Heavy cannonading at 4. Embarked at dusk on Citizen started up river Broke down at 3 miles

Thursday, March 12. Ready to run at 9, started but stopped 1 mile to get beef. Lebanon came up took us on, took us up the river got some cotton shot at some rebels to the fleet at 8. P. M. to our own boat at 9. P. M. Serg. of guard today.

Friday, March 13. All on shore at 9.30 A. M. G co. sent out on scout. captured 7 negro and horse. cannonading at the fort from 10.15 A. M till dark Luella down today no mail Wenona down in the evening, all on board at night.

Saturday, March 14. All in shore at 8. A. M. stacked arms with orders to stay near. slight cannonading at 3. P. M. called in line to go out on picket. was after dark before the regiment was posted. Position in ½ mile of fort.

Sabbath, March 15. As soon as light saw fort and rebel boats in full view. men on the works their boats run all night. rained in forenoon, relieved at 6. P. M. no firing today timber awfully cut up

Monday, March 16. Stacked arms on shore in morning Some firing between our battery and the fort. during the afternoon. Called into line at 5. P. M. to go out on picket guard. very warm all day.
Tuesday, March 17. Expected the ball to open early in the morning, but did not all day. Part of one battery moved off. Rebel big gun changed her position.

Wednesday, March 18. Moved off the boat, in forenoon. Our co. part in house. After dark went down, whole reg. and moved the battery back to the gun boats where it belonged.

Thursday, March 19. Severe cold and cough from the nights work. Everything quiet all day, detailed on picket. Posted up the river. Noticed great commotion in the camp from my post after dark.

Friday, March 20. Ordered into camp before daylight found all on board the boats at daylight fleet moved up the river. 60 mile above met the ferry boat Hamilton Belle, Advanced during day 63 miles. Read a large mail

Saturday, March 21. At 10 A. M. come to the plantation where the rebel lieut. folks lived, he went off to see them. Slaves all seemed glad to see him. at 4 P. M. read orders to turn back, the other fleet coming

Sunday, March 22. Hard rain, misty and rainy tore the boat considerably one man hurt considerably by a limb. Preaching at 3. P. M. Prisoner paroled and sent off, at home rebel Lieut. sent on up.


Tuesday, March 24. Rained all night. Several boats ordered up river. order contramed. 2 shots at fort not anse’d Raining most of day. unwell and lying down most of day.

Wednesday, March 25. Cool and cloudy. Dispatch boat down reports 2 boats loaded with provisions snagged and sunk in the pass. O Me Miserum!!

Thursday, March 26. Nothing unusual till afternoon supper ordered at 5 P. M. to go on fatigue at night, went to plant battery was too light to work. Pickets firing at all times of night. 29th Iowa went out scouting. captured 3 prisoners.

Friday, March 27. Most of reg. on picket. Rebels fired on scouting parties from their batteries over on yellow bushy. Two heavy Siege guns come down today.

Saturday, March 28. Rained very hard last night. The siege guns were manned from the 33d Mo. dark and cloudy all day with occasional showers. Dress Parade at 5 P. M. Wind rising high at bed time

Sabbath, March 29. Stormy during the night and Elm tree blown down across a tent of 47th Indiana. Killed 4 and seriously wounded the other two. Military burial at 2 P. M. Sermon on Lebanon 2. at 3 P. M. Snow fell in evening. Cold and windy

**Tuesday, March 31.** Day passed quietly away. Spent most of the time writing. After dress parade without any previous notice were called into line to go on fatigue duty. With arms and overcoats were marched 2 miles down the river. (was 7. P. M. before we started.) Here regiment stacked arms. Co.s. G. and B were sent back to camp for spades, returned. Cos. R and H. were sent on beyond where our batteries had been before to dig rifle pits preparatory to planting a battery, returned to camp at 11.30. P. M. Orders down today with a new supply of Ammunition to take Fort Pemberton. Day Pleasant.

**Wednesday, April 1.** All general till 1. P. M. when G co were ordered on the boat Lebanon No 2 to guard her up the river to a plantation to get bricks, back in time for parade at 5. P. M. Rebs shelled our working party during night.

**Thursday, April 2.** Reg. went on picket at 10. A. M. night of 2. brilliant moonlight, read a paper by moonlight. Rebs fired on our fatigue parties working at a fort throwing a shell regularly every ½ hour.

**Friday, April 3.** Relieved from Picket at 12. M. More forces down in which are the 5th and 17th Iowa regts.

**Saturday, April 4.** At 10. A. M. orders to prepare for embarking for up the river. At 12. M. Fisks brigade struck tents and moved on boats. 33d reg. on Lebanon no. 2 and Charly Bower. At 1. P. M. started up, Burned houses of two plantations where we stopped at night.

**Sabbath, April 5.** Started at daylight, forenoon met Empire, Cheeseman & Citizen. Cheesman had been fired into by rebs. Capt of boat and two soldiers killed. 2 wounded Cheesman ordered to follow us, L— Logan fired into after noon wounding 3 of the 36th Iowa.

**Monday, April 6.** Met the Freestone in the morning was turned to go up with us In Cold water at 2.30 P. M.

**Tuesday, April 7.** In the morning took on Robinson and family. Stayed at night at the plantation where we went on board the Hamilton Belle to come up from the first Pass expedition.

**Wednesday, April 8.** Saw the wreck of the Luella in pass. In Moonlake at 12.50 P. M. Mississippi at 1.45 P. M. at Helena 2 P. M. The other troops from below coming in. Recd. mail. 5 letters and 2 papers for me.

**Thursday, April 9.** In camp on side hill above Helena. 5th and 28th Iowa ordered down the river.

**Friday, April 10.** Mustered for pay in the afternoon. Many troops, coming down from above bound for below Gen Ross takes command of this post, and probability we will stay here some time.

**Saturday, April 11.** Rained a little in the morning, and very hard in the afternoon continuing through the night. Detail from our regiment on picket today.

**Sunday, April 12.** Very muddy, visited the 3d Iowa cav. in forenoon. attended service and speeches at Fort at 2. P. M. Parade at 5. P. M.

**Monday, April 13.** Nothing of interest. Slight fall of rain.
Tuesday, April 14. Nothing of interest

Wednesday, April 15. Nothing of interest

Thursday, April 16. Reg. Paid in the afternoon 4 months wages. rec'd. $68.00

Friday, April 17. G co worked hard to grade their street and move their tents back on line. Battalion drill at 3 P. M. to 5 P. M. On the sick list and off duty. Kept my quarters close

Saturday, April 18. Battalion drill at 2 P. M. to 4 P. M. Rained very hard from 8 to 9 P. M. pills pills

Sunday, April 19. Company inspection at 7 A. M. Service at 11 A. M. One of the cavalry pickets shot by bush whackers. 2 shells fired from——

Monday, April 20. Battalion drill forenoon. Company drill afternoon

Tuesday, April 21. Raining till 3 P. M. 3d Iowa cav. brought in a party of bush whackers

Wednesday, April 22. Too wet for drill during day. sent $40.00 home by Robinson. Parade at 5. P. M. drill at 6 P. M. Cooks had to go out

Thursday, April 23. Company drill at 10 A. M. 7 privates out. Battalion drill afternoon. Parade 5 P. M. com pay drill at 6 to 8 P. M.

Friday, April 24. Rained from daylight to 11 A. M. serjeant of guard at Gen Rosses head quarters

Saturday, April 25. Capt. Whipple treated Jake Miller to a glass of ale. Battalion drill from 6 P. M. to sundown. Dress parade at sundown

Sunday, April 26. Rained hard during the night, very muddy. 9:30 comp. Insp. Jake and I took a walk through town, very warm.

Monday, April 27. Rained in the night and at spells through the day. In town to 1 P. M. comp. street sanded. Rained hard in evening

Tuesday, April 28. Sergeant of guard. weather fine. News Vicksburg taken slight shower with very heavy thunder in evening. Night clear and beautiful moonlight up till One O'clock

Wednesday, April 29. Relieved from guard at 9 A. M. draw cloth in. Battalion drill at 6 P. M. Fine day.

Thursday, April 30. Preaching at 7.30 A M. mustered at 10 A. M. Brigade service on the Parade ground at 5 P. M. Sat up with sick to 2 O clock.

Friday, May 1. At 12 M. saw the 5th Kansas cav start out. 12:30 orders to fall in line in 15 minutes with 60 ronds carts, went out 10 miles within 4 miles of where 3 comps. 3d Iowa were repulsed. met cav. scouts. No enemy near returned 2½ mile camped of the 3d Iowa. 150 were out, 3 killed 9 wounded 29 missing

Saturday, May 2. Started for Helena at 7 A. M. arrived at Helena at 11 A. M. tired but no one hurt.

Sunday, May 3. Company inspection at 10 A. M. Preaching in the grove at the river side. day quiet.
Monday, May 4. Went to town most of the day. at 8 30. hard storm of wind, some rain.

Tuesday, May 5. Day warm and pleasant Orders to be ready at 6 A. M. on the 6th with 1 days ration in the haversacks to be gone 6 days.

Wednesday, May 6. At 6.45 A. M. started out. 33d Iowa 28 Wis. Inf; 3d Ioa 5th Kan. 1st Ind. cav. 3 steel guns 2 guns of Dubuque bat. long train of wagons. Marched 18 miles. On picket for the night

Thursday, May 7. Picked up several rebs. among them a quarter-master. took him hid in wheat field, paroled most of the prisoners. Cavalry took one road Inf another with 3d. Iowa cav.

Friday, May 8. Town of Moro at 8. A. M. report of 3000 rebs near under command of Col. Dobbin, sent out scouts, none found, 4 miles this side Moro false alarm by our cav. coming up in rear. open prairie. Timber 3 miles prairie 5.

Saturday, May 9. 4 mile of prairie. 2 teams stuck black bayou at 11. A. M. 2 teams stuck in Prairie. Joined our cavalry at night camped in a grove

Sunday, May 10. 15 rebs showed themselves to the pickets this morning. took up our march at 6.30, stopped—hours 4 mile of cotton plant to bridge creek. cav. reported bayou de View. impossible, turned the head of column toward Helena.

Monday, May 11. Through Moro at 11.30. took the road to Mary Anna, passed through it where Dobbin had camped thursday with 700 men. Heard cannon at 4 P. M. cavalry force engaged with Dobbin. Out of rations. Live on parch corn

Tuesday, May 12. At Mary Anna 11. A. M. I met 6 Rebs. flag truce from Little Rock to Helena on business. At La Grange 5.30, camped after dark camped at Col McNeils house.

Wednesday, May 13. News that Richmond had fallen Cannon heard on the lower read cav. engaged with Dobbin again Noon. no dinner. 2. P. M. ordered to Helena, arrived 7.30. P. M. tired and sore. Loss while out of reg. 1 man missing Rained Road bad.


Friday, May 15. No news from below or from the Eastern div. Some talk of us going up the river to Memphis.

Saturday, May 16. Battallion drill in fore noon. News that Grant has Jackson Miss Organizing another Negro regiment. Drew 10 days rations.

Sunday, May 17. Sick—er on inspection at 10. A. M. Regulations read to the companies at 3. P. M. 3d Iowa Inf. down at 10. P. M. went down to see them.

Monday, May 18. Brigade drill forenoon Battallion drill afternoon Spent most of day writing 9. Iowa battery drilling close by. and cavalry on review.
Tuesday, May 19. Brigade drill forenoon Battallion skirmish drill after noon. Weather warm

Wednesday, May 20. Brigade drill forenoon Com. by Col Rice. Battallion skirmish drill in afternoon. Parade at 6 P. M.

Thursday, May 21. Serj. of guard, reg on Brig drill A. M. comp. drill P. M. at 11. P. M. pickets took 10 pris, killed 3 wounded 1 more

Friday, May 22. Brig. drill A. M. Comp drill P. M. News from Vicksburg good Hains Bluffs ours 9000 prisoner taken.


Monday, May 25. No better. Rebs 2000 strong show themselves close to town. 5 Kan 3 Iowa 1st Ind cav sent out severe fighting. drawn battle, both sides ready to play quits. News Vicksburg is ours——

Tuesday, May 26. Some better, Nothing of importance but drill, and men falling timber around Helena. Very hard wind after dark

Wednesday, May 27. Not so well. Dr Warren visits us this morning also in the evening. Weather very hot and dry 800 wounded go up the river 29th Iowa out on scout all day

Thursday, May 28. Considerably weaker today. 7,500 Reb. pris. go up. Moving cannon from the hills down river. Cutting trees across roads from town

Friday, May 29. To the hospital at 9. A. M. Day hot. quite feverish. More prisoners go up today Col Stone wounded passes up the river

Saturday, May 30. Not quite so well. News Grant Whip Johnston in his rear. false news Memphis Bullet in Helena taken. Adj detailed post inspection gen. The 1st Indiana and 5th Kansas cavalry regiments and Dubuque battery, go down the river today

Sunday, May 31. Some better. got a little mail. Regiment had two inspections hospital inspected by F F Burlock Much better after noon up most of the time done considerable writing Weather extremely warm and almost unsufferably sultry. Reg. on Gen inspection at 4 P. M.

Monday, June 1. Not quite so well. Reg drills from 5.30 to 6.30 AM. 7.30 to 9. A M. 4 to 7. P M Furloughed boys get off at 4 P. M today

Tuesday, June 2. 40th Iowa passed down this morning. Every co. policing new camp. Firing heard down the river. Evening looks like rain

Wednesday, June 3. Rained hard during the night Rebs fired into 40th yesterday Killed 17.

Thursday, June 4. Dr Parks succeeded in getting transportation for some 12 or 15 more of the sick to Keokuk. Boat up from Vicksburg with 93 deserters. Rained hard afternoon
Friday, June 5. Hard wind and rain storm in forenoon. afternoon 26
of the sick taken to boat 3d Iowa cav under march. orders 12000 rebs
reported in 8 miles of here.

Saturday, June 6. Pay rools signed today. Flag, of truce across the
river. no repts.

Sunday, June 7. Cannonading heard before day below. News from
all points good. Weather pleasant. health improving.

Monday, June 8. Gen Herons division on the way down. Gen himself
arrived 3. P. M Showery and windy in evening. Detail of———
reg. taken by rebs today

Tuesday, June 9. 5th K. cav. 36th Ia inf. on a scout today. Herons
div. coming in all day. Rained at night.

Wednesday, June 10. Rained smartly. more troops down, 30000 have
passed. Prospect of more rain

Thursday, June 11. Rained after dinner 2 boat soldiers down tonight
20,000 on their way down from Burnsides com’d.

Brig Gen in his absence 13 boats soldiers pass down today.

Saturday, June 13. 208 prisoners pass up. Gen Fiske. departs.
Weather very warm

Sabbath, June 14. 3d Ioa cav. go below, Return to camp orders on
parade to move tomorrow

Monday, June 15. All day spent in moveing camp. News from below
that Vicksburg is ours. Two large gunboats lie in the river

Tuesday, June 16. News from below same. Some prisnors taken up
today, P. M. Showery.

Wednesday, June 17. small scouting party went out early A. M. turn-
cd over old guns draw enfield rifles. P. M. hard rain.

Thursday, June 18. Boat from below reports 3 spies one a woman
taken by Grant dispatches from Gen Pemberton say to Jonston, if not
there in 48 hours would surrender. could not come with less than 70000
men. Suppose by this the Rebs have surrendered that place.

Friday, June 19. Picket line disturbed strengthened at 2. A. M. 8
5.30 P. M.

Saturday, June 20. Serj. of guard today.

Sabbath, June 21. At 10. A. M. raines spoiled inspection. P. M. 3 gun-
boats and 5 transport conveying stores and wagons below.—— in 35,
Mo. men would not take knapsacks on picket one man struck by off day
who died. Man in 29th tied to post for not putting on cap for fatigue
duty.

Monday, June 22. Man of 29. still tied to his post, near a mutiny in
the regt on his acct. News Negly whips Jonston. Grant holds Vicks-
burg where stands courthouse.

Tuesday, June 23. Report that the mail steamer has been captured
by guerillas, two gunboats go up to tend the case return P. M. report
all right, mail steamer to lie down during the night. 29. went out 12, last night. returned P. M. with no beeves 4 prisr

**Wednesday, June 24.** Right sick. Rained during night all day raining some times very hard.

**Thursday, June 25.** No better, hard storm last night raining some during day. Dr. Schooly wounded goes up river.

**Friday, June 26.** Night rainy. Day ditto Called on Tonis Williamsen 29th Iowa Sold him my watch

**Saturday, June 27.** Night very stormy. Day rainy. Bought watch of In Bitner. rumored Port Hudson taken only camp report. not so well.

**Sabbath, June 28.** Night beautiful. day showery Sant & Jake in a pleasure walk peeped in a nice mess of Black berries. No better

**Monday, June 29.** Worse today. Boys all at work P. M. getting ready for muster at 5.30 A. M. tomorrow.

**Tuesday, June 30.** regt. mustered. 5.30, not out Sick men mustered P. M. Last night———E co lost Health no better

**Wednesday, July 1.** Price reported near. Flags of truce interchanged. Fell worse today than for some time

**Thursday, July 2.** Not so well. Price reported below Marmaduke close at hand Order to stand at arm from 2. A. M till day break. and every man with box full of carts.

**Friday, July 3.** Some better today. Boat carries up many women & children Gen Prentice is confident of attack soon River rising

**Saturday, July 4.** Helena invested at 4 A. M. hard fighting till 11. A. M. 15000 rebs comanded by Lieut Gen Holmes inforce 3500. Maj. Gen Prentice our Cap 15 G. theirs 3000 Fight was desperate. Jake severely wounded in the breast

**Sabbath, July 5.** Very tired. Jake a little smarter, with him all the time. rebel wounded being brought in all day. Alarm gun at 5. P. M. men to arm and to the pits Rained hard 5.30 after dark 117 Ill came down.

**Monday, July 6.** Very tired. Jake died 1.30 A M. 117 Ill. Sth Kansas cav. out on scout brought in 100 prisoners. afternoon 117 IU go to Memphis.

**Tuesday, July 7.** Quiet all day. Most time in tent writing and laying about.

**Wednesday, July 8.** Guns fireing at sunrise for salute. big speeches from 9. to 12. in honor of victories here and Vicksburg big time visited Rev Mr Roberts this evening.

**Thursday, July 9.** Man of 29, got leg broke at Mill News from all points good. Cavalry force reported near.

**Friday, July 10.** Alarm by Negroes trying to come in just at day. All troops in line and on field with positions for another battle visited hos-pitals in town. had talk with rebel.

**Saturday, July 11.** 2 field pieces found in the woods north of town
**DIARY OF JOHN S. MORGAN**

*Sabbath, July 12.* Nothing of importance occurring today. Day cool cloudy and smoky.

*Monday, July 13.* Officially reported that Port Hudson has fallen and the great Mississippi is ours.

*Tuesday, July 14.* A Salute of guns from forts in honor of our victory at Port Hudson. Major Moster and 2 private of 33d Mo. with about a doz. negroes. gobbled in a field below town.

*Wednesday, July 15.* Sarj. of Guard today. Strong talk of another attack. 4 gunboat here tonight. Dubuque battery up from below. 20 Wis. Men in rifle pits all night.

*Thursday, July 16.* All quiet. Inspection by Gen officer at 4. P. M. went to see Capt Boydston at parson Roberts. fond him very sick but doing well. 2 cos of each regt. in rifle pits all night.

*Friday, July 17.* Drizzle rain all P. M. regt. went out shot 1 round at target called on Cap Boydston, no better had a talk with 3 cesesh girls there.

*Sabbath, July 19.* Scouting party of. 35 Mo. 28 Wis. 43. Ind. 117. Ill. Inft. regts. and 1st Ind cav. 4 pieces of Dubuque battery go out with 3 day. ration in haversacks This party back before night. Inft. went 5. mile cav. 15. Saw Dobbs pickets

*Monday, July 20.* 11.00 Port Hudson prisoners go up. 117 Ill return 15 Memphis.

*Tuesday, July 21.* Night rainy, the 26 33. & 36 Iowa regts out on a scout this A. M. News today good.

*Wednesday, July 22.* Camp full of reports. regt back at 4. P. M no enemy seen.

*Thursday, July 23.* Last night rained hard, Imperial up from New Orleans. Day very. hot.

*Friday, July 24.* Not well A. M. Day hot as a furnace. Detail of men go up on Hamilton Belle. Kirby Smith reported news with 25000 men advancing on this post

*Sabbath, July 26.* 40th Iowa 126 Ill, 3 min. up during the night on boats of marine brigade. Rained hard P. M.

*Monday, July 27.* Up frm below the 18 Ill. 54. Ill. 22 O.

*Tuesday, July 28.* 10. Ill cav. up. 2 co. of 1st Iowa from Davidsongs cond who is 80 miles out in this A. M. Troop reported up White river in transport

*Wednesday, July 29.* Nothing of importance. 21st Marine. 9 months conscription on their way home discharged. Served nearly 3 months over their time with Banks

*Thursday, July 30.* Brigade transferred to 16. army corps 15th New Hampshire return from below, also Gen Steele and escort Gen Prentiss from above.
Friday, July 31. 15 New Hampshire regt up last night. 121. Ill, up today. Said regt go up river P. M.

Saturday, August 1. 300 furloughed soldiers from below pass up. hard rain P. M.

Sabbath, August 2. Nothing important.

Monday, August 3. A Moniter down today.

Tuesday, August 4. VERY HOT.

Wednesday, August 5. Hot as an oven, Think will not go on the expedition. Davidsons provision and pontoon train in today.

Thursday, August 6. Order recd that 33d goes. Col Rice assigned command of the 13th Div. 16. army corps.

Friday, August 7. Busy preparing for the march. Gen Holmes in town to confer with the Gen commanding object unknown

Saturday, August 8. The loss of stores burned on the Ruth will retard our movements for a few days, occasional showers. Slight, very warm.

Sabbath, August 9. Not well. Take Steamer North America bringing up 4. Mass. 9. month men time out. had their colors taken from them. Battalion drill 5. P. M.

Monday, August 10. Not well Gen Review at 10. A. M. Packed up all surplus clothing Mail robbery in town last night 8th Mich. go up in the evening.

Tuesday, August 11. A. M. Packing tents hauling boxes to 2 P. M. line formed. 3. P. M. left town with train. cloudy rain a little. 7. P. M. camped 5 mile from Helena vivid lighting, rained considerable

Wednesday, August 12. Not well. Rained all night, reveal 8. A. M. line of march, daylight 12. M. ———— 2½ hours. 5. P. M. camp 22 miles from Helena on big creek Man wounded in leg by accident.

Thursday, August 13. Delayed by building bridge till 8. A. M. then started. Man shot in head—wond slight—by bush whacker. Col Rice Sick. hard march and hot day many give out. take in one bushwhacker Camp at sun down. Slough water.

Friday, August 14. Roll out at daybreak. March very hard. day very hot many give out. Col too sick to travel left at house join us at night. Pine timber plenty. Camp at Pinecreek.

Saturday, August 15. I go ahead with Supply train in at 2 P. M. regt. in at 7. P. M. hear of 2 boats taken yesterday and pontoon bridge burned by our boys 7. wounded. 1 dead. up———


Monday, August 17. Out foraging today. 2d Division get here. P. M. Skirmish over the river. troops crossing. Rebs reported at pine bluff. 12½ miles this side Little Rock entrenching. Col Rice promoted to Brig Gen.
SEPTEMBER.

Wednesday

Start at 5 A.M., take my men at 10 A.M. to take the ambuscade from 9 A.M. and 10 A.M. camp at a new point. 10 A.M. at 3 miles from Brownville, then Steele gets in at night.

Wednesday

The 24th, gets in at 9 A.M., headquarters at the cliff,成立了 from the bluff, every man in the 72nd were all right without water, suffered some ranks of fences in a day or two, images run about of rebecca cornfield, got to town, every Thursday

Orders at daylight for 9 P.M. to move at 8 A.M. with the blinds and 2 days' rations, 30 rounds in boxes, and then to report to every ammunition, Wednesday today.

Sample page of the War Diary of John S. Morgan.

(See page 496)
Tuesday, August 18. Troops crossing the river camping below on the other side. Report reaches camp that Charleston is ours. Day HOT.

Wednesday, August 19. Lieut Col Mackey recommended for Col. Capt Loughland for Lieut Col. Most of the convalescents came up on Rose Hamilton, Hamrich and Fidler Corporals in place of Verstieg & Ulsh. No mail yet.

Thursday, August 20. Drew rations A. M. Co. inspection P. M. visit the 40th Iowa.

Friday, August 21. 2. P. M. General sounded 3:20 hard rain 1½ hours. 6:20 cross river cross the island 5 miles through swamps and awful roads. through at 11. P. M.

Saturday, August 22. Moved camp in timber five miles from pontoon bridge— scarce and thick with Division forage train— trains go out, fired into— teams get in at night know nothing of the balance. fear they are gobbled

Sunday, August 23. Forage teams get in at 9. P. M. Orders to march immediately at 10:15 lines moves forward. In hot dust deep, hard marching. Arrive at Du Valls bluffs at dusk, find our sick there sent by water

Monday, August 24. Visit sick on boats, no attention, in awful fix Nothing of importance, except 2d Div arrive here. & Davidson's forces in the prairie beyond.

Tuesday, August 25. Davidson has some Skirmishing 35. prisoners sent in. 300 men at work on trenches. Cool all day at night cold

Wednesday, August 26. Medical inspection of sick— 5 of Co. wanted to stay here besides in hosps.

Thursday, August 27. On Fatigue to build hospital for division— Davidson skirmishing in prairie

Friday, August 28. Hard rain night and A. M. News is that Davidson has driven Price from his fortifications and has possessed them himself. P. M. Orders to prepare for marching.

Saturday, August 29. Nothing of importance

Sunday, August 30. Reported the Evensville which was carrying our mail down river was captured and burned and Quinby's division crossing at Clarendon

Monday, August 31. Mustered at 9. A. M. Start on march at 10. A. M. Road to Brownville at 2. P. M. 9 miles from former camp turn into timber and camp for the night Davidsoms supply train is here goes on with us in the morning our water from mud holes thick skum over it, when the coffee is made, it has the appearance of having cream in it.

Tuesday, September 1. Start at 5. A. M. take very sick at 10. A. M. have to take the ambulance find Jordan a hard road to travel. 3d Div camp at a series of mudholes 3. mile from Brownville. Gen Steele gets in at night

Wednesday, September 2. The 2d Div. gets in at 9. A. M having started from the bluffs morning of the 1st were all night without water
DIARY OF JOHN S. MORGAN

suffered. Some talk of fight in a day or two. Foragers run afoul of rebs in cornfield. Quite Sick. fever

**Thursday, September 3.** Orders at daylight for 3d division to move at 6. A. M. with blanket and 2 days ration. 40 rounds in boxes one team to regt to convey ammunition. Worse today.

**Friday, September 4.** Another brigade in which is the 27 Iowa just arrived. report another brigade coming. at 2. P. M. to start to regts. ordered countermanded regt come in at dusk. Right sick all day

**Saturday, September 5.** All quiet all day quite sick

**Sabbath, September 6.** Troops move Sick taken to hospital in town I moved there at day break. Hospital awful place no attention, a little better

**Monday, September 7.** Things go a little better train in from the Bluffs Health improving

**Tuesday, September 8.** A. M. quiet; P. M. Hospital draws 7 days rations—Report in that Steeles forces are in Little Rock. Cavalry 7. miles beyond——in the rear. Price trying to cut out. Arcadelphia ours—Health better——

**Wednesday, September 9.** Much better. Worked for the regt—Ambulance train come in from the head of column for convalescents. report Rebs strong two miles below L.—R—

**Thursday, September 10.** Not Ambulances enough to take all I did not get to go—108 of us left No news from the front today—feel first rate today

**Friday, September 11.** Couriers bring in the news that at 5. P. M. yesterday Steele marched into Little Rock. We had to furnish guards today and night. Men hanging round the pickets.

**Saturday, September 12.** 15 of our cav chase squad who fired on our beef drivers took 2 horses. detachment of 17 of 5th Kansas come in, had 5 men gobbled on prairie

**Sabbath, September 13.** Very sick. 5th Kan. squad went on to Little Rock train of 28 wagons in from Little Rock to take convalescents to their regiments.

**Monday, September 14.** Better this A. M. Train loads and starts at 9 got sick 4 mile out had to ride camped at a large bayou very large plantation.

**Tuesday, September 15.** Roolled out early too sick to walk rode to Little Rock. too sick to get to regt stay at a private house all night.

**Wednesday, September 16.** Town full of deserters coming in all the while. Military College full of reb sick and wounded 400 wounded at Helena, there Citizens verry kind. a nice place, much scattered reached regt 3 P. M.

**Thursday, September 17.** Quite sick Pines Bluffs taken Deserters come in all times

**Friday, September 18.** getting worse

**Saturday, September 19.** 8 boys come from the Bluffs. Unkle Luke
comes with them. Am carried to the hospital today too sick to help myself any more.

Sabbath, September 20. Worse today, and in considerable misery

Monday, September 21. Two companies of citizens one of inf. one of cav. paroled in town today. Health same as yesterday cars start to the bluffs

Tuesday, September 22. Not so well. 5 men who had taken the oath and were returning home with their protection papers shot by bushwhackers—

Wednesday, September 23. Able to be up and about, a very little

Thursday, September 24. Traveling around considerable

Friday, September 25. Visit the co. several times.

Saturday, September 26. Rec visit from Mr. Randel of K co 3d Iowa cav. the 6 co's of which regt. have just come through from Helena to join other part of the regt which has been with Gen Davidson. In health improved—

Sabbath, September 27. Mail today, fine day Forage party bring in 40 bush. sweet potatoes.

Monday, September 28. Very fine day considerable wind—health improving—

Tuesday, September 29. Raining all day Pay master reported in town health improving—

Wednesday, September 30. Rainy—Most of our men get up from the bluffs Health improving Ch'n guard taken off

Thursday, October 1. Return to the co. Detail from our regt to guard prisoners to Memphis—

Friday, October 2. Sign payrools—Sutlers opens chabang in regt. Weather fine—health improving. Officers have a noisy spree after night.

Saturday, October 3. Mail in—


Monday, October 5. Heavy frost fine day. Marching Orders rec'd

Tuesday, October 6. A. M. Rainy. Camp equipage and clothing left at Helena arrive—

Wednesday, October 7. Get our tents up

Thursday, October 8. Nothing important

Friday, October 9. Return to duty today. Orders on parade that Gen Salomon should assume comand of 3d Div. Gen Rice of 2d brigade

Saturday, October 10. Serg Ritner and Corp Herbert reduced to ranks for inability—both absent Sick

Sabbath, October 11. Paymasters and commissioners to rec votes of regts in town.

Monday, October 12. Nothing important Later—Report in that yesterday was a fight at Benton & Pine bluffs. enemy worsted at both places—
Tuesday, October 13. Election passes off pleasantly. the regt vote for Stone 292, for Tuttle 46. Unwell most of day
Wednesday, October 14. Feel tolerably well. Visit 1st cav. in evening stay all night.
Thursday, October 15. Very sick. Send word to co P. M. and am taken over to co. in ambulance
Friday, October 16. Recd pay this afternoon for two months. Much better today
Saturday, October 17. A repetition of the miseries of Thursday
Sunday, October 18. Well enough to be up a little
Monday, October 19. Worse carried to hospital. Weather windy
Tuesday, October 20. Some better
Wednesday, October 21. Last night heavy rains. Continued raining until 10. A. M. Order on parade to report all convalescents in the co’s for the invalid corps. Weather cold and health better—
Thursday, October 22. Begun to rain soon after day. Rained all day.
Friday, October 23. Mail this morning. Cold and windy all day. Williamson, Shull and Vanderkamp come to the co.
Saturday, October 24. Cold and clear
Sunday, October 25. Cold and clear teams all busy hauling brick.
Monday, October 26. Quite a pleasant day. Our brigade was ordered out and left town at 2 A. M. before day.
Tuesday, October 27. Weather fine.
Wednesday, October 28. Nothing important.
Thursday, October 29. Rainy
Friday, October 30. Forenoon rainy. Afternoon cold.
Saturday, October 31. Clear but cold. Ice last night 5-8 inch thick.
Sunday, November 1. Cloudy & cold—Regt return to camp at dusk
Monday, November 2. Last night showery. Morning & evening showery—
Tuesday, November 3. Nothing important
Wednesday, November 4. Last night rainy
Thursday, November 5. Nothing important
Friday, November 6. 28th. Wis. ordered to march for Pine Bluffs tomorrow
Saturday, November 7. The 28th. Wis. go to Pine Bluffs taking 7 tents to each co. Leaving guard over camp
Sunday, November 8. Windy. Nothing important
Monday, November 9. Nothing important
Tuesday, November 10. Cool, regt putting up barracks
Wednesday, November 11. Talk of sending men up north to recruit for regt. Hamrick made sergeant. McCullough made corporal
Thursday, November 12. Capt. Loughland and Lieut. Ledyard with one enlisted man from each of other co’s appointed to go to Iowa to recruit
Friday, November 13.
Saturday, November 14. In town A. M. Mail in. recd 4 letters


Monday, November 16. 3d Mo Cav leave for the northern part of the state.

Tuesday, November 17. 28th Wis make a permanent move of camp today—Rumor says Kirby Smith is approaching the place

Wednesday, November 18. Nothing important

Thursday, November 19. Day very windy—begins to storm at night—

Friday, November 20. Stormed like blazes all night. Day cool and cloudy.

Saturday, November 21. All quiet at Little Rock.

Sunday, November 22. Joseph Watkins dies and is buried

Monday, November 23. Nothing important

Tuesday, November 24.

Wednesday, November 25.

Thursday, November 26. Lucien Reynolds & Mr Wallace start home on furlough—

Friday, November 27. Rec Pay P. M. rained hard—

Saturday, November 28. Cold Gen. Inspection

Sabbath, November 29. Cold all day

Monday, November 30. Cold

Tuesday, December 1. Pleasant.

Wednesday, December 2. Weather pleasant Rumors of skirmishing at Pines bluffs—9th Mo. and 43d Ind. under marching orders

Thursday, December 3. $150 horses arrive taken by the home-guards in a skirmish near Benton. Large force of rebs reported near.

Friday, December 4. Showery in the evening

Saturday, December 5. Large scouting party of several regts of the 2d Div go out

Sabbath, December 6. Pleasant

Monday, December 7. On Picket Flag of truce at the post Evening rainy

Tuesday, December 8. Cold—

Wednesday, December 9. Cool

Thursday, December 10. Misty

Friday, December 11. Cold—

Saturday, December 12. Rained a little Gen. Insp. 1:30 P. M.

Sabbath, December 13. Last night hard rain Day cold and misty Official, scouting party drove rebs from Princetown took some prisoners

Monday, December 14. Quite cold last night ice 3/4 inch thick Morning chilly—

Tuesday, December 15. Last night rainy damp day

Wednesday, December 16. Rained hard all day

Thursday, December 17. Tolerably cold

Friday, December 18. Cool all day
Saturday, December 19. Gen Inspt. at 2 P. M. Small steam boat down from Ft. Smith

Sabbath, December 20. Pleasant 3 boats start down the river

Monday, December 21. Pleasant

Tuesday, December 22. A man killed at the theatre tonight—accident—

Wednesday, December 23. In camp all day

Thursday, December 24. Volunteer to guard boat to Pine Bluffs. delayed

Friday, December 25. Pleasant day Pleasant ride

Saturday, December 26. Last night rainy All day rainy Pine Bluffs at 11. a.m. From the Bluffs 4 P. M.

Sabbath, December 27. At Watkins Plantation begin to load corn

Monday, December 28. Finished loading 1006 bush corn at 1 P. M. and started up up at Red bluffs Negro who had broken in trunk escaped

Tuesday, December 29. At the Rock at 4:30 P. M. in camp at dark.

Wednesday, December 30. A little rainy—Gen review at 10 A. M.

Thursday, December 31. Snowing and blowing cold—14 below 0—

Spy taken at the picket post.

Record of movements of the regiment during the time covered by this diary

February 24, 1863

From Helena

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feb 24</td>
<td>To Moon lake</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 26</td>
<td>down pass</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 27</td>
<td>To Alcorns plantation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feb 28</td>
<td>Down pass</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>March 1</td>
<td>Down pass</td>
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<tr>
<td>March 2</td>
<td>Cold Water</td>
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<td>March 3</td>
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<td>March 7</td>
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</table>
Left camp before Green wood

April 4
Arrived at Helena

April 8
From Helena

May 1
on Little Rock road

" " Back

" 2
From Helena

" 10 Road to Cotton plant

" " Toward Helena

" 13 At Helena

Arkansas Expedition from Helena

Aug 11
 toward Clarendan

" 15 At Clarendan

Leave Clarendan

" 21 P. M.

" " across the island

" 23 To Du Volls bluffs

" 31 From Du Volls bluffs

Sept. 1.
Brownville

" 14. From Brownsville

" 15. Little Rock

Dec. 25. For Pines Bluffs

" 26. at " “

" “ For Little Rock

" 29 At “ “

January 28. Paid in for the Everlasting pencil

N. Schippers
T. Williamson
E. M. Woods
W. H. H. Downing
Dan. Ulsh
Gerret Steenwyk
J. S. Morgan
T. J. Young Co. E
C. M. Stephenson

Sent for a dozen

LETTERS REC'D

Reed. Dated
1863, YAZOO PASS 1863
1 March 2. Father Feb. 15
2 " " Sist Jane. " 19
3 " 5 Home " 22
4 " 11. L. O. Mathews " 19
<table>
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<td>5</td>
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<td>March 5</td>
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<td>6</td>
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**NEAR CLARENDEN.**

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**LITTLE ROCK.**

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93 " " " .................................................. Sept. 2
94. " 27 Henry ........................................ " 10
95. Oct. 3. Matty ...................................... " 9
96. " " Mother ........................................ " 14
97. " " Cebie Gardner ................................ " 12
98. " " Belle Baker ................................ " 14
99. " 6. Miller, Sam ................................ " 12
100. " " Belle Miller ................................ " 21
101. " " Belle Baker ................................ " 21
102. " 23 Cebie Gardner .............................. " 22
103. " " Father ........................................ " 26
104. " " Julius Peters-Oct. 3 ........................ " 3
105. " " Mother ........................................ " 4
106. " " Henry ........................................ " 4
107. " 30 Mother ...................................... " 11
108. " " Mattie ........................................ " 12
109. Nov. 6. Mother .................................. " 18
110 " 11 Mother ...................................... " 25
111. " 14 Bro Henry .................................. " 29
112. " " Sis. Mattie .................................. " 29
113. " " Belle Baker ................................. Nov. 1
114. " " Mother ........................................ " 2
115 " 27 Mother ...................................... " 8
116 " " J. A. Peters .................................. " 10
117. Dec. 4. Mother .................................. " 12
119. " " Robbins & co ................................ " 18
120. " 11. Mother .................................... " 15
121. " " Mattie ....................................... " 17
122. " " Father ....................................... " 22
123. " " Shaw & Clark ................................ " 24
124. " 16 Henry ..................................... " 29
125. " " Mother ....................................... " 29
126. " " Belle Baker ................................ " 29
127. " 29 Mattie ..................................... Dec. 10
128. " " Belle Baker ................................ " 11
129. " " Mother ....................................... " 13

MESS CASH ACCOUNT.

Amount due in upper line paid lower

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**MESS CASH ACCOUNT**

- Paper pepper: .15 cts.
- Coffe Kettle: 1.50
- Sweet Potatoes: .40
- Meat: .25
- S. pota.: 1.50
- " " " : 1.50
- 1 lb currants: .50
- ½ bush S. pota: .50

Oct. 1863
DIARY OF JOHN S. MORGAN

" 12 ½ lb prunes ........................................ 20
Little Rock Nov 24 1863
Recd of W. V. Griffith .................................. $2.60 as
balance in mess treasury.
Nov. 25, To 1 bush S. potatoes .......................... $1.50
Dec. 3. " 2 papers pepper .................................. 20
" 4. " ½ bush meal ........................................ 20
" 8 " 1 box pepper ......................................... 20
" " by rects of mess ................................. 30
" 11. To 1 box pepper .................................. 20
" 14. To 3 papers pepper ............................ 30

2.90

Transferred from page

MESS CASH ACCOUNT.

Date. Rec'd Paid
Dec. 24. To furnace ................................. 25
" 30 " Paper pepper .................................. 20
" " By sale soap ...................................... 120

1 120 45

.75

List of Subscribers. Paid for the Messenger.

D. Ulsh
H. Bowman
Jacob Miller
J. T. Bowman
W. Slyster
S. A. Boldwin
M. Englesmer
H. Herbert
G. van De Kamp
John Mc Loed

Money belonging to Mess

CASH ACCOUNT.

Date. Jacob Miller Deed H

left to

July 6. Mess 4 ......................................... 3 20
" 9 to washing sack .................................... 10
" 16 By sale of Salt .................................. 40
" " To 9 lbs Apples .................................. 90
" 17 By sale lard ...................................... 1 20
" 21 " 21 " ........................................... 65
Aug. 2. " Co, Saveings ............................... 7 60
" 4. " Sale Coffee .................................... 2 35
508 ANNALS OF IOWA

" 8. " " Rice ............................................ 25
" 10 $1.00 Per man...................................... 16.00
" " By draw on to fund.................................. 1.75
Dec 2d Return to co fund................................ 40

1863 CASH ACCOUNT.—NOVEMBER.
Date Co fund drawn on Rec'd Paid
Mess $ cts $ cts
Nov. 20. drew ........................................... 2 00
" 25 To Sweet pota- ................................. 1 50

Dec. 1st Balance in .................................... 50
" 3 To two papers pepper .............................. 20
" 11 " 1 box " ........................................ 30
Jacob Miller Dec'd
Cash act.

Due to Mess 4........................................... 2.20
By cash on hand ........................................ 6.30
To burial expenses ................................... 9 00
By cash reed for per .................................. 4 00
" Discount on price per .............................. 45
" Sale Coffee ........................................... 2 00

Contents of G. Prices pocketbook when he went to the hospital
$10.00 Green back
1.00 Rail road bank Mich.
1.05 postage currency
105 00 Counterfeit secesh.
34 postage stamps

In Massachusetts, they have men who travel from town to town to detect the violaters of the fifteen gallon law.—Missouri Republican, St. Louis, June 15, 1839. (In the newspaper collection of the Historical Department of Iowa.)