

The War Years

have packed all of our blankets and extra clothing in boxes to leave here. Last summer I had to throw away about \$15.00 worth on the march.

I saw a few flowers in the woods, also some Robins, Blue Birds and Wrens. I heard a rooster crew on the other side of the River. If he had been on this side he would have lost his head.

Apr. 26th. Still in our old camp. The 7th N.Y. Regt. of 8 months men started for home today. They had an easy time and lost very few men. The Paymaster came yesterday and I get 4 months wages. I have sent you \$45.00 by Adams Express. Apr. 29th. Our men have crossed the river three miles below Fredricksburg, on pontoon bridges which they laid last night. I was on picket near the river. There are a great many Rebs in the town. They are talking, and singing and seem happy. They sent over a little sail boat with a Richmond paper in it, and we returned it with a cargo of coffee. If we whip the Rebs, and I get out alive, I think I will enjoy myself much better than I would if I had not enlisted.

We crossed the river on a pontoon bridge the night of the 2nd. And by 11 o'clock had taken the first and second lines of works back of the city. A very slight loss on our side here. Our Regt. came back across the river the night of the 3rd and went on duty below the city.

The Rebs are prowling the city hunting for knapsacks, etc. that our men lost. The main fight was up river, and Hooker was whipped. But the Rebs lost heavily. There are more families in the town than I thought. The women are nearly all Secesh, and look poison. One old lady said that she hoped that she would die before we would conquer the south. Our Lieut. said that he hoped that she would. One old lady has five sons in the Union Army. She wants the Rebs whipped. The main fight seemed to be up near Antietam creek where both sides lost heavily.

The 34th N.Y. Vols. started for home the 9th. They were a two year Regt. and one of the best. When the train started the band struck up Auld Lang Syne. The Minn. 1st and the N.Y. 2nd gave them three rousing cheers. They have lost a great many men in battle.

June 18th. We left our camp on the Rappahonnach, before Fredricksburg about sundown and marched all night and the next day. We camped about five miles from Dunfrees. The weather