

E. H. Bassett—In the Artillery

forenoon that day and finished up at dark on the 19th. The 20th I sowed ten acres of wheat, and got done about dark. Did not have time to do any dragging. Left home the 21th of April for Fort Snelling. Stayed all night at Farmington, eighteen miles from the Fort. I walked up to the Fort the next forenoon.

April 28th, 1864. Cloudy and cold. At a review of the Regiment in the afternoon, Gov. Miller and Gen. Sibley made short speeches, and Col. Adams bid us an affectinate farewell. He said that he had orders to disband the Regt. The Vets who reenlisted and recruits are to be formed into companies, officered and sent on to Washington for duty. Due to a mixup somewhere, I reckon, we were not paid off and discharged until the afternoon of May 5th. It was late, so I stayed over at the old Fort, and went home the next day.

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Dad was very uneasy and dissatisfied over the summer work on the farm. It was pretty tame after the strenuous campaigns and battles of the previous years. So he reenlisted in the 1st Minnesota Heavy Artillery this time. No more hoofing it for him. This is very evident by the following note taken from his diary.

What a fool I was to try and raise wheat, or do anything last summer. I came out \$136.00 in cash and one year's labor behind. This besides some \$30.00 that I owe. That after a hard summer work, and the fall and winter spent for nothing. I am compelled to enlist again in the Army, where I think that I had better stay.

On Feb. 9th, 1865, Dad enlisted as a sergeant in the 1st Minnesota Heavy Artillery, a volunteer outfit. He was in for one year.

Spent the week running around and going to parties. The time passes very slowly for me since I got back last May. I hope I will not return again until times get better than now. We left Morris-town for St. Paul on Feb. 16th. Stopped overnight at Northfield. Then on to St. Paul where we were examined and given our uniforms. We were mustered in the next day, the 26th, at Snelling and started for Dixie. We went by sleigh and stopped overnight at Cannon Falls. In the morning we got an early start and arrived at Orinoco that night. At two A.M. we drove on to Rochester by