

Mss.  
A  
G475 Gill, George F., 1836-1903  
Diary, 1862-1863. 1 item.

004z2

Diary of George Gill  
While in Richmond Prison  
1863

Dec. 26<sup>th</sup> '62

Left Camp 3 miles from Nashville 22<sup>nd</sup> Brigade in the advance 2<sup>nd</sup> Ky thrown out as skirmish. 1<sup>st</sup> Ky in the advance on Lavergne. attacked the rebels at that place [margin note: "Night"] Reg on picket attacked by Rebel Cavalry drove them back  
Killed 1 Wounded [unreadable]

27<sup>th</sup>

The Rebels fell back from Lavergne followed them 3 miles the other side of Lavergne and camped for the night.

28<sup>th</sup>

was fined 1 Dollar by Major [Alva R.] Hadlock Judge of the 1<sup>st</sup> Ky police court for firing my gun off without orders

29<sup>th</sup>

22<sup>nd</sup> Brigade in the advance advanced 5 miles through corn fields Driving the Rebels towards Muffreesbourough [Murfreesboro]. 4 O'clock in the afternoon resting in a corn field hungry as hell and no Coffee nothing but Crackers Can hear the Locomotive Whistle the rebels is either evacuating Muffreesbourough or *are getting* reinforced one of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Ky Wounded Brigadier 1<sup>st</sup> Brigade 2<sup>nd</sup> Division moved forward 1 mile and camped for Lavergne under orders to [word smeared] on Muffreesborough [word(s) smeared] moments notice borrowed some coffee and made a cup of coffee

30<sup>th</sup>

advance ½ mile without no Breakfast artillery engaged on our right Gen Negleys Brigade pass by raining a little heavy Skirmishers in front Our Boys Driving them slowly Our Artillery opened on the enemy on our right Regt. in same position we was on the 30<sup>th</sup> McCook *forcing* the enemys left

31<sup>st</sup>

1 o'clock taken prisoner  
Edward Parcele  
Anthony Coggins  
William Meyers  
George Gill  
George Hagan  
James Sheridan  
Co. I.

Jan 1<sup>st</sup> 1863

Layed in Hospital at Muffreesborough

2<sup>nd</sup>

Started for Vicksburg Stopped 1 hour at Decherd Station Waiting for the train from Chattanooga Arrived at Chattanooga 12 o'clock at night Marched out to Camp 1 mile from Chattanooga Camped for the night

Jan 3

Left Chattanooga en route for Atlanta Georgia arrived at Atalanta [sic - Atlanta] 4 o'clock in the morning of Dec [sic] 4<sup>th</sup>.

4<sup>th</sup>

Layed over at Atalanta and drew Rations Weather fine and Left Atalanta en route for Montgomery Alabama Arrived at West Point [Georgia, at the Alabama border] Jan 5<sup>th</sup>

Jan 5<sup>th</sup>

traded some Coffee to a Lady in West Point for 3 corn cakes and eat Breakfast. Waiting for the train to take us to Montgomery Ala. Left West Point 11 O'clock A.M. passed Jarato Ala. 1 O'clock train running very slow Stopped to wood and water arrived at Opolake [Opelika] 3 O'clock P.M. Started on again for Montgomery arrived at Loachapoka [35 miles from West Point] Started on again 1 man left Behind had to stop on account of the train ahead of us Man caught up arrived at Montgomery [88 miles from West Point] 10 O'clock at night. Drew Rations

6<sup>th</sup>

Started for Mobile treated well all through the Lines

7<sup>th</sup>

Started for Mobile got as far as Pollard 50 Miles from Mobile and was Ordered back by Gen Joseph Johnson

8<sup>th</sup>

Started back for Montgomery 4 o'clock in the Morning Waiting for a train to pass at 9 O'clock A.M. 60 Miles from Montgomery. Arrived at Montgomery at 6 O'clock P.M. Night - Drew Rations for two Days. Beef and chicken

9<sup>th</sup>

Started from Montgomery Ala back to Atalanta [Atlanta] Ga stopped at Auburn Ala stay on the train Arrived at Atalanta Friday Marched out 1 Mile and Camped. Good tents and new Mess Utensils Waiting to draw Rations well treated Billy Meyers [fellow prisoner] goes to Convalescent Hospital Comes back Draw Rations Leave for Dalton at 7 O'clock arrive at Dalton 3 O'clock in the morning.

[Saturday] 10<sup>th</sup>

Leave Dalton at 9 O'clock A.M. en route for Richmond Va. Weather Cool and Raining. Stopped to check in the afternoon Cumberland Mountains in view Snow in the

mountains Road very rough Sheridan [James Sheridan, fellow prisoner] Looses his cap and train stops and he recovers it again.

13<sup>th</sup>

Arrived at Holstein River 8 o'clock in the evening. Layed at the River all night

[Following page, about 50 words, too faded to read.]

Drew Rations flour and Pork and Baked Biscuit Left for Lynchburgh [Lynchburg] Va. at 4 oclock on the morning of the

14<sup>th</sup>

Passed New *Birn* [Newbern?] went through two tunnells Stopped 3 hours waiting for the [Down, Dawn, Damn ?] train from Richmond passed through *another* tunnell Arrived at Lynchburgh at 9 Oclock Thursday the 15<sup>th</sup> of January

15<sup>th</sup>

Waiting to Draw Rations and change Cars to proceed on to Richmond Va. Drew Rations Sold Henry Meyers Blankets for 5 Dollars and bought 2 Dollars worth of Bread Marched ½ Mile to the train and started for Richmond 11 O'clock in the Morning

#### Richmond Prison

15<sup>th</sup> [January]

Bought 4 Snacks for 2 Dollars plug of tobacco 50 cts and 50 cts worth of apples Stopped to wait for a train started again Arrived at Richmond at 4 Oclock in the Morning of the 16<sup>th</sup>

16<sup>th</sup>

Weather Cool and Raining lightly Crossed the River to Richmond and was Marched to the Libby Prison to get our Parole Papers and Wait for the Boat to take us to our Lines Prison very neat and Clean got Seperated from my two Comrades Tony Coggins and Bill Meyers they in one room and Me and Sheridan in another with a Guard Between us got to see them and got some tobacco from them

#### First Day in Prison at Richmond

16<sup>th</sup>

Weather pleasant. Quit Raining Sadly in need of some clean clothes. have not washed for 3 days. Drew Rations 1 Loaf of Bread and 1 pound of Beef

17<sup>th</sup>

Weather Pleasant one thousand Prisoners to be Sent away to day had one good nights sleep in 16 Days Waiting to get Breakfast eat Breakfast 2<sup>nd</sup> day in prison in Richmond Weather turning cold 100 more Prisoners put in one room Last night there is a report that our President wont accept us unless our Officers are paroled with us. Old Abe receives a

Blessing in the shape of curses from all of us 600 prisoners to Leave for Fortress Monroe tomorrow

3 O'clock in the afternoon - Sitting on the Railing by the stove [word indecipherable] with Sheridan for his pencil out of tobacco damned hard up in [word indecipherable]

Night - Started a game of Seven up for the Whisky for four of us when we get to our lines won the Whisky stuck it on to Sheridan and one of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Ohio

11 O'clock got a piece of tobacco from Lew Hill Sheridan and me are going to bed damned hard one that too had to get up at 2 O'clock

[Sunday] 18<sup>th</sup>

Sunday Morning so cold I could not sleep sat by the stove till day light have no Blanket nor Over Coat Tony Coggins comes and gets his tin cup from Sheridan Role Call at 8 O'clock at Present Some prisoners going to Fortress Monroe to day nearly out of tobacco again Waiting for our Breakfast

4 O'clock - Waiting for Supper did not get none till 7 O'clock in the evening 3<sup>rd</sup> day in prison

goes over and I see Lew Hill gets some tobacco from him

Night - stays till 9 O'clock in the evening Sings 4 Songs Comes back to my Room and sits by the fire for awhile One man falls on the stove goes to bed[...]

19<sup>th</sup>

[...] gets up 4 O'clock a report in prison that we go to day 8 O'clock Waiting for Role Call and Breakfast Weather cold 4<sup>th</sup> day in Prison got a piece of tobacco

[Tuesday] January 20<sup>th</sup> '63

Went over to see Lew Hill and John Curran Jim Shaved me and Sheridan and I got a piece of Soap from Hayes and took a wash Look 20 per Cent better dont know when we will get off been going every day and aint gone yet seen 3 Women to day the first I have seen for 4 days

Night - Coggins and Meyers comes over to see me and Sheridan nearly all the boys play my cards aint got nary red cent Sewed up my pants another report that we go away tomorrow dont believe it Jim Curran and Mike Meagher comes over to our room and stays till 11 O'clock have a gay old time singing and cutting up - another Squad of Prisoners arrive out of tobacco again

21<sup>st</sup>

Waiting for breakfast 8 Hundred went away this Morning had roll Call one Man Missing fine Weather all Quiet in the Richmond Prison 5<sup>th</sup> day in prison went to see Jim Curran and staid till 10 O'clock at night Commences to rain

22<sup>nd</sup>

Rained hard all last night did not sleep much getting tired of being cooped up News that we go away tomorrow Waiting for Roll Call and Breakfast it has Stopped Raining Prospect of a fine day have plenty of company in the shape of Grey Backs they are very numerous. they bite like Hell at night and therefore Disturb our repose. Curses on them

eat Breakfast feel Much better Coggins and Billy Meyers take a game of chess. Sixth day in prison made a Bargain for one Dollars worth of Bread Large fire last night cooper shop burned down out of tobacco and every thing else they are getting Rations ready for us to leave with had Breakfast Weather cold Slept very Little all night out of tobacco a report that we Leave for fortress Monroe on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup> day of January 1863 hope it is true

23<sup>rd</sup>

Slept all night got 1 Dollar worth of Bread for my Blouse another report that the other Prisoners goes before us [Margin note: "7<sup>th</sup> day in Prison"] getting tired of going away don't care a damn whether we go or not Weather fine had Roll Call all present are accounted for Waiting for Breakfast  
eat Breakfast 4 O'clock in the afternoon Waiting for Supper Slept most of the day down in the mouth wish I was home damned poor prospect of getting home Come to the Conclusion that I have ben a fool all my life time Resolve if I get out of here to do better for the future and turn over a new leaf  
Said the same thing many a time and did not do any Better think awhile an come to the conslusion that the world is a humbug on a large scale dont believe any thing every thing is false all Quiet in the Richmond Roison eat Supper  
Night Lew Hill and Jim Curran Came to see me and Sheridan Stays till [two words unreadable] See them home and stay with them till 11 O'clock come back to my room and goes to bed Slept very little all night

24<sup>th</sup> [Saturday]

Waiting for Roll Call and Breakfast. 11 Hundred sent away this morning for Fortress Monroe Expect to Change prisons to day they say that we go to *the Rooms that the others* left the other Prisoners in the *Rooms* in the Officers Building was Paroled this afternoon I went over to [two words/names too faded to read] and staid till 9 O'clock I wrote a Song for one of the 35 Indiana and he gave me a piece of tobacco Sung 4[?] Songs and come back to my Room and went to bed

25<sup>th</sup> Sunday Morning

Went after Rations Came back and I had Breakfast Tony Coggins sold Sheridan Overcoat for 5 Dollars

9<sup>th</sup> day in Prison

Jack Bayliss comes over and I give him a pipe full of tobacco Waited for a chance to buy some bread Weather fine a report that our Boats can't get up on account of the fog expect them up this Evening if they don't Send us away soon we will have to surrender to the Grey Backs for they are getting reinforced every day they Generally attack us at night another Room full of Prisoners Paroled this afternoon. our Room to be Paroled tomorrow. Waiting to draw Rations Sheridan gets Mad and takes off his shirt and commences to skirmish he finds the enemy in force on the tail and the arm pits. Bloody Engagement Kills from 20 to 30 and then Retires from the field in disgust Resolves to Draw new clothes when he gets to our Lines. Staid up all night could not sleep

26<sup>th</sup>

11<sup>th</sup> day in Prison

the Prisoners in the other two Rooms leave for the other Prison. we to leave to day a report that we all leave for our lines tomorrow Waiting for Breakfast Weather pleasant moved to the Libby Prison 18 Hundred Left for Fortress Monroe Next Morning the remainder of us to go as soon as some more boats comes up one Man a Citizen of Richmond Bought 6 papers for two of us Waiting for Breakfast was paroled to Day to leave for City Point in the morning Bought 5 dollars worth of Bread

27<sup>th</sup>

Left at 3 O'clock this morning Last day in prison arrived at City Point at 11 O'clock changed Cars at Petersburg before we got to City Point in Crossing a bridge the bridge gave way and ten men drowned got aboard of the Steam boat New York and had Dinner good Coffee. now on our way to Anapolis Maryland  
2 O'clock in the afternoon a Company from Albany guards on the Boat farewell old Secesh Huzza for the union the damned Rebels came near Starving us  
5 O'clock in the evening passed New Port News and the Wreck of the Cumberland and Congress was Boarded by a Naval Officer passed our Blockading fleet and the flag Ship Minnesota and a prize schooner hauled down our flag of truce within our Lines 12 Miles to Fortress Monroe tasted Salt Water for the first time

28<sup>th</sup>

Layed up till 3 O'clock this morning Crossing Chesapeake Bay Strong head Wind Blowing Bay very rough passed some schooners and Frigates  
9 O'clock A.M. got Breakfast Land in View Seen porpoises Expect to Make Anapolis [Sic] Md. this evening arrived at Anapolis 4 O'clock P.M. Layed on the Boat all night 2 of our men Died Coming cross the Bay Weather Cold Snowing and Sleetting the other two boats arrive at 8 O'clock P.M. good many Yahews got sea sick coming across. Had one Drink of Borboun [sic] Whiskey to day going to bed 9 O'clock

Anapolis [Sic] Md

29<sup>th</sup>

8 O'clock in the Morning still on the Boat getting ready to leave for the Paroled Camp 3 Miles from town Weather Cold Snowed all night ain't had no Breakfast yet eat Breakfast  
Started for parole Camp 2 Miles from town arrived there Drew Rations and Blankets was put in tents got acquainted with one of the 13<sup>th</sup> Indiana had to take a drink made [word(s) indecipherable] and we stay all night had a gay old time gave us Shirts Drawers and Socks

30<sup>th</sup>

Waiting for Breakfast going to Draw Overcoats Dress Coats Pants and Shirts Drawers and Socks Caps Drew a tin cup knife and fork and spoon Bully for Uncle abe.

*[End of Prison Diary. The remaining entries may have been made by others.]*

July

16<sup>th</sup> asked Mr. Kellogg to leave off monday so i could go to a picnic [word indecipherable]

Dec

22 = one stamp

“ = one envelope

[On another page:]

14 lb. Ham at 20 cts

2 “ Butter “ 30 cts

1 “ tea “ 1.00

[On another page:]

Number of Tickets

*Thos Sheppard* 53

*Jas Angly* 54

58

59

60

Jas. Stracey 53

80

81

[On another page:]

Co I James Sheridan

“ “ George F. Gill

“ “ Edward Parsell

Co G William Cole

Co A William Deyer

Co C James Krause  
more names

Taken prisoner

Wednesday Dec. 31<sup>st</sup> 62



Ambrotype Collection  
AMB-27

Sgt. George F. Gill  
First Kentucky Infantry  
Union [orig. in photo to coll.]

