

Jan 10th 1865. Left Portland for Washington in company with Joseph Ware & family. Met in the cars Mr Murry, Dr Kirk, Mr & Mrs Hersey & daughter; had a very pleasant time dined in Boston - left Boston at half past five - PM - engine gave out before we arrived at Norwich which made us late at New York, where we took the 11 o'clock train - but 2 engines gave out between Philadelphia & Baltimore - so we remained all night in the latter city. Went to the top of Washington Monument & had a fine view of the city & its surroundings. Visited the Catholic Cathedral to look at two fine pictures presented by Louis 18th of France & painted by Paul Guerin. The larger one representing the Descent from the Cross - & the lesser one represented Louis 9th who beholding ~~the~~ one of the Martyrs, was moved with compassion & said "let us bury this martyr of Jesus Christ." Arrived in Washington

Jan. 10th 1865. Left Portland for Washington in company with Joseph Ware & family. Met in the cars Mr Murry, Dr Kirk, Mr & Mrs Hersey & daughter; had a very pleasant time dined in Boston - left Boston at half past five - PM - engine gave out before we arrived at Norwich which made us late at New York, where we took the 11 o'clock train - but 2 engines gave out between Philadelphia and Baltimore-, so we remained all night in the latter city. Went to the top of Washington Monument & had a fine view of the city & its surroundings. Visited the Catholic - Cathedral to look at two fine pictures presented by Louis 18th of France & painted by Paul Guerin. The larger one representing the Descent from the - Cross - & the lesser one represented Louis 9th who beholding ~~the~~ one of the Martyrs, was moved with compassion & said "let us bury this martyr of Jesus Christ." Arrived in Washington

Contributed to Maine Memory Network by Maine Historical Society
MMN # 1451

Date: Jan. 10, 1865 - March 1865
Description: Rebecca Usher diary

Thursday Jan 12th. Had a delightful
visit. Friday we went to the Capitol
& admired the Façade on the East
side, the only one which is finished
heard a patriotic speech from a mem-
ber from Missouri in the house, & one
from Mr Sumner in the Senate on the
massacre of Indian women & children
by order of Col Shingly. Sat Maj Eaton
took us over to Campbell Hospital.
I was very much pleased with it.
They have a theatre, with a variety
of scenes very tastefully arranged
painted by the soldiers, all the
carpenter's work & house painting
done also by the soldiers. They
have also a Printing Press, & a very
good library, for all which they
are indebted in great measure
to the individual enterprise & en-
ergy of the Chaplain. X Sunday - went
to hear Dr Channing in the House of
Rep. He eulogized Edward Everett &
Eliza Davenport - matron at Sing Sing,
& the next morning the news arrived

Thursday Jan 12th Had a delightful
visit. Friday we went to the Capitol
& admired the Façade on the East
side, the only one which is finished
heard a patriotic speech from a mem-
ber from Missouri in the House, & one
from Mr Sumner in the Senate, on the
massacre of Indian women & children
by order of Col. Shingly. Sat. Maj. Eaton
took us over to Campbell Hospital.
I was very much pleased with it.
They have a theatre, with a variety
of scenes very tastefully arranged
painted by the soldiers, all the
carpenter's work and house painting
done also by the soldiers. They
have also a Printing Press, & a very
good library, for all which they
are indebted in great measure
to the individual enterprise & en-
ergy of the Chaplain. X Sunday - went
to hear Dr Channing in the House of
Rep. He eulogized Edward Everett &
Eliza Davenport -matron at Sing Sing
& the next morning the news arrived

of the death of Mr Everett & the public buildings were draped with black & the flags at half mast.

Monday - went through the explored the labarynth of the Patent Office.

Found the Agricultural Bureau very interesting - fine models of fruit with the plates of the particular insects feeding upon it - & the birds stuffed who prey upon the insects.

The superintendant gave me a ~~copy~~ Chrysolis on my admiring a moth & remarking that I had raised one like it ~~before~~ last year.

X I have forgotten to say that Sat P.M. we attended Mrs Lincoln's levee & admired Old Abe for two hours. & when he shook hands with me he said "how do you do dear?" & that Admiral Farrigut was there the Lion of the day.

Monday evening saw Forrest for the first time. The play was Richelieu a fine play, shewing the wonderful

of the death of Mr Everett, & the public buildings were draped with black & the flags at half mast.

Monday - went through the explored the labarynth of the Patent Office.

Found the Agricultural Bureau very interesting - fine models of fruit with the plates of particular insects feeding upon it - & the birds stuffed who prey upon the insects.

The superintendent gave me a ~~copy~~ chrysolis on my admiring a moth and remarking that I had raised one like it ~~before~~ last year.

X I have forgotten to say that Sat P.M. we attended Mrs Lincoln's Levee & admired Old Abe for two hours. & when he shook hands with me he said "how do you do, dear?" & that Admiral Farrigut was there the Lion of the day.

Monday evening saw Forrest for the first time. The play was Richelieu a fine play, showing the wonderful

power of intellect. He personated
the character well. In some pass-

ages he reminded me of Charlotte
Cushman. Tuesday Maj. Eaton went
to the Maine Agency to see about
my pass, & was told he must apply
to the War Department. He went
to Miss Dix's but she was absent.

He then went to the War Department
& obtained the pass. He then en-
gaged a carriage & we started for
the boat; but owing to the slothful-
ness & ignorance of the driver, we
did not arrive till just as the boat
was leaving the wharf. I handed
the officer my pass & was just step-
ping on board when he thrust it
back to me, saying it would not
do at all, it lacked the Quarter-
master's stamp. Maj Eaton then
seized it & ran to the Quarter-
master's, but the Quartermaster
was not there. So we were obliged
to see the boat go without me; &

power of intellect. He personated
the character well. In some pass-
ages he reminded me of Charlotte
Cushman. Tuesday Maj. Eaton went
to the Maine Agency to see about
my pass, & was told he must apply
to the War Department. He went
to Miss Dix's but she was absent.
He then went to the War Department
and obtained the pass. He then en-
gaged a carriage & we started for the
boat; but owing to the slothful-
ness & ignorance of the driver we
did not arrive till just as the boat
was leaving the wharf. I handed
the officer my pass and was just step-
ping on board when he thrust it
back to me, saying it would not
do at all, it lacked the Quarter-
master's stamp. Maj. Eaton then
seized it & ran to the Quarter-
master's, but the Quartermaster
was not there. So we were obliged
to see the boat go without me; &

the Maj. ordered my trunks locked up & we returned in the street cars to wait till another day. It was no fault of ~~our~~ ours, yet we felt decidedly guilty, as one always does when too late for the cars or the boat. Wednesday the 18th called upon Miss Dix & she said she would give me a pass if I would undertake a special duty for her .. viz to look especially after the sixth corps & report to her in about two weeks. which I promised. Very soon after dinner ~~we~~ we were on the street cars on our way to the boat, & this time my pass was stamped & I was soon on board the Government Transport Vanderbilt - thanks to the indefatigable energy of my friend Maj. Eaton, who had labored for two days incessantly in my behalf. The boat was crowded with men & but one other lady on board bound to Newbern - herself on a mission of Charity, having been North to

the Maj. ordered my trunks locked up & we returned in the street cars to wait till another day. It was no fault of ours, yet we felt decidedly guilty, as one always does when too late for the cars or the boat. Wednesday the 18th Called upon Miss Dix & she said she would give me a pass if I would undertake a special duty for her .. viz to look especially after the sixth Corps & report to her in about two weeks. Which I promised. Very soon after dinner wer we were on the street cars on our way to the boat, & this time my pass was stamped & I was soon on board the Government Transport Vanderbilt - thanks to the indefatigable energy of my friend Maj. Eaton, who had labored for two days incessantly in my behalf. The boat was crowded with men & but one other lady on board bound to Newbern, herself on a mission of Charity, having been North to

solicit funds for the relief of the
poor whites South; whom she represen-
ted as in a more suffering & degra-
ded condition than the blacks.
We sat outside & looked at the scen-
ery - passed Fairfax Seminary &
Mt Vernon, but the river was cov-
ered with large cakes of floating ice
& the weather was so cold we were
glad to go in by the fire. The next
morning I was alone, my companion
having gone ashore at Fortess
Monroe. I made my way through the
crowd of men to take a look at the
old Fort & as I was making my way
back with great difficulty, winding
in & out among the men a gentle
man stepped forward & asked if he
could do anything to assist me?
I thanked him & said I was only
making my way back again to my
State room. Once there I felt no in-
clination to embark again upon
the sea of tobacco juice which cov-

solicit funds for the relief of the
poor whites South; whom she represen-
ted as in a more suffering & degra-
ded condition than the blacks.
We sat outside & looked at the scen-
ery - passed Fairfax Seminary &
Mt. Vernon, but the river was cov-
ered with large cakes of floating ice
& the weather was so cold we were
glad to go in by the fire. The next
morning I was alone, my companion
having gone ashore at Fortress
Monroe. I made my way through the
crowd of men to take a look at the
old Fort & as I was making my way
back with great difficulty, winding
in and out among the men a gentle
man stepped forward & asked if he
could do anything to assist me!
I thanked him & said I was only
making my way back again to my
State room. Once there I felt no in-
clination to embark again upon
the sea of tobacco juice which cov-

ced the floor of the saloon. This tobacco chewing is a great national misfortune & disgrace - Our public buildings are made filthy by it & even at the President's levee, the officer who stood at the entrance of the Green-room every now & then turned & expectorated on the carpet. Arrived at City Point Thursday the 19th about 4 o'clock P.M. A vast encampment as far as the eye could reach, no houses or trees, but only tents stuck in the mud. I hunted up a negro to find my trunks & ~~send~~ take them on shore. The Quartermaster on the boat sent me to the Quartermaster on shore & he directed his clerk to put me into an ambulance & send me to the Maine Agency. But the driver refused to take me. Said he didn't belong to that division & that it wasn't his business. But the Quartermaster came out & threatened the boy till he got doggedly into

ered the floor of the saloon. This tobacco chewing is a great national misfortune & disgrace - Our public buildings are made filthy by it & even at the President's Levee, the officer who stood at the entrance of the Green-room every now & then turned & expectorated on the carpet. Arrived at City Point Thursday the 19th about 4 o'clock P.M. A vast encampment as far as the eye could reach, no houses or trees, but only tents stuck in the mud. I hunted up a negro to find my trunks & send take them on shore. The Quartermaster on the boat sent me to the Quartermaster on shore & he directed his clerk to put me into an ambulance & send me to the Maine Agency. But the driver refused to take me. Said he didn't belong to that division & that it wasn't his business. But the Quartermaster came out & threatened the boy till he got doggedly into

the vehicle & drove me off muttering
between his teeth. Mrs Mayhew received
me gladly & we harmonized at once.

The Maine Agency is a stockaded
tent with canvas roof & three
rooms papered with newspapers.

The first is the soldiers reading-
room with an open fire or table
with newspapers & writing materials
& long wooden benches - ~~the second~~
& three berths one above another -

the second is our sleeping room parlor
& store closet combined; & is heated
by an airtight stove of unique pattern
& the third is our kitchen & pantry.

Friday the 20th visited the hospitals
with Mrs Mayhew & returned home
to make gruels & other nourishing
things for the sick. Sat - The men
come in for all sorts of stores as us-
ual & many of them complain of being
hungry - they say they do not have enough
to satisfy their appetites, especially the
men in the sixth & second corps.
we do all we can for them - give

the vehicle & drove me off, muttering
between his teeth. Mrs Mayhew received
me gladly & we harmonized at once.
The Maine Agency is a stockaded
tent with canvas roof & three
rooms papered with newspapers.
The first is the soldiers reading-
room with an open fire a table
with newspapers & writing materials &
& long wooden benches - the second
& three berths one above another -
the second is our sleeping room parlor
& store closet combined; & and is heated
by an airtight stove of unique pattern
& the third is our kitchen & pantry.
Friday the 20th visited the hospitals
with Mrs Mayhew - & returned
home to make gruels & other nourishing
things for the sick. Sat - The men
come in for all sorts of stores as us-
ual and many of them complain of being
hungry - they say they do not have enough
to satisfy their appetites, especially the
men in the sixth & second corps.
We do all we can for them - give

one man a cup of tea & a slice of
dry toast - another corn starch, an-
other sago pudding, another crackers
anything we can think of to eke out
their scanty meals. Some of them said
they thought it was hard to be obliged
to take whiskey & cinchona to give them
an appetite, when they ~~do~~ could not get
half food enough to satisfy their hunger.
Sat 21st Still the same calls for stockings
mittens, & flannels for men going to the
front, nice dishes for the sick, & food
for the hungry. Nothing is called for
more than pickles. But our stores are
running low - no crackers - tried to
borrow a bbl or less at the San. &
the Chris. Coms - but they had none.
We have stores in Washington, some
of them have been a month on the
way. Sun went to meeting in the
Chapel - one of the delegates preached
It might be food for babes, but I had
outgrown it. There was no spiritual
nourishment in it for me.

Monday 23^d - men coming all day for
food & clothing, gave them ~~what we~~
could

one man a cup of tea & a slice of
dry toast - another corn starch, an-
other sago pudding, another crackers
anything we can think of to eke out
their scanty meals. Some of them said
they thought it was hard to be obliged
to take whiskey & cinchona to give them
an appetite, when they ~~do~~ could not get
half food enough to satisfy their hunger.
Sat. 21st Still the same calls for stockings
mittens & flannels for men going to the
front, nice dishes for the sick, & food
for the hungry. Nothing is called for
more than pickles. But our stores are
running low - no crackers - tried to
borrow a bbl or less at the San. &
Chris. Coms - but they had none.
We have stores in Washington, some
of them have been a month on the
way. Sun- Went to meeting in the
Chapel - One of the delegates preached
It might be food for babes, but I had
outgrown it. There was no spiritual
nourishment in it for me.
Monday 23rd Men coming all day for
food & clothing. Gave them what we
could

but are out of many things most
needed particularly crackers & flannels
stockings & mittens. We are however
expecting full supplies in a few
days from Washington. Mr Hayes has
gone for them. Evening - Mrs Mayhew
has been telling me about Mrs Sampson
of Bath. A very remarkable woman she
must be as she always carries her
point in spite of red tape. At Fred
she found a young man whose leg
must be amputated. She went to him
& said, "now you go to sleep & not think
anything about your leg & in the morn-
ing I will see that everything is done
for you." He said he should lose his
leg, & he would now wished he could
have Dr Garcelin to perform the ope-
ration." She told him he should, &
immediately called upon the Surgeon
in Charge, & said Dr I have found
a boy in one of the divisions who will
have to lose a leg; he is acquainted
with Dr Garcelin. & told me this

but are out of many things most
needed, particularly crackers & flannels
stockings & mittens. We are, however
expecting full supplies in a few
days from Washington. Mr Hayes has
gone for them. Evening - Mrs Mayhew
has been telling me about Mrs Sampson
of Bath. A very remarkable woman she
must be as she always carries her
point in spite of red tape. At Fred
she found a young man whose leg
must be amputated. She went to him
and said "Now you go to sleep & not think
about your leg & in the morn-
ing I will see that everything is done
for you." "He said he should lose
his leg, & he would now wished he could
have Dr Garcelin to perform the ope-
ration." She told him he should, &
immediately called upon the Surgeon
in Charge, & said Dr I have found
a boy in one of the divisions who will
have to lose a leg; he is acquainted
with Dr Garcelin, & told me this

evening he wished he could have him to perform the operation. Of course it is a mere whim of his, but I came to see you to ask if it can not be gratified?" The Surgeon replied "that she need not trouble herself about the case that he would attend to it himself." Said she "Dr, that poor boy has got to lose his leg, & it seems hard that he cannot have the Surgeon he prefers. If it was your case, you'd think it hard." He asked what the boy's name was, & his regiment, where he was laying? Mrs Sampson replied, "that he could ascertain all those points in the case as she did by asking the boy himself." He then asked "where she was working?" She replied "any where, where she could find anything to do." "Who are you, what is your name?" "That's of no consequence Sir." "Well Madam you need not trouble yourself about that case I'll attend to it myself. What did you say his name is?" "I did not say Sir. Good evening Sir." She rose next morning

evening he wished he could have him to perform the operation. Of course it is a mere whim of his, but I came to see you to ask if it cannot be gratified." The Surgeon replied "that she need not trouble herself about the case that he would attend to it himself." Said she "Dr, that poor boy has got to lose his leg, & it seems hard that he cannot have the Surgeon he prefers. If it was your case, you'd think it hard." "He asked what the boy's name was, & his regiment, where he was laying? Mrs Sampson replied, "that he could ascertain all those points in the case as she did by asking the boy himself." he then asked "where she was working? She replied "any where, where she could find anything to do." "Who are you. What is your name?" "That's of no consequence sir." "Well Madam you need not trouble yourself about that case I'll attend to it myself. What did you say his name is?" "I did not say sir. Good evening Sir." She rose next morning

early, & went to Dr Garcelin & told him that she had a special case for him to attend to; took him to see the boy, & before the Surgeon in charge was stirring the leg was amputated & the stump dressed & made comfortable. Another time there were a number of men that she wanted to send home - but the Surgeon had no power to send them farther than Alexandria. She went with them & when they arrived at Alex. she sent for the Surgeon & told him she wanted an order to take these men to Washington. He said he had no power to send them. But said she see these men are dying, & if you let them go on, they may live to see their friends. He said he knew it was a hard case, but he could not help it; it was against his orders. Now said she Dr you just let me go on with these men - I know

early, & went to Dr Garcelin & told him that she had a special case for him to attend to; took him to see the boy, & before the Surgeon in charge was stirring the leg was amputated & the stump dressed & made comfortable. Another time there were a number of men that she wanted to send home - but the Surgeon had no power to send them farther than Alexandria. She went with them & when they arrived at Alex. she sent for the Surgeon & told him she wanted an order to take these men to Washington. He said he had no power to send them. But said she sir these men are dying, & if you let them go on, they may live to see their friends. He said he knew it was a hard case but he could not help it; it was against his orders. Now said she Dr you just let me go on with these men - I know

the Surgeon Gen. & as soon as I get
to Wash. I will go to him & tell
him that it is all my fault - that
you could not help it; that I brought
the men away in spite of you." She
carried her point. As soon as she
arrived, she went & called upon
the Surgeon Gen. & told him what she
had done. He was astounded at her
audacity, & told her she must never
do such a thing again. At another
time there were three sick men
that she wanted to send off on a
H Transport. They had got two of
them on board the boat, & there was
no stretcher to be found to carry the
other. She looked every where for one
& finally she rushed into the General's
tent seized his stretcher, tipped his
bed from it, made Mr Hayes & the
Surgeon help her get the man on to
it & then carry the man on board.
Tuesday 24th went with Mrs Mayhew
in an ambulance to the Provost

the Surgeon Gen. & as soon as I get
to Wash. I will go to him & tell
him that it is all my fault - that
you could not help it; that I brought
the men away in spite of you." She
carried her point. As soon as she
arrived, she went & called upon
the Surgeon Gen. & told him what she
had done. He was astounded at her
audacity, & told her she must never
do such a thing again. At another
time there were three sick men
that she wanted to send off on a
H Transport. They had got two of
them on board the boat, & there was
no stretcher to be found to carry the
other. She looked every where for one
& finally she rushed into the General's
tent seized his stretcher, tipped his
bed from it, made Mr Hayes & the
surgeon help her get the man on to
it & then carry the man on board.
Tuesday 24th Went with Mrs Mayhew
in an ambulance to the Provost

Marshal's office to have my name registered as Maine Agent which empowers me to remain here & then to Col. Morgan of Gen. Grant's Staff, to get permission to draw my ration; so now I am all right no more red tape to go through with. Negro wedding. Young Lowell called Heavy cannonading all night & also Infantry firing. Rebels tried to run by with gunboats.

Wednesday 25th Busy all day rearranging stores - preparing for the new ones we are expecting from Wash. to-morrow. Mrs Mayhew attending to the wants of the soldiers as usual. Loaded one man off with more than a barrel of stores for the Front.

Friday 27th, A man was hung for desertion not far from us. Desertion to the enemy. He was from one of the Conn. Regs. Sar. Maj. Lawyer spent the day with us. Chaplain

Marshal's office to have my name registered as Maine Agent which empowers me to remain here & then to Col. Morgan of Gen. Grant's staff, to get permission to draw my ration; so now I am all right no more red tape to go through with. Negro wedding. Young Lowell called Heavy cannonading all night & also Infantry firing. Rebels tried to run by with gunboats.

Wednesday 25th Busy all day rearranging stores - preparing for the new ones we are expecting from Wash. to-morrow. Mrs Mayhew attending to the wants of the soldiers as usual. Loaded one man off with more than a barrel of stores for the Front.

Friday 27th A man was hung for desertion not far from us. Desertion to the enemy. He was from one of the Conn. Regs. Sar. Maj. Lawyer spent the day with us. Chaplain

Purington of the 1st Maine Vet. called
gave him some old newspapers to
paper his quarters. Capt Surgeon
Stevens of the 1st Maine Cav. & wife called
& invited us to call over to their quarters
& see them. Lieut. Fox called to tell
us he had rec. a letter from home.
Surgeon Miller called to ask Mrs
Mayhew if she knew where the body
of John L. Spears was buried.

The reading-room has been full all day
the men say it seems so much like
home. Visited one of the wards of the
Sixth Corps to-day - shall try to see
the other to-morrow.

Sat 28th Made mutton broth for a
ward full of men. Mrs Mayhew was
out visiting & ministering to the men
in the different wards nearly all day.
In the evening Lieut. Fox & Lieut. Bagly
came in & found Mrs Mayhew sitting
in the reading-room which was full
of soldiers. Lieut. F was very messy
over us, said he should have us

Purington of the 1st Maine Vet. called
gave him some old newspapers to
paper his quarters. Capt Surgeon
Stevens of the 1st Maine Cav. & wife called
& invited us to call over to their quarters
& see them. Lieut. Fox called to tell
us he had rec. a letter from home.
Surgeon Miller called to ask Mrs
Mayhew if she knew where the body
of John L. Spears was buried.

The reading-room has been full all day
the men say it seems so much like
home. Visited one of the wards of the
Sixth Corps to-day - shall try to see
the other to-morrow.

Sat 28th Made mutton broth for a
ward full of men. Mrs Mayhew was
out visiting & ministering to the men
in the different wards nearly all day.
In the evening Lieut. Fox & Lieut. Bagly
came in & found Mrs Mayhew sitting
in the reading-room which was full
of soldiers. Lieut. F was very messy
over us, said he should have us

Court-marshalled for flirting.

Sunday 29th went to meeting in the morning. An able emotional preacher but a fire & Brimstone sermon.

Monday - went through the Sixth Corps to-day - did not find a great many sick. The dinner was brought in - a slice of bread - cup of tea or coffee & bread pudding. This forms their diet every day at dinner except once or twice a week a piece of cold meat. For breakfast & dinner they have a slice of bread & butter & a cup of tea or coffee.

There is a general complaint of hunger both in the hospitals & in the Regs. Had a beautiful serenade this evening. Voices with a guitar accompaniment. It was very pleasant this mild moon light night. Feb 1st A lovely day.

Many men brought in from the Div Hospitals. Feb 2 very cold, many of the new men were obliged to lay in

court-marshalled for flirting.

Sunday 29th Went to meeting in the morning. An able emotional preacher but a fire & Brimstone sermon.

Monday - Went through the Sixth Corps to-day - did not find a great many sick. The dinner was brought in - a slice of bread - cup of tea or coffee & bread pudding. This forms their diet every day at dinner except once or twice a week a piece of cold meat. For breakfast & dinner they have a slice of bread & butter & a cup of tea or coffee.

There is a general complaint of hunger both in the hospitals & in the Regs. Had a beautiful serenade this evening. Voices with a guitar accompaniment. It was very pleasant this mild moon light night. Feb 1st A lovely day.

Many men brought in from the Div Hospitals. Feb 2 Very cold, many of the new men were obliged to lay in

2nd 9th 12th 14th

tents with out fire on a bunch of straw & some had not even a tent to cover them - they came in this morning almost perished with cold. This seems to me very unnecessary with so many coms on the ground. We should have opened our doors to them had we known it. They asked shelter of the Chris Com. but were refused on the ground of precedent.

Feb 9th A battle has been going on for the last two days. Eleven hundred have been brought in to the 5th Corps. A severe hail storm commenced in the night & has been raging all day, which must increase the sufferings of our men very much. Since the last entry Col Granger Dr Palmer & Lieut. Noble of the 9th Maine called upon us. Col. Granger is ordered to Fort Fisher with 1700 men & is bivouacking at Bermuda Hundreds during this terrible storm waiting for transports.

12th A very cold blustering day. Potomac frozen up 4 weeks & our stores accumulated in Wash. 14th Capt Mayo of the 3^d Maine Battery sent his ambulance for us to go over & see the Battery drill.

2nd 9th 12th 14th

tents with out fire on a bunch of straw & some had not even a tent to cover them - they came in this morning almost perished with cold. This seems to me very unnecessary with so many coms on the ground. We should have opened our doors to them had we known it. They asked shelter of the Chris Com. but were refused on the ground of precedent. Feb 9th A battle has been going on for the last two days. Eleven hundred have been brought in to the 5th Corps. A severe hail storm commenced in the night & has been raging all day, which must increase the sufferings of our men very much. Since the last entry Col Granger Dr Palmer, and Lieut. Noble of the 9th Maine called upon us. Col. Granger is ordered to Fort Fisher with 1700 men & is bivouacking at Bermuda Hundreds during this terrible storm waiting for transports. 12th A very cold blustering day. Potomac frozen up 4 weeks & our stores accumulated in Wash. 14th Capt Mayo of the 3rd Maine Battery sent his ambulance for us to go over & see the Battery drill.

14th 15th

It was very interesting. We dined with the Capt. & Staff, & went into the chapel to see the soldiers learning to dance. They use the chapel for dancing during the week, & for religious services on Sunday. In the evening ~~spent the~~ went over to the Cavalry Corps to the new San. tent. Had a rich musical treat. A quartette of soldiers sang songs - A Swede also a soldier & who had been connected to with an opera played the violin exquisitely, & an other soldier accompanied him on the guitar. ~~Yes~~
15th Capt Mayo of 3^d B. dined with us, Lieut. Stanwood of the 20th Maine spent the day & night with us. On his way home on furlough. Capt Plummer also of the 20th called. Mrs Mayhew's cousin dined with us. Mr M^cFarland - sailing master of the Sabine called. Said they had a gay time in Portland & were sorry to leave. Rained hard all day.

14th 15th

It was very interesting. We dined with the Capt & Staff, & went into the chapel to see the soldiers learning to dance. They use the chapel for dancing during the week, & for religious services on Sunday. In the evening ~~spent the~~ went over to the Cavalry Corps to the new San. tent. Had a rich musical treat. A quartette of soldiers sang songs - A Swede also a soldier & who had been connected to with an opera played the violin exquisitely, & an other soldier accompanied him on the guitar. Yes
15th Capt Mayo of 3rd B. dined with us, Lieut. Stanwood of the 20th Maine spent the day & night with us. On his way home on furlough. Capt Plummer also of the 20th called. Mrs Mayhew's cousin dined with us. Mr M^cFarland - sailing master of the Sabine called. Said they had a gay time in Portland & were sorry to leave. Rained hard all day.

Thursday 16th 17th

A delightful day, but very muddy
I forgot to mention that yesterday Lieut
Lapham ^{of Bethel} & young Lowell of Portland, both
of the 7th Maine Battery lunched with
us & I happened to mention that
there had been an article in the P.
Press on the Maine Agency that I was
very anxious to see, when I unexpect-
edly discovered that he was the author.
He is a very interesting, intelligent man
Mr Snow from Rockland called today
on his way home from the Front. Capt.
Abbot Brigade Commissary called &
Capt Plummer of the 20th Maine also called
17th Mr Coney & Mr Fletcher called
A train filled with Rebel deserters
came in last evening. It is said
there were 500. One of them said
they had fought us well before now
but they had become convinced it
was no use to hold out any longer.

Thursday 16th 17th

A delightful day, but very muddy
I forgot to
mention that yesterday Lieut
of Bethel
Lapham ^ & young Lowell of Portland, both
of the 7th Maine Battery lunched with
us & I happened to mention that
there had been an article in the P.
Press on the Maine Agency that I was
very anxious to see, when I unexpect-
edly discovered that he was the author.
He is a very interesting, intelligent man
Mr Snow from Rockland called to-day
on his way home from the Front. Capt Abbot
Brigade Commissary called & Capt.
Abbot Brigade Commissary called &
Capt Plummer of the 20th Maine also called
17th Mr Coney & Mr Fletcher called
A train filled with Rebel deserters
came in last evening. It is said
there were 500. One of them said
they had fought us well before now
but they had become convinced it
was no use to hold out any longer.

17th

18th

A man named Jordan from Lewiston & acquainted in Lyman. Said he would write to both places to send goods to us. Gave him our address.

Found a Mr Norton from Lee in one of the wards, ^{wounded & taken} who was a prisoner 4 months, & after a short furlough home returned to his regiment. When they were making room for the late wounded he was turned out of his quarters & took cold, which ended in fever. He was then sent here. He is very low now & very sad. He has received no pay for more than a year & his family are suffering - his wound was only a flesh wound & with proper care would have soon healed, but from neglect, the gangrene got into it & it sloughed almost his life away.

18th Chaplain Crawford 31st Maine lunched with us. He is from Readfield - a Methodist & a fine whole souled man. The C. Com. have

17th

18th

A man named Jordan from Lewiston & acquainted in Lyman said he would write to both places to send goods to us. Gave him our address. Found a Mr Norton from Lee in one of the wards, ^ prisoner 4 months, & after a short furlough home returned to his regiment. When they were making room for the late wounded he was turned out of his quarters & took cold which ended in fever. He was then sent here. He is very low now & very sad. he has received no pay for more than a year & his family are suffering - his wound was only a flesh wound & with proper care would have soon healed, but from neglect, the gangrene got into it & it sloughed almost his life away.

18th Chaplain Crawford 31st Maine lunched with us. He is from Readfield - a Methodist & a fine whole souled man. The C. Com. have

18th19th

made a rule that nothing shall be given to a Chaplain till they have sent a delegate to enquire into the wants of the reg. Chap Adams wanted a few boards to make seats in his chapel because the logs were so pitchy, but the Com. would let him have none, although they were roofing & flooring their own chapel with boards. Chap. — told the Com. that he could not degrade his manhood so much as to ask them for any thing for his reg. since they could not trust him to distribute them it.

19th he went out with a little Sago pudding for a sick Maine boy. Had some difficulty in finding his ward stopped at the kitchen to enquire where it was. Miss Duncan a Canadian cooking for the Com diet came to the door. To our question where was Ward B. she said she did not know. She then noticed my dipper of pudding & asked very contemptuously what I

18th19th

made a rule that nothing shall be given to a Chaplain till they have sent a delegate to enquire into the wants of the reg. Chap Adams wants a few boards to make seats in his chapel because the logs were so pitchy, but the C Com. would let him have none, although they were roofing and flooring their own Chapel with boards. Chap. — told the Com. that he could not degrade his manhood so much as to ask them for any thing for his reg. — since they could not trust him to distribute them it.

19th We went out with a little Sago pudding for a sick Maine boy. Had some difficulty in finding his ward stopped at the kitchen to enquire where it was. Miss Duncan a Canadian cooking for the Com diet came to the door. To our question where was Ward B. she said she did not know. She then noticed my dipper of pudding & asked very contemptuously what I

19th

I had there? If it was bread & milk. Mrs Mayhew said no, it was a little Sago pudding that she was going to take to this friend of hers if she could find him. Miss D said, but he's just had his dinner you are not going to give him this now. Mrs Mayhew said perhaps he did not eat his dinner, & might fancy this pudding. Miss D then commenced to fume, said that all the men in that ^{Corps} ~~division~~ could have all they wanted & what they wanted. & she would report to Dr Foxon that the Surgeons neglected their duty in Mrs. Mayhew's opinion & the men did not have proper food. In short she personated a vixen perfectly. From the first she exhibited such a feline nature, that I stood agast afraid of her claws. We found the boy, however & he ate the pudding with relish, & said he wished

19th

I had there? If it was bread & milk. Mrs Mayhew said no, it was a little Sago pudding that she was going to take to this friend of hers if she could find him. Miss D said but he's just had his dinner this now. Mrs Mayhew said perhaps he did not eat his dinner, & might fancy this pudding. Miss D then commenced to fume - said that all

Corps

the men in that ^ division could have all they wanted & what they wanted & she would report to Dr Foxon that the Surgeons neglected their duty in Mrs Mayhew's opinion & the men did not have proper food. In short she personated a vixen perfectly. From the first she exhibited such a feline nature that I stood agast afraid of her claws. We found the boy, however & he ate the pudding with relish, & said he wished

March 22nd
we would come every day. That he
had had nothing he relished so much
he could not eat the toast they sent
him it was burnt. Mrs M. often
has a discussion with the surgeons
as to diet.

March 22. A man came in
yesterday from Conn, who said
it was the first time he had
spoken to a woman for a year.
The tears came into his eyes his
voice trembled, & he was entirely
overcome by his feelings.

A boy from Michigan who was
an orphan & had lost 3 brothers
in the army came in with one
of our Maine boys. He had lost
his voice from the measles, &
was the only one of his family
left. ^{we got him a comfort bag} It seemed a great comfort
to him. He smiled & appeared
as pleased as a child as he exam-
ined its contents. He found a letter
in it from a Yarmouth girl, which

March 22nd

we would come every day. That he
had had nothing he relished so much.
he could not eat the toast they sent
him it was burnt. Mrs M. often
has a discussion with the surgeons
as to diet.

March 22. A man came in
yesterday from Conn, who said
it was the first time he had
spoken to a woman for a year.
The tears came into his eyes his
voice trembled, & he was entirely
overcome by his feelings.

A boy from Michigan who was
an orphan & had lost 3 brothers
in the army came in with one
of our Maine boys. He had lost
his voice from the measles &
was the only one of his family

We got him a comfort bag
left. ^ It seemed a great comfort
to him. He smiled & appeared
as pleased as a child as he exam-
ined its contents. He found a letter
in it from a Yarmouth girl, which

pleased him more than all.

A 3rd Battery boy has just been in & brought a turn of water for us, & offered to do anything we needed. Our soldiers are very kind & gentlemanly.

Maj Baker left for Dutch Gap on the 17th. We received a letter from him yesterday. His address is Maj. William F. Baker 10th US Col Troops.

Goodwin from Augusta 1st Maine Cavalry was a prisoner 7 months - says Dick Turner carried a cane with a minnie ball in the end of it with which he used to knock our prisoners down whenever he found them in his path. In one of the prisons our men were dying at the rate of from 40 to 80 in 24 hours. He heard the Lieut. who had charge of them tell Winters how fast they were dying off & that it

pleased him more than all.

A 3rd Battery boy has just been in & brought a turn of water for us, & offered to do anything we needed. Our soldiers are very kind and gentlemanly.

Maj Baker left for Dutch Gap on the 17th. We received a letter from him yesterday. His address is Maj. William F. Baker 10th US Col Troops.

Goodwin from Augusta 1st Maine Cavalry was a prisoner 7 months - says Dick Turner carried a cane with a minnie ball in the end of it with which he used to knock our prisoners down whenever he found them in his path. In one of the prisons our men were dying at the rate of from 40 to 80 in 24 hours. He heard the Lieut. who had charge of them tell Winters how fast they were dying off & that it

it was too bad. Winders replied
Damn them they don't die half
fast enough. A Vermont man
told us that they had only a small
piece of corn bread 4 inches square
& a small piece of bacon in 24
hours & the bacon was so tainted
they could not eat it.

it was too bad. Winders replied
damn them they don't die half
fast enough. A Vermont man
told us that they had only a small
piece of corn bread 4 inches square
& a small piece of bacon in
24 hours & the bacon was so tainted
they could not eat it.