

Citation: Transcription of the diary of the paymaster of Fremont's Body Guard, September 22-November 29, 1861, Civil War Collection, Missouri History Museum Archives.

The following transcription was compiled by Judy Kaufman and Dennis Northcott in 2008. The transcribers tried to retain the original spelling and punctuation of the diary. In many cases words or groups of words could not be deciphered. The first page of the diary was particularly difficult to transcribe. Text in brackets was supplied by the transcribers. The diary contains 41 unnumbered pages.

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Diary

St. Louis, Mo.

Sep 22/1861. Recd. marching orders [word(s) unclear] packed my [word(s) unclear] we started [word(s) unclear] disappointed at the [word(s) unclear] returned to camp to stay over the night got in readiness to march [word(s) unclear] pleased with [word(s) unclear] head quarters [word(s) unclear] carbine & pistol [word(s) unclear] Recd. canteen & haversack.

Monday Sept 23/61. We are under orders to march at any time. Were told to move at 9 AM at 11 AM 3 PM 5 PM & at 8 ½ PM & retired as usual at camp.

Tuesday Sept 24. Ordered to be ready to march at any time just as the day before, but at no stated time. Had an exercise in sabre drill. The boy[?] began to get uneasy to start the suspense being painful to soldiers. I think the time will come [unclear word] soon enough for marching as we need all our time for drilling. We are kept in readiness to march at short notice.

Wednesday Sept 25. Recd. our ammunition. Our clothes & equipage to remain packed ready for marching. had a sabre drill came back to camp on double quick to avoid the rain [word unclear] camped for the night at [word(s) unclear].

Thursday Sept 26. Recd. orders to saddle[?] & incomplete orders by 11 AM. Recd.[?] a lunch in our haversacks [two lines unclear]

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deem water which[?] the best to slake thirst as it leaves no reaction in the system which all stimulating drink as [word unclear] require only all the more water in the end which is often scarce in marching & inconvenient to carry enough very far. The Maj. Z. ordered the 250 armed & equipped for the expedition to be mounted at 1 o'clock P.M. At this hour we started for the steamboat. Just at the time the Maj. required 25 men to relieve the Head Quarter Guard I happened to be among them. We went to guarding[?], the remainder marched to the steamboat. My horse was led to the boat. Our orders were to follow in two hours accompanying the General & Staff. The boat would not hold us all. The 25 men body Guard Band & Genl. & staff would take the cars in the morning. We continued to guard that night. The weather cold our blankets went with our[?] horses[?]. Maj. ordered others for us.

Friday Sep 27. Was relieved of Guard at 8 o'clock took breakfast at camp but looked[?] deserted got ready to take the cars for Jefferson City went to the depot. Shortly the Genl. & Staff came & took the train. They occupied the rear car. The band & our company the next. A comp of sharp shooters the next & a heavy baggage train made up our suit[?]. The Band gave us refreshing music often. They are all fine musicians. They are the finest Band[?] I ever seen in the west & the finest I've[?] ever heard except Docksworths four[?] of N.Y. City. Their are very [three words unclear] polishing silver. Our train moved very slow being heavily laden [two words unclear] passed pleasantly listening to the strains of

cheering music from band which played at every RR station & observing the [word unclear] of the Officers [word unclear] our cars. They seemed[?] boyish[?] among their fellows. The Genl. & Staff took dinner at Herman a small town on the Missouri River. The Mo is a miserable muddy[?] looking stream. Nothing unusual occurred on the way. This country is wooded uneven & thinly settled. The bridges along the RR are guarded with strong bands of troops. We arrived in Jeff. City at 9. The Genl. unattended saved by his escort train walked about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile to a hotel. The Land Lord an[?] sesesh but stayed within him nevertheless. He [word unclear] very cross about it.

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Our Maj. Z. set about looking up quarters for the remainder of the escort. Found & took possession of a Sesesh tavern as he would not allow us in at first. Our Maj. Z. proceeded to take possession & he to remove his effects that were of value. Maj. Z. not being satisfied looked farther & sooned returned, told us he had [word unclear] quarters for us. Whereupon we left[?] Sesechia & put up [two or three words unclear] the Tennessee House. Have[?] an intrusion upon camp life viz a good supper in a genuine hotel at the Maj. Z. expense. After supper the necessary guards were mounted, two at the Generals & one to guard a prisoner (drunken Lieut.) of Col. Ellis Cavalry. Retired for the night twas cold indeed for the season. We suffered from cold with only one blanket which we brot extra from St. Louis.

Saturday Sep 28. We found ourselves as on the night before at a hotel up at 5 AM prepared for breakfast to which we did ample justice I believe for we began to feel as tho we had begun to live once more. I believe our good bye [word unclear] Land Lord thot so too when we got thro boarding us. We were on guard only during the day. At night got news that the steamboat with our company on board had arrived got in about 7 PM. Stayed on board the boat over night. I took a survey of the city & surroundings. Is not much of a town & no business doing. Save the passing of troops. The country is rough & [word unclear]. The state building is fine, situated upon a high bluff on the bank of the river a beautiful site & commanding a most magnificent view of the river & surrounding country which is very rolling. It abounds with fruit bold wild & cultivated the soil & climate were admirably adapted to them. There are abundance of percimmons native sweet & sour wild grape crab apple wild plum nuts are plenty Hickory & walnuts Butter nut & Black Walnut natural apples in endless varieties are grown delicious peaches grow almost spontaneous grapes too are plenty & fine. The country seemed like an old settled country wherever it is settled at all but never crowded with settlements I notice.

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Sunday Sept 29. The guard duty was assigned alike to each of us & was not hard during the night only $1\frac{1}{2}$ hours to each. After breakfast packed up. Marched to the boat to join our company & get our horses. After a time made out to mine. He looked so rough & dirty I didn't know him at first. Twas all confusion & dirt on & about the boat, which was landed $\frac{1}{2}$ mile below the city among the rocks & hills[?]. There were several other boats lying at the dock loaded artillery & troops looked very warlike. The company marched off to camp. I stopped [word unclear] load some baggage. So did Guffin. I had a hand[?] lift on the money chest with [word unclear] cargo Dutch Sergeant. I think he did not get much the

best of me altho much the largest. Guffin & others walked up to our boys about a mile [word unclear] my horse. We then mounted our horses & rode to our camping ground about a mile south of town in a small field. The Genl. & Staff occupying nearly [or nearby] the center the Genl. being the center tent our men around the outside. Passed our Sunday in pitching tents & arrangements of the camp [word unclear]. Strange to work so on such a day. Our horses had but little or next to nothing to eat for the whole day & we had only a little more (twas our Quarter Master's fault). This is the first time since I'm in the B Guard that I've not had enough & to spare. The General seems to have no [word unclear] or airs[?] or to have lain it all aside while in camp. Seems cool & not the least ecited nor easily to be excited. Passes around camp without airs or any pompous show yet with dignity & grace. Tents out like a common soldier. He leaves the impression that he is a fine officer & gentleman. I was put on guard at 12 A.M. to be on till to morrow 12. The weather is fine. Nothing unusual occurred.

Monday Sept 30. More than the ordinary rotine [routine] of camp life. There was a good deal of grumbling about breakfast time there being a scarcity of beef. Our orderly[?] was[?] reported[?] by Corporal Underwood [words unclear] but[?] he[?] was[?] not[?] to[?] blame[?].

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Tuesday Oct 1st. Had a general resetting of tents & our camp became a fixed fact for a few days. Bugles sounded assembly we saddled & mounted then marched to the RR Depot on the levee found Mrs. Fremont and daughter on the train. The Genl. too was around very naturally. Escorted them back to camp. Lieut. Westerborg gave his horse to the Maj. Z. & he took mine that I had to walk back to camp. Mrs. F. is an intelligent & interesting looking lady marked by easy & graceful manners. Her daughter is good looking, rather young, quiet & lady like. I saw two trains of army equipage of Artillery & Cavalry leaving for the West. 5000 troops are reported to have arrived in the city by river. Their destination thot to be to reinforce Sigel. Brig. Genl. McKinstry came to camp had a private interview with Maj. Genl. Fremont. Think I can see indications of hurrying up the war. The Officers & Staff are all activity another indication some important movement soon. Weather fine.

Wednesday Oct 2/61. Had nothing to do but camp duties such as taking care of my horse & myself. Sleeping most of the time.

Thursday Oct 3/61. Was on guard at the telegraph office & one relief at Mrs. Fremont tent of 2[?] hours. Visited with Mrs. Fremont's servant girl all the two hours. Brig. Genl. Price T.L. was in camp seemed kindly welcomed by Genl. Fremont. Genl. P. is a very fine looking officer the next to McKinstry in commanding appearance. Had a private counsel with the Genl. F. Mrs. Fremont & daughter are around camp[?] in a dignified easy yet graceful manner. They seem interesting & invite plenty of company but all from among the staff or officers. There is a report for us[?] to[?] move[?] on[?] Saturday to move on horseback.

Friday Oct 4. For diversion we were marched for infantry drill the boys & officers too wanted their Lager Beer marched to several Breweries & Beer shops but could get none got a drink of water & came home thru the rain in double quick. The beer is worthless[?] to[?]

drink[?]

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but went with them. got wet with them too just not to appear over[?] nice to them. but to drink with them I shall not do it at all for any[?] one[?]. We are still calculating to leave to morrow but there is nothing certain about it.

To our great astonishment Mrs. Guffin came to our camp & found Charley at our tent. From her own story her departure & journey from St. Louis is simply an adventure. Says she is bound to go with Charley to the war. her mind is made up. She cant stay alone any longer. It seems strange yet good to see a friend here in this lonely muddy camp. I feel lothsomely[?] ignorant. I cant get a daily under any consideration whatever & have no means of knowing what is going on around[?]. Genl. McKinstry & Col. Ellis accompanied Mrs. Guffin from St. Louis to Jeff. City. Guffin was at the time on guard. I took his guard duty & he went with his wife to town on pass.

Saturday Oct 5/61. Was on Guard till 8 AM for Guffin. rained very hard last night & is very muddy in the morning. Still raining & prevented us from breaking up camp. T was raining some all day & extremely muddy. Guffin has the promise for his wife to go with him on the march. She truly[?] seems pleased with the prospect.

Sunday Oct 6/61. It has ceased raining & the weather was fine. [word unclear] called up early expected to march. After a while the order came that we would not march until to morrow. The guard was taken off during the day but kept on during the night. At 4 P.M. we met for preaching. I sang in the choir. Were called out for review. did well. The companies looked fine. The army chaplain preached a very appropriate sermon. The Genl. Family & Staff attended the preaching. The Band played suitable music.

Monday Oct 7/61. Was called out at 4 in the morn. had trouble to find my horse in the dark had been tied away from his stake[?]. Got ready to march. Started at 11 A.M. for the West. First company

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in the advance the General & staff next & then 2nd company after us the 3 company. Mrs. G. rode in baggage waggon. Charley on rear guard. Two of the Body Guard were compeled to walk as punishment for disobeying of orders. The baggage train came after. We halted about 4 miles out & rested in the shade the apples of the adjoining orchard was bountifully appropriated by the boys. A company sharp shooters go with us. The country is very rough & hilly but fertile. Crops fine. Corn good. Apples plenty & fine of endless varieties. Saw my first group of slaves there were 10 of them big & little. I see some comfortable looking homes but secession is the ruination of any thing pleasant. There is any amount of difficulties to move a large army & must take a great while to do it. Pitched our tents at 2 oclock about 10 miles out in a romantic looking place: a field at the foot of a circle of large hills. A beautiful stream running near our train came in all safe. A regiment of infantry encamped with us the (2 Iowa). We got a lunch as soon as in camp of coffee & [word unclear] at 8 PM a good supper, all of which is due to the thotfulness of our orderly sergeant B.G. Zufall. He is a fine officer in any position takes the very best care of his men

& is a thoroughly drilled officer in all the army regulations is well versed on [word unclear] tactics & experience on the battlefield. Roads not very good.

Tuesday Oct 8/61. Was called up early. Had a cold sleep. We pitched no tents. Slept out on the ground. Began to march at 8 A.M. Started without delay. The Genl. leading the way. The weather was fine but the roads bad both from mud & hills. We marched all day thru wooded country, but came out into prairie just at night & it looked fine. The contrast was fine when just[?] emerging from the woods as the prairie was very fine. We went into camp shortly after coming into the prairie. We occupied the fair

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ground near the town of California a small country town now dead but in ordinary times did a good business. There were 2000 or 3000 troops encamped about town. The train came up about 2 hours after us without accident. We didnt pitch our tents. I was on guard. The country is desolate neither men nor horses or cattle to be seen along the road. Mrs. Guffin stands the jaunt well. Night cold. Saw a Union house burned. The sesech was caught awaits the court martial. Traveled 18 [or 8] miles.

Wednesday Oct 9. We were on the march early in the morning. It seems as tho troops were moving rapidly westward. The country is fine & fertile. Roads are good. Encamped at the town of Tipton 12 miles from California. great many troops encamped at Tipton[?] both of cavalry & infantry. report says 5000. Sigel is[?] reported to have a battle with Price & routed them completely. A great many troops are leaving here every day for some place west of here but we cant tell where. Every thing of army movements are strictly kept from us whether this be right to the soldier told us I've yet to learn. We can see 3000 to 6000 troops daily going west. Some on foot but mostly by R Road. We are expecting to remain here several days. Nearly every man of the B. Guard is in good health & but little [word unclear] sickness any where.

Thursday Oct 10/61. Began to rain last night in the night rained hard both the night & most all day. We had the wetttest[?] camp day I've yet seen. Our horses suffered most severely from wet & cold. The whole camp was one great mud hole. Making every thing unpleasant & unhealthy. We went out with the Genl. F. & Staff to Tipton. He went out to disperse a Regiment which was rising to mob their colonel (Brown) for shooting of their No.[?] for disobeying an order. A battery of cannon was run[?] out & got Ready to fire upon them if necessary should they refuse to disperse but there was no difficulty. That battery went off westward at night[?].

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Friday Oct 11/61. It has ceased raining & in place of dripping clouds, a genial warm sunshine had dried up the slimy muddy soil very much. We hear that 3000 troops left last night & I saw as many more that left to day with their full compliment of artillery. Destination that be to join Sigels army. There is a report about camp that Genl. McClellan had driven the rebels from Bull Run their loss 30000 ours [number unclear].

Saturday Oct 12/61. Laid in camp. Took horse to the shop to be shod had two loose shoes but couldnt get them reset. Went for my sabre & ground it in the morning. After noon the

B. Guard saddled up to go with the Genl. (F. & staff) to Tipton to [word unclear] the Sect of War (Cameron) to camp. The 2d company were the first in the saddle & first in line. but the Sect. was not on the train & we didnt go. Wrote a letter for Bugler Robins & went to bed.

Sunday Oct 13/61. Was up at 5 A.M. After breakfast recd.[received] orders to saddle up with all haste. Our company was in the Saddle & line[?] first & was the only company that accompanied the Genl. to the depot. The other compannies joined us there. Sect. Cameron had come in the night & was at Head quarters where we joined him. he procured a horse from one of our men. The Sect. C. & Genl. F. led the way. Off we started a rapid pace westward. After a ride of 6 or 8 miles came to the town of Syracuse. We had a review of 5000 or 6000 out a little way from town on the prairie. He reviewed 20 pieces of cannon & a regiment of cavalry. Twas a fine display. The weather was fine. One of our men was accidentally shot by the falling of his comrade pistol on the ground was shot in the leg above the ankle but not dangerously. Another of our men was shot in a similar way before leaving the camp. My[?] gave signs of remarkable speed. Sect. Cameron & suit[?] Genl. staff returned to Tipton by R Road. Their horses were led back by the body Guard. My horse lost two shoes put[?] on[?] [two words unclear].

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Monday Oct 14/61. Broke up camp early but it took a long while to get moving. Near 10 oclock I was not very well suffering from a dihorhea[?]. I rode behind the train & led a sick man's horse. The easiest place to march could take my own time & gait. Filled haversack with apples & nuts &c. could get plenty. There seemed to be a general movement of troops. We think that was the Sect. (C.) business out here to see how matters are here & report the same at Washington. He must be satisfied with Genl. F. modus operandi therefore this general movement of troops viz 10000 or 12000 in our train. From 1200 to 1500 cavalry one or two batteries of cannon also full compliment of baggage. Traveled about 10 miles encamped on beautiful dry prairie. Camp called Camp Zagonyi. I was appointed mounted orderly at Col. Eaton's quarters. The weather very fine.

Tuesday Oct 15/61. We were up & ready in the morning but was late before the troops began to move. The Genl. was the last to start. We marched 20 miles thru a very fine country but every where sadly deserted by the middle [word unclear] men. Our army drove off a great many cattle & sheep of the sesech. Several teams of horses & waggons were taken. The Army made sad havoc among the farmers of their apples, poultry, pigs & sheep. The soldiers took even preserves from the cellar. The plundering was carried to that extent that Genl. Fremont issued the order prohibiting the soldiers from taking anything of any description whatever under penalty of the severest punishment. We got in camp about 5 P.M. Had good roads felt tired enough & rested wherever I could. It began to rain just night. Took a late mutton supper had no salt.

Wednesday Oct 16/61. Was arroused in the morning at 4 A.M. Was already to march early but could not move till 9. Waited a long while for the General. It seemed to me without any cause. My horse's back began to get sore. I was able to get another horse (Bugler Craig S) to ride & led mine behind the train a fine relief for mine & much

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easier for me since I was not well myself. Could walk my horses steadily all the way & was not compelled suffer the jolting of the cavalry march viz [word unclear] trotting & suddenly halting & all that, which makes it hard both for the horse & rider & especially when sick. We got in camp about 5 P.M. which is about two miles North of Warsaw on the Osage River. Our train of baggage came in after dark. I went with Quarter master after hay & oats got a fine drink of milk & fresh bread to fit[?] from the good lady of the house. The family are Union people. Forage & hay are plenty. There was a large lot of contraband stock driven along all the beef cattle they could get. They got several waggons & horses enough to draw them & took several Sesesh prisoner. Sigel passed here yesterday with 5000 men is now crossing the Osage. There is only a little flat-boat & it takes a great while to cross the river being too high to ford now. The enemy are reported to be within 30 miles & Sigel in pursuit. They are said to be 25000 strong. Another report is Price is up the river about 13 miles but can't believe either report. The road were very soft in places & made heavy traveling for teams.

Thursday Oct 17/61. We moved our[on?] to the city (Warsaw) 2 miles off on the bank of the river. One of the prisoners of yesterday proved himself clearly a Union man & was liberated & a more joyful man I seldom have ever seen. A lot of contraband stationary came into camp this morning that was siezed yesterday. 2 waggon loads of it. We expect to wait here in camp several days for our provision train & the remainder of our army to come up. In the mean time the river is to be bridged. Got in camp about 11 or 12 A.M. Genl. F. & Adj. took a survey of the country. The Adj. crossed the river with a company of cavalry. One is reported drowned. Sigel pushed his artillery out 9 miles towards the enemy. The ferry boat is filled to

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its utmost constantly. The day is bleak & rainy. Seized grocery store & contents of whiskey & salt & placed[?] a guard around town.

Friday Oct 18/61. The weather seemed settled. Fremont & Capt. Haskel[?] were out superintending the building of the bridge in person. Were out nerely all day. A detachment of 75 men went out with Maj. Z. on a scout & a company of 70 or 80 went to help on the bridge. A large No of troops continue to arrive daily, some cross the river & the other encamp about town. The army are in entire possession of the town both provisions & goods. We need them as we are getting short of Bread are entirely out of sugar & coffee are on allowance[?] of[?] salt. We have plenty of meat & that thats very fine. Our orderly sergeant B.G. Zufall was reduced to the ranks for not calling the roll a most petty & trifling offence but in reality was reported drunk which was all false, a barefaced lie from[?] Private Marsh. Our Maj. Z. had annother hearing of our orderlys case & regretted the step he took in the morning, was sorry for it & reinstated him to the same office. We had an article drawn up & signed by most of our company to have him back.

Saturday Oct 19/61. The scouting party of yesterday returned to day at noon. They failed to find the sesesh reported in the neighborhood. The company of sappers & miners went again to day to assist on the bridge. They report the woods full of nuts pecans, Paw paw &c. The hickory nuts are of the largest size & [?] acorns the largest I ever seen. The Provost

Marshal siezed \$27000 all in 20 dollar gold pieces buried in the ground. Large numbers of troops arrived about 4 or 5000 a part crossed the river. We are waiting for our provision waggons come up when we shall march on again. It is due to morrow. Think we shall leave here Monday.

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Sunday Oct 20/61. Had nothing to do but to take care of my horse & myself. Rewrote my diary visited with Mrs. Guffin. Provost Marshal siezed \$28000 all 20 dollar gold pieces & 200 kegs of whiskey secreted under a hay[?] [word unclear]. We were out on review & inspections of arms did well. A colonel from our army nearest Price came to inform Fremont that the rebels were making a stand about 60 miles. Says they are fortifying & strengthening themselves for a battle. Says they are 25000 strong. Our forces are concentrating to meet them.

Monday Oct 21/61. We were expecting to march but we learn that we will stay here yet a day or two. Maj. Z. took a small party with him & went out scouting, brot back 2 large loads of goods boxes of boot[?] shoes a quantity of ready made clothes prints & flannels[?] &c. The pants were given out to the men the remainder to be disposed of to morrow. The boys got out to visit the town & take plenty of goods & trinkets. A company went[?] to the bridge again. About 1/3 of the companies are getting corn & hay for the horses. I just cared for my horse & then rewrote my diary.

Tuesday Oct 22/61. I did only rewrite this all the time I could find the day was cold & uncomfortable. More goods were found & brot to camp a part distributed to the men viz shoes, a few shirts & drawers, towels & articles of dry goods. Mrs. Guffin got some fine presents from the Maj. Z. Heard of new way to punish a soldier cover him with a blanket & whip him[?] & he dont know who did it. A party crossed the river on a forward guard for Fremont to morrow. We are to go at 6 ½ A.M. bag & baggage leave here.

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Wednesday Oct 23/61. We were aroused by 4 A.M. got breakfast took care of my horse & struck our tents before sunrise. Began at 7 oclock to move. The first companny & a small part of the 2d crossed the river on the flat boat. The rest of the B. Guard forded it. One of the men played smart & would not follow the guide & horse & rider got in deep water would have drowned but from the fortune of a stump nearby. His horse swam out. He was rescued after by boat. The morning was cold & [word unclear] & the fellow suffered from getting wet. Gave him my over coat. We marched S. by West, the country hilly but the roads are hard. Little or no settlements, light timber. The roads are filled with troops. Passed an unusually large train of army stores & baggage & several miles long, large waggons drawn by from 4 to 6 yoke of oxen teams that would draw loads any where. They were hired teams for Sigels brigade [two words unclear] of oxen to move army baggage strikes me very favorably[?]. They can be used for draught & food & they will travel nearly as far as loaded mule or horse teams. The sight of such a huge train for only one division of 1000[?] (men)[?] of the army satisfies me of the vastness of preparations necessary for moving a large army. Had a pleasant day for marching, went in camp at 3 oclock, was tired riding. Marched 10 or 12 miles, was detailed as mounted orderly with 3 others reported at Genl. Fremont. Capt. Cole took us out after cattle of a Sesesh. Took a scout & a guide with

him, went about 2 miles over prairie & rocks & hills. [word unclear] went a little ahead & alone called the farmer out then we rode up. The man was trembling & pale from fear. routed[?] the boy [two words unclear] bring[?] up the cattle. We could find only about 2 of them [word unclear] them. Left the scout there to guard them & capt.[?] would come in the morn[?] for the whole lot. We returned to H. Quarters. Then we[?] heard the sesesh [two words unclear] revolvers & rifle & had said that he would shoot any man that any thing from him. We resolved [word unclear] to go back & stay with the scout. Capt. Cole took us back took supper with him

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warm corn-bread & molasses fresh milk disappeared very fast & tended very much to satisfy the hungry soldier. Guarded till 12 P.M. then took fine sleep in a feather bed a luxury. The night was cold & frosty. Had a long talk about the war. Our host is sadly ignorant of the cause of it but believe he has modified his views about the Union man[?] & that all are not abolitionists.

Thursday Oct 24/61. Took a good long sleep had no bugle to disturb accordingly I took my own time & felt somewhat free once more. The morn found us all right. Took breakfast & then the cattle (9) & started for camp. The sesesh went along for his money & when we got to where camp was they had gone on. I drove the cattle after took 10 more drove them all to our camp [word unclear] 6[?] more with me. Got some apples along the road that much is better than marching in the ranks. Capt. Cole is a fine man & sharp not fooled[?] easily[?]. Passed thro Quincy about noon sadly deserted desolation every where. Went into camp about 3 P.M. overtook Brig. Genl. Sigel & Brigade. Recd.[Received] orders to be in readiness to start at 9 P.M. took supper & 2 days rations at the hour began to march. 6 men from our company left behind to act as guard & do duty for the Genl. (F.). Guffin was not was left his wife was unwell too. Bid them good bye. We expected to have a fight before we met again if ever. We passed thru Genl. Sigels camp. Shortly after learned I had lost my saddle blanket in the dark. felt sorry enough but must have another so took my bed blanket. had to lead a horse kept behind. We traveled on & on over prairie & thro wooded vale[?]. Passed thro the town of Bolivar in the dead of night. B is rather a nice town expecially if seen at night but couldnt see very much. Halted to water our horses. Then traveled on & on till morn. had a hard nights work slept on my horse. Halted at a farm house two or 3 hours & fed our horses twas done in a hurry & turned in for sleep.

Friday Oct 25/61. The noise of the boys woke me from sleep. Saddled my lead horse & led mine his back was getting sore. began to march about

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sunrise. Maj. White's cavalry 125 came up & started off with us in our rear. We passed their camp last night. They sounded boots & saddles as we passed[?] & so moved off this morn with us. At noon twere[?] reported we would take about 300 Sesesh but after noon & a halt we were notified that there were 1500 Sesesh in Springfield & we should try to take them. Such an idea seems to me to be the extreme of folly, of needless & uncalled for sacrifice of precious life & I can see no cause for such a battle. We[?] (300[?]) against 1500. It is only to slake the insatiable thirst for glory of our Maj. Zagonyi. The least evidence of good generalship or sound mind. life is the dearest trust given to man either for

himself or for his friend & no man not even a military chieftain has any right to use another's life for his own emolument in any way. The order came & we started for the enemy 10 miles away. Made frequent halts to dispatch messengers to get information of the enemy if possible on the road the advance guard saw a party of Sesesh (12 in No) passing[?] wheat[?] from a [two or three words unclear] & started in pursuit all were armed. They (Sesesh) fired then our boys wounded sesesh in the hand[?] with a ball. Then charged upon [two words unclear] twice with sabre in the back not very bad took another without wound. Their horses were fresh & jaded ones could not overtake them very easily. There were 5 of them taken during the day before we reached Springfield as we approached the town we made halts often & allowed our waggons & train to come up. I led a horse & was detailed to guard the waggons. We came[?] to town from the west about $\frac{3}{4}$ of a mile from town. The body guard 170[?] in advance & the Huzzahs (an Irish brigade 125 men) after started at a brisk trot & shortly a gallop, then a charge thro the enemy[?] that was as far as I could see them but could hear the rapid shooting & instantly the wounded began to come back to the rear some[?] hatless covered with sweat, dust & blood, proof of hot work. Our waggons were halted. Soon a portion of the rear company of the Huzzah came charging back in full retreat our waggons were faced about as quick as possible, began to move back. The

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men were halted found that it was no retreat but they could not be got back at all. I gave up my guard & started to go to the relief of our men with a few the Irish Brigade that would return, but none could be made to go. I did what I could to furnish horses to the boys without horses to relieve the wounded—& get our train to moving on the retreat. All that I could hear from those coming from the battle was that it was a murderous fight & none of our boys could be found. The enemy were routed but nearly all of our boys to do it. So it was decided so to take our wagons[?] & retreat & none to soon as twas nearly dark & we had a long crooked road & hilly & thro woods. We had to make all we could before dark without officer to command our expedition. It was conducted without delay or confusion any more than our jaded teams made whether it was conducted properly according to the articles of war or not. We pushed as speedily as possibly & with sorrowful hearts for could not learn of any one but those (25 men of the train being saved. We believed that many if not all of our officers & boys had either been killed, wounded or taken prisoner, that our little company was all that was left of our selected body-guard. We felt confident that all had fought bravely & desperately, but the odds against us was vastly to large to ever hope of success, thus with sad hearts we marched our long retreat – 28 miles back to where we halted to feed & rest our horses in the morning which we decided[?] to make before encamping. It took us nearly all night our horses march to & from Springfield & thro the desperate fought battle without any food or rest. We learned on the road that the Maj. Z with 75 men & few officers had gone 1½ hour in advance of us good news but we couldnt the names of many could not hear whether our Orderly Zufall was lost or not. I was all anxious for his welfare marched till near morn when we reached our camp ground both sad & very tired. fed my horses & retired.

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Saturday Oct 26/61. Slept very late. Sun was high. fed my horse & looked for the boys left from the terribly bloody battle of yesterday. first I saw Bugler Robins. The next[?] one[?]

in[?] I saw coming rapidly to me to my inexpressible delight was our Orderly Sergeant B.G. Zufall all safe & sound. he had passed thru a fearful danger, had shot 5 men & killed one with the sabre had 2 horses shot under him yet thro a perfect shower of ball escaped unharmed. Saw many & many a glad face[?] our boy especially of our company talked the battle all over every[?] man[?] had his adventures to relate they are all heroes. They were 3 times rallied & charged most furiously upon the enemy & with the most terrible effect succeeded in completely routing them but they [word unclear] that such fearful numbers against them they would surround them & so retreated. They were so few & becoming detached in small companies could not find each other any more & gave up the fight. The news came into camp that we had not only routed the sesesh at Springfield but they were conquered & had evacuated the place. [word unclear] did not know[?] it & not even expected so grand a result of our days labor. A small No of our men had become isolated from the rest & stayed in Springfield & of necessity had possession of the town. The enemy all having left in great haste. A secd.[second?] [few words unclear] Norton came in with the news bearing the Sesesh flag. The roll call of our comp. showed that out of 65 men that left yesterday 34 only answered to their names. We heard during the day from those returning that many more were safe but none could tell how many—all were sad to think that our ranks were so severely thinned. There was a strange mingling of victorious joy & heart numbing[?] grief through our camp all day for many a friend was absent[?] but still getting better at each arrival. Still I feared the result as all our men were compeled to pass thro a most murderous fire from both sides of the road in their first charge & that more[?] must have been killed. When the news came

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the rebels had retreated we[?] recd.[?] orders that we should return the same[?] tonight all seemed ready to go. At night we saddled up & started at 8 P.M. for Springfield again. Marched all night led my horse rode a contraband. There is great quantities of sesesh property taken every day viz[?] of horses & waggons & c. The day was fine we did nothing only lay around.

Sunday Oct 27. Were on the road all the night & morning halted & hayed my horses. Arrived in Springfield at day light just out side of town halted to reconnoitre found the way all clear. Marched in town with music had the satisfaction to see many cheerful countenances because of our arrival. The sharp shooters came in company with us to town. The number of our Body Guard of all the companies together is lamentably[?] small & I couldn't[?] forget the appearance when drawn up in line before me for once we had a respectable crowd, but now all the companies together do not seem as large as our own (2d) comp. used to be. Sigel is in town with his brigade 8000 men Col. Carr & 1200 cavalry. Genl. Fremont & staff came up with us to day. Went into camp in the town. A good Union man took 12 of us with him to breakfast with him as an expression of his gratitude for the victory we had gained to[?] him. We were hungary & his breakfast good. The effect upon us pleasant & I hope profitable. We found a company of the body Guard in possion[possession?] of town having staid accidently in town & very fortunately too as the facts turned out to prevent the stragling sesesh from annoying peacible inhabitants. We found the wounded in the hospital. saw 14[?] of our men lying dead. 6 from the A. 4 of B & 4 of C companies a sad sight to me. There are 34 wounded here in the hospital & a few

still missing. Some of our very best men are gone but every man is himself a hero in a just battle they can fight their way against any odds but should be spared useless[?] exposure.

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against such fearful odds as we fast fought against. The enemy have left town & vicinity bag & baggage our officers for some cause don't[?] care sufficient for our horses for we march them all night & then stood around in town till most noon with their saddles on & nothing to eat & all apparently without any cause. When near town when we were formed in line of battle. Took the saddle from the little gray that I rode to ease my horse's back & saddled mine as I was more certain of his speed & bottom & the other had neither. We stayed in school house a good place there is any quantity of goods & property continually being siezed in all directions both in town & out of it. Springfield is a fine place now & in [word unclear] any time it must be beautiful when unmolested it is a Union town filled with the finest of people—fully capable of staying in the Union [word unclear] if the straying sesesh will not meddle. It has a very fine location prairie on one side & timber on the other.

Monday Oct 28/61. Yesterday evening two of the wounded of our comp died of their wounds. The dead were buried to day & they with them a total of 17 men & they were good men. I did not get back in time. Fremont attended the funeral & said to be deeply affected by it. Some say when he visited the wounded & dead in the hospital he wept. The Genl. F. Maj. & Zufal & others of the staff visited the battlefield. This morn to my agreeable surprise I found friend Guffin & wife again in camp. He not very well. I have fears that he will see severe sickness[?]. Troops continue arrive & encamp in this town captured goods & stores continue to come in very plenty. I did nothing but lay around took care of myself clothes & horses. Went with the team to the [word unclear] to get a load of hay got most to the stack & the guard wouldnt let us pass without a pass. A shame had to come back & get one made it late before I got home dark.

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Tuesday Oct 29/61. This was a cold morn my over coat is now an indispensable & I think gloves ought to be considered so too by our officers I made out the official report of the battle for Comp B. viz 4 killed. 8 wounded 2 Mortally. 4 missing. 40 horses killed wounded & missing. The most remarkable incident of the day the arrival of such large no. of troops cavalry infantry & artillery—also of 500 mounted Union Indians. All the army encamped in & around town—it look like an ocean of encampments of tents. Ill 13 Regmt. is here. Saw Charley Stiles is hearty & strong visited Guffin & me in camp. A party of 15 went out 10 miles towards the enemy to sieze goods & have not returned yet. 10 PM I wrote two letters to ladies other viz a wife of one & sweetheart of the other. Had an inspection of horses this morn by Maj. Z. to know our loss. The day was very windy & the dust blew so that we cant see. The ground is very dusty & dry. Guffin is no better. Our Maj Z. was coming home his ran close along the fence & a stake striped him of his Maj.—strap very quick.

Wednesday Oct 30. Wrote for Zufall most of the time making out an alphabetical Roll for the company. Went with Mrs. Guffin to visit the 13th Illinois Reg. the Morrison Company. Saw Charley Stiles Jackson's & the Coles—look hearty & strong. Weather cool.

Thursday Oct 31/61. Took Guffins horse to take care of—rode him the apple [word unclear] hard found plenty. Made out another official list of our fight. Was to keep in readiness to march at any time. There is a rumor we shall retreat strategem. The enemy are within 20 miles.

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There is said to be 40,000 rebels & advancing upon us Sigel's picket came in contact with Price's picket.

Nov 1st/861 Friday. Got up as usual & stayed in camp as usual. There is no enemy that we can hear of to molest us. There is report that we shall stay here several days yet. Report says Genl. Lane of Kansas came in town with his brigade with 7000[?] men. Sturges is said to be here. The Indians scouts went out & captured the enemys picket guard. I wrote for Zufall. Guffin is still sick & will be very sick. I think the day was cold kept in readiness to march any time. Maj Z. showed off some his smallness. Reduced Sergt. Todd for taking a penknife out of his pocket while before him & he is always cross[?].

Saturday Nov 2/61. Struck our tents & stood around all day. Saddled up our horses & stood around awhile & then we[?] saddled them. A party went out with the General F. but I didnt go to let my horse have the benefit of it. Guffin was out to the 13th Illinois Reg when the orders came to move. I put up his things packed his tent & [word unclear] for him by a boy. There is a rumor that Fremont is superceeded[?] by Genl. Hunter also that 50 officers of rank had resigned & the press for resignations is still great. We are ready to move upon the shortest notice waggons are all packed saddles all packed & handy. We think we are bound for St. Louis think the army will be disorganized by Genl. F. for[?] removal[?]. The boys had a very dusty time when out last evening. The wells of Springfield are getting low. We are looking for the most direful consequences to the army because of Fremonts being superceded. Maj Z. refused to accept a flag from the ladies of Springfield because[?] Maj White whose[?] men[?] left us on the battle field ~~got one at the same time in that battle.~~

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was to have one presented to him also at the same time thus in order to spite Maj White we were deprived of flag but the ladies were honest in their token of thanks for our driving the rebels out of their city. But our Maj Z. is singularly nice in small things. There is a strange state of feeling in the Body Guard to night because of the rumored removal of Fremont of peculiar regret when he (F) had made all the preparations for a decisive battle & the enemy too were marching to meet & within 2 days march of us, is just as he was about to take the glory just then to have it taken from him by his own allies & not the rebels to[?] him belongs the honors we think. But there's another feeling of rejoicing among the men deep seated & well founded that of soon becoming released from the command of our craved[?], inconsistent, inexcusably reckless Maj Zagonyi who has lost all respect of his men because of his littleness, viz of making every thing tend to pamper his unsatiable thirst for glory. For we feel that he is absolutely regardless of any sacrifice of life to gain glory & more that he strives to find positions of danger to plunge his men into for the sake of the honors. But we feel as tho we were called to preserve our country & fight to death for it & not to fight for the sake of the glories of war. Maj Z. never speaks a pleasant word to his men or any

one else but always haughty & overbearing & is no general or gentleman.

Sunday Nov 3. Springfield—We were in readiness to move at 2 A.M. Slept with one eye open expecting to be called up at any time. At 2 we were told to go at 4 A.M. Fed my horse went to bed again slept on the ground without tent or roof. The bugle called us up at 4 fed my horse, but there were no more signs[?] of moving. Waited till morn. Saddled our horses found mine was lame took another & led mine. Waited noon & then till 3 P.M. with the saddles

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still on our horses. Then came the rumor that Fremont will stay here until after the battle because of the insubordination that would rise[?] among the men & officers if he were to leave just now—further that he is not to be superceded but that Genl Hunter will take this division of the Western army & he return to St. Louis on other important business but is still the commander in Chief of the whole western army, which is more in keeping with my views upon his removal or being superceded for there is no other man that of the people of the great west are or can be so united upon as on Genl Fremont. While writing the news comes that the officers have had a meeting & conclude that if Genl. Hunter does not come to night Genl Fremont will lead the forces on to battle to morrow which meets the approval of all in hearing of the announcement judging from their cheering—for to him (Fremont) belongs the honors. Went to sleep in the open air again.

Monday Nov 4. Springfield. left at about 900. The arrangements of last last night was perfected by the arrival of Genl Hunter (with about 4000 troops). So Fremont had nothing more to do but to leave for St. Louis & without any delay or ceremony we saddled & began our march: all are both sad & indignant. Sad because an honest & brave man was deprived from reaping glory of efforts of his own sowing & indignant because men in authority some where have thro jealousy caused a united army for him[?] to be led to battle by one not working[?] under the circumstances. We met two regiments of troops & 100 provision waggons for Sigel on the road. We camped about 24 miles out from Sprn. Our route was back the same road we came. To[?] get[?] back to Tipton to the R Road.

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I rode Bugler Robins horse. He was sick. Led my horse & rode behind the train. Fremont takes back with him 2 companies of sharpshooters & 50 Indians & the Body Guard & staff. Was very dusty.

Tuesday Nov 5. 1st camp out Springfield 22 miles. Broke up very early & started at sunrise was on the advance guard like it pretty well. Rode in company with orderly Zufall. had a pleasant time and plenty of free[?] talk about his travels in Texas & Mexico & his Utah expedition. Stopped to feed our horses—about 6 or 7 miles North of Bolivar, the first time our horses have been on the march at noon. Went in camp about 5 oclock about 50 miles from Springf. near Quincy. A great deal of sadness apperent on the countenances of all in the train from Genl to private because of our return under such circumstances. We traveled about steady & fast for an army & the teams show it. Roads fine. I am not tired & it agrees with me quite well. Charley is not very well. his wife well but tired.

Wednesday Nov 6/61. South of Quincy 3 miles. Broke up camp at 5 A.M., waked at 3 AM. Was in the advance guard & marching at daylight. The Genl & train close after us all day. The indians started off with us at full gallop & kept it up 3 or 4 miles & their horses (or ponies) stand the march well. The mail express met us & Genl Fremont received news that he was to be reinstated or was to take Genl McClellans place at Washington. All are delighted by the news. halted to feed at Warsaw the train about a mile back. Marched on for Sedalia the nearest RR station. We marched 10 miles east went in camp at 5 P.M. had a good camping ground. The Indians had a dance Fremont attended & was pleased. Twas odd to me.

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Thursday Nov 7/61. Camp 10 miles east of Warsaw, 22 miles to Sedalia. Woke at 3. Broke up camp at 5 AM. I was on the advance guard. Fremont & train followed close altho we traveled fast. We halted at a small stream in a beautiful grove to water our teams & let the train all come up to gether. Within 10 miles of the depot. Then marched on. The roads very dusty & wind bad kept us in our own dust much of the way. The country between Warsaw & Sedalia is very fine prairie country much of it quite level & as far as the eye can reach in many directions. There are some fine farms & residences about Sedalia. S. is a small town at the Terminus of the Pacific RR. Is guarded by part of Regiment of troops, the stores well supplied with all kinds of articles suitable to the want of a soldier. We were most inhumanly herded in barn-yard one half of which was filled with mules the other by the body-Guard. Upon the track of such treatment none were allowed to go out upon any consideration & we were compeled to stay in without food or water to drink or cleaning a most barbarous treatment from our tyrannical Maj. Zagonyi who was gloating over his savory dinner & drinks at the first hotel in town Virginia house.

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Our horses were well fed & cared for but we treated like & worse than our horses for we were neglected altogether. Our saddles were ordered to be packed & loaded in the carrs. Then I was sent as orderly to Genl Fremont. reported myself accordingly. He told me that we should leave as soon as the train came in from the East an hour or so & that he would relieve me. Thus seemed to me that he was a gentleman & much more so than any officer that I had yet seen in our Body guard. I think him the finest gentleman & soldier Ive ever seen without exception. he is always so consistant & even in his ways & to everybody. Our horses were ordered to the carrs formed in line & waited about 2 hours—then put on 30 from each company. The Maj Z. & R. Road men fussed and figured around all night & we waited & waited accordingly all night until they got already which was about 5 oclock in the morning when we started with a train of 21 carrs (7 of men & 14 of horses & baggage & c) at a provoking slow rate but was necessary I suppose thro a sesesh country. I managed to group around in the dark at midnight & get my canteen filled with water which I relished altho I stole away from the Maj Z to get it.

Friday Nov 8/61. Passed the whole day on the carrs from Sedalia to St. Louis. Our Maj Genl Fremont received most hearty cheers & welcomes at Tipton whe[where?] he spoke to the soldiers & men crowding his carr to see him. Also at Jef City at Herman (took dinner) & at Franklin the joy of the people knew no bounds & I rejoiced to see the good man

welcomed. Nothing occurred of note on the R Road. Reached St Louis about 7 P.M. & a crowd of anxious & waiting friends greeted the Genl and Body Guard. Oh how anxious they were to find each their own.

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Unloaded our saddles & uncased our horses—saddled up—marched thro the city—was welcomed every where & especially at & near the head quarters where was a fine torch light procession. halted at the Genl house, recd[received] cheers for Fremont, Maj Z & the Body Guard—also at camp by remainder of our boys night supper 4th company & c took care of our horses & we went to quarters in the city to sleep which were fine, new & comfortable.

Saturday Nov 9/61. St. Louis. Got up at our own liesure had no bugle to molest nor Roll call to answer too. Enjoyed the treat felt quite free. The order came to saddle up at 11 A.M. As we came in town less the dust as much as practicible to receive a flag presented by Mrs. Fremont in honor of the battle of Springfield. We marched to head Quarters and a most beautiful Flag was presented to the Body Guard thro the Maj Z. who made a thick tongued speech to us upon the occasion—Gloating himself upon the bravery of that battle & not even alluding to the dreadful murderous loss of choice men lost there & most appropriately represented on the Flag by the drapery of black crape which seemed to me to stand out forcibly in Mrs Fremont mind in the object of the Flag to us.

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Zufall (ord sergt) carried it finely. Marched back to camp. Maj Z made another very awkward speech about it & us, carrying the idea that there is nothing like honor to fight for & that is the most glorious when gained on the battle field. How absurd to fight for honor. Slept in Zufalls old quarters at his request. The boys here look sleek & fat, show no signs either in hands, face or clothes of any exposure. The contrast between them & us in that is very great. Our horses too contrast us greatly. Mine is to sore to ride. Weather fine Roads dusty & dry. Guffin was taken sick tried to get a pass to get a Doct for him. The Maj Z would not let me out but I went out when Mrs. Guffin came to look up her baggage, which was as well without the Maj Z who is purposely neglecting him (G) because of ill will towards him or his wife who dislikes him & it makes the Maj angry.

Sunday Nov 10. St. Louis. Began to make out our pay Roll [word unclear] Zufall went as far as Maj gave instructions. Got a pass to visit Guffin, stayed till dark. Doct came. Came back to camp. Took Charley some medicine visited awhile. Returned to camp passed the guard upon the Doct say & talked till late with Doct. Went to bed. Weather very fine.

Monday Nov 11/61. St. Louis. There is no roll call & we get up when we please; there is no discipline in camp at all. Men go out when they please both day and night: some have not been in camp since our return & no harm done. The boys discuss the Fremont difficulty & the probabilities of our being discharged. The 3rd company sent a petition to Genl Fremont asking for an honorable discharge—is to give them an answer to morrow at 10 AM.

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The Body Guard are very much exasperated at Maj Zagonyi & swear they will never follow him as leader. His ambition is prompting to do that which will make lose all respect among his men—viz converting the B. Guard into a Regiment of cavalry if he can get a few more volunteers to fill it up. There is a rumor that he has gone to Illinois to get recruits, another that he is trying with Fremont's staff, but they oppose him. They all agree that we are entitled to an honorable discharge if Fremont is removed. Mrs. Guffin called on Mrs. Fremont to get a furlough for Charley. Maj Zagonyi came in and Mrs F referred her to him & he postponed the furlough & he talked the affair over his own way to Mrs F. The Maj came to camp & gave directions making out the pay roll. Zufall corrected him 6 or seven times, a poor evidence of a commanding officer. I began making out the pay roll at candle light and wrote all night in the Quarter Masters room did well enough till near morning when I got very cold & my fingers would not work & retired at 5½ A.M.

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Tuesday Nov 12/61. St. Louis. Got up about an hour after sunrise. Took care of my horse. Lieut Newhall called for the pay rolls. Zufall was away so he took them without inspection by Orderly Z of the 1st & 2d companies urged one to draw a petition to send to Femont for our honorable discharge if he was removed accordingly one was drawn (hurriedly) all signed it without hesitancy & then sent direct to Fremont. He sent a messenger to Washington for instructions to discharge the body Guard, if there be power, if not as a special favor. Rumors that Maj Zagonyi was fighting a duel, another that he had run away for fear of being arrested. Mrs Guffin came in camp to see Maj Zagonyi he was not here & requested me to speak to him & see at what hour he would meet her. Accordingly as soon as he came in I told her request to him & he set about discussing Guffin's history the he was no soldier & only went along to take care of his wife which was nothing to me and I told him so. He said he would not do business with women but only with soldiers & because Mrs Guffin went to Mrs F he would not give a furlough, but if he could not get well he would discharge him from the army in disgrace. I reported to Guffin & Mrs G called on Mrs Zagonyi. Maj was away. She was told to call in the eve so she went: Maj came in soon & opened his vials of wrath to pour them on her head. There were two or three that heard him he told her what said to me in the morn & that he would not give a furlough. When he began talking, she defended herself, told him that he owned soldiers, but soldiers sometimes had feelings, sometimes died too, which opened his eyes & cooled off his wrath & before she left did promise him (G) a furlough. Maj Z said he would discharge him in disgrace.

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The disaffection among the body Guard is still increasing & is getting very high. Ive been trying to urge the boys to keep doing their duty & not to mutinize. Had a general order read to drill twice day.

Wednesday Nov 13/61. St. Louis. Getting nothing to do the company went out on horse back. My horse's back is not well & stayed in. Moved my traps[troops?] from camp to quarters. Go in Ord Sergt Zuf & Q.M. [name unclear] have a good room. Swept it. Made a bed stead for us. Mrs Guffin came for me to go with her to Maj Z's house. He was unwell

& did not see him. Evening fine.

Thursday Nov 14/61. St. Louis. Our prisoners Shenker & Forrester returned and we all rejoice to see them once more. They look well & had good keeping—are fat. Fixed up a writing made or ruled out a blank for muster with Q. M. Sergt. Mrs Guffin came to camp to see the Maj Z. & and he fairly abused her the most ungentlemanly language I ever heard used to a decent Lady, even abused her for asking him for that which he promised to give her. I pronounce a man without the least marks of a true gentleman.

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Friday Nov 15/61. St. Louis. Had roll before daylight at 5 AM. Went to care for my horse. took breakfast. to a list of muster of men for Thomas till 9 AM. Promised Mrs Guffin to call & see them but had no time. Came to Quarters cleaned up. had to go to funeral of two of men brot from Springfield at 12 AM. They were killed in the battle, friends sent for them. Wright & Rose of our camp got ready & was to late to see Charley then. We got news in the morn paper that all of Fremont's commissioned officers were discharged. The 3d Company gave three cheers. The Maj heard of it & when the Body Guard were ready for the funeral in Riding school wanted some one to tell him what they cheered for. Sloan volunteered to state it to him he Z was not satisfied with his ans. only for the article in the paper. Maj Z was anxious to know if they were dissatisfied with their officers. Sloan would say so, but said the men were all satisfied with their officers but he has not been here long enough to know the feeling of the men for their is only 2 or 3 officers of any respect among the Body Guard. Maj read to letters to us one from Fremont, Cameron & the one in reply to it. Shows that F is all right, but there is some thing wrong some where. I attended the funeral. Twas finely managed passed of well. We looked well—two horses draped in black we found the assembled in a church (Episcopalian form). I was one of the escort of 18 with carbines to fire the salute at the grave. The band went first, escort[?] next, [word unclear] bearers, then friends and B. Guard in Rear. Marched a while found omnibusses to carry us to cemetery 7 miles. The were buried with church, odd fellow & soldier honors.

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Saturday Nov 16/61. St. Louis. Made out muster for horses and equipment. Assembly sounded met in the riding school. Major Zagonyi read some correspondence between Fremont and Genl McClellan relative to us. He (McClellan) only regards the Body Guard as a body of Calvalry and could not treat us seperately. Had a conversation with the privates—with Fairchild & Sloan about their position to Fremont & our being discharged with him. Twas a free and familiar talk between soldier and officer more than is usual for Maj Z—yes he talked more like a man than I ever have heard him before. Does not seem disposed to command obedience but only ask the men to obey. They ought to act like men & soldiers of themselves.

Sunday Nov 17/61. St. Louis. Got ready for church took some clothes to Guffin & missed Zuffall & Thomas therefore did not go took a sleep. After noon had a review of the Body Guard till 4 PM all very well.

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Went to see Guffin at night he came to camp stayed all with me all night. The weather is getting chilly & Fall like.

Monday Nov 18/61. St. Louis. Made out a pay roll & had it examined by Lieut Newhall for correction. Made out one from it & sent it in for inspection. The company had an inspection of horses. I was too busy to attend it. The officers did not attend another humbug for discharged officers. Another order appeared in the paper that all the officers & staff of Fremont are discharged & ours are among them too.

Tuesday Nov 19/61. St. Louis. Worked the whole day on Pay Rolls at Zagonyi Head Quarters. The commissioned officers seemed all very sad & gloomy—also poor & had to procure their own lights & sit without any most of the time. Zagonyi is running around for some secret purpose to favor himself, but the body Guard cant find out anything conerning his purpose. We all fear him because of his insatiable thirst for ambition.

Wednesday Nov 20/61. St. Louis. Was making out pay roll. Saw nothing of the major or officers save Westerberg—wrote at Hd. Quarters.

Thursday Nov 21/61. St. Louis. Made out copy of the roll us the arms & equipage took me nearly all day finished 4 roll. Saw nothing about camp

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& heard nothing from camp. The Lieut & Capt at Hd Quarters think we will be discharged & set free but I doubt it. Maj Zagonyi has one face to us & another to Gen Hallock and others there whom he can manage to keep us under him in the service.

Friday Nov 22/61. St. Louis. Woke up & found myself sick with a pain in stomach & right side. Similar to inflammation in the stomach or bowels pained me to walk: the jolting from walking being the cause of the pain. There came an order that we would have our Photograph taken all together on our horses. I made the effort to get up to the camp. got my horse ready & stayed to be in our picture & came home. The weather was to cold for me. Lieut Westerberg wanted two more pay rolls made out. Maj Zag. had the companies together in the afternoon to get an expression from them & asked them if they would serve. but one man said yes

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& the man was Sergt King he being worthless as a soldier. The Major Z expected they would of course say they would serve & he be there their commander but was disappointed. So our Lieut Westerberg came down to the quarters to patch up the Major's ambiguous question. Still using him as a tool to ensnare us, but the men will listen to no proposition leaving least shadow of a chance to have him (Major) our commander. They hate him worse & worse every day. They think every thing & say as much as they dare to. Lieut wished an article drawn up for the men to sign whether they wished a discharge or not. I drew up one, but thot enough had been said already to show the Major how they felt. The Major & his meaning of the course he had taken &c was most minutely discussed by

the men but all without exception hate him & want to get clear of him if possible.

Saturday Nov 23/61. St. Louis. Was not well at all. Wrote a little could sit up a short time then lie down & so on. Men were called on to give up their pistols &c carbines which looks some as tho we were to be discharged. They gave up some but the order seems not to hurry much.

Sunday Nov 24/61. St. Louis. Was very sick for a short time last night, had cramps in my stomach for several times very painful. Sent for a city Doct help me soon. Our army Doctors are of no earthly good to our camp. I did not see one today, not even the one that came to see me yesterday, who I think made

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me worse instead of better & then neglected me altogether, a most miserable shame on our officers & especially the Maj Z who dont care a bit for the welfare of his men. He never cares for the sick men of his charge which makes him in my view a despicable unprincipled scoundrel when associated with his ungovernable ambition & unslakeable thirst for glory for he cares for nothing & does nothing else that will not in way praise himself. Doct came to see me again to day gave me prescription. I paid him. I felt satisfied with him & treatment & his charge \$1.00

Nov 25/61. St. Louis. Men had to pass inspection before Gens Sturgis & Sweeny. When called out they supposed it was to be mustered out of service, but looks now like a Zagonyi game to keep them in the service in some way so he can only be leader no matter how.

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Plenty of rumors of all kinds and indications & inferences drawn from what the Genls S & S were heard to say during the day by the boys at various times where ever they happened to be with them at the time. They seem to think that the Body Guard are to fine looking & to servicable to be discharged & that seems to be the conclusion. [word unclear] that we will stay in anyhow.

Tuesday Nov 26. St. Louis. Its been a day of excitement & uncertainty to the Body Guard. first Maj Zag called the boys together & had a talk to them & in the afternoon Genl Sturgis made them a profane speech of ½ an hour or so—asked them if any or how many enlisted for Fremont to step to the front & the four companies all stepped out—made all the officers very angry. They had never seen the like. Then Fairchild & Westerborg stepped out to speak to Genl Sturgis to explain the true state of the case, how that we were sworn in for a special service &c when he seemed to understand the manifestations much better. Changed his manner & tone at once & we think that it is much more favorable for our discharges. I could not attend was not well enough. Major Zag accused Lieut Westerborg & Ord. Zufall of not doing their duty. Zufall said he had done in every instance & his acts would show it to him to go in see for himself. Maj then dried up but was very angry.

Wednesday Nov 27/61. St. Louis. Lieut Westerborg's father met Maj Zagonyi & told him he knew him when he mended clothes for the soldiers & as old a man as he was would

fight him yet with pistol or sword & Maj Z dared not do it. I learned that Maj Zag wanted Lieut Westerberg to lead the charge in Springfield Oct 25/61 & Lieut Newhall urged the men to follow Lieut Westerberg to whom

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properly belongs the honor of that desperate charge. A man from the third company had occasion to go & see Genl Hallock & yesterday & learned from the Genl. that he always supposed & had learned that we were sworn in for three years & there first learned that there was two sides & that we should have a hearing at 10 o'clock AM to day. It seems that since the Maj Z has told us he was doing all that could be done & he could do more than any one else for our discharge & so he has done it. represented things all his own way to preserve his position as Major & to keep us in the service & came very near doing it while we placed great confidence in him to do so, the most inexcusable lying whelp. A committee from the third company went to see Genl. Hallock. Told him our oath & all the particulars, was surprised at the representations made to him even by Genl. Sturges, who was intimate with Zagonyi. The Maj. Genl (H) said we should have a fair hearing & should be justly dealt with. There came a rumor in camp (well founded)

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that we should stay in quarters to morrow as “the road to the future was clear” what it means I hardly but it augurs well I think.

Thursday Nov 28/61. St. Louis. Annoyed all day with rumors of discharge & being mustered out of the service, the most probable is that tomorrow we shall be mustered out. Was not very well—live on bread toast dry.

Friday Nov 29/61. St. Louis. At noon was notified to turn in our sabres & belts &c the best news of the season. had to go up to answer to my name was not very well either. Got orders to make out 4 more muster rolls from the 1st to the last of the months. Charly got a certificate of discharge & made ready to leave in the morn at 6 A.M.—expecting to get his pay on Saturday.