

and nearly killed. Four of us are detailed as company cooks. We cook for ten days, then off for ten, and get along fine. There are to be (eleven) minute guns fired tomorrow, in honor of Captain Ellsworth, who was shot by a rebel civilian in Virginia.

We left Fort Ridgely for Washington, on June 18th, going by boat to Fort Snelling, then to LaCrosse, where we took the train. We passed thru Chicago, Fort Wayne Indiana, Pittsburgh and Harrisburg Penn. Then through Baltimore and on to Washington. We arrived about noon, and marched thru the streets with loaded guns. A Mass. Regt. had been attacked by the secessionists when they marched thru, and several soldiers and some civilians killed and wounded. We were ready for them, but had no trouble. Passed thru the streets very peaceably. We did not see very many white people, but there were plenty of Negroes. At one place the people gave three cheers for the Union Flag, and three groans for Jeff Davis. The Stars and Stripes reign here now. The police are pretty active keeping peace. One man was going to cheer for Jeff Davis, when a policeman collared him, and commanded silence. One man of Company B, the Stillwater Company, collared a man who was cheering for Jeff D., and ordered him to cheer for the Union or he would knock his damned head off. He complied with the order.

There are not many non Union people here now. They have most all gone south and joined the Rebs. We are traveling by train, and at nearly every house we pass on the way to Washington the people wave flags and handkerchiefs. There is a guard all along the R.R., which has been repaired and the bridges rebuilt. They had been burned. We are not allowed to travel over seven or eight miles per hour. We came from Harrisburg to Baltimore in the same cars that the 6th Mass. Regt. rode in. They were pretty well smashed up. The 6th Mass. had a little fracas with the civilians in Baltimore. We camped in sight of the Capitol. Our Captain McKune will be here as soon as he is relieved at Fort Ridgely. Lieut. Messicks commands the Company now.

There was about sixty Rebs captured here yesterday afternoon. They were bold enough to come spying around the camp. They succeeded in getting the gun away from a guard of a Vermont Regt. The guard sprang at him, regained his gun, and knocked him down. One of the Rebs was shot thru the head and killed.