As daylight approached we became somewhat alarmed for our batteries were not completed and being exposed we expected a raking fire to pour into us as soon as daylight should come but were most agreeably surprised to see a white flag coming and to learn that the City had capitulated & that Santa-Ana with his Army had bamessed All marched in and took quarters in the Citadel Gen Quitman is made governor of the City there is much fighting in the streets many Lancers & guerrillas had remained in the City for the sake of plundering & took every chance to fire on our men quite a number were killed & wounded Lieut Tourisan Co F was severely wounded—

The glorious stars and Stripes are floating triumphantly over the Palacio Nacional [National Palace] & the City of the Aztecs It is a proud and gratifying sight to us poor weary soldiers who have left homes and country and everything to behold the sight but alas many of our brave comrades who fought the hardest to witness this sight their Eyes are closed in death Street fighting still continues D. S. Kuhns was severely wounded by a sword of a Lancer Visited the grand plaza and national palace The palace is a very extensive building Occupying a whole square & is very magnificent in the inside The grand Cathedral occupies another square facing the plaza

Mr. Larner, a native of Pittsburgh, is Lecturer in History at the Memorial University of Newfoundland, St. John's, Newfoundland, Canada.—Editor

City of Mexico
Sep 16th Thurs
Moved from the Citadel & lay to night under the portal on The Plaza

Frid 17th
Took quarters in the National University fine quarters In the Court Yard is an Equestrian Bronz Statue of Charles IV It is very large & is Justly considered one of the best specimens of modern art in The world There are also many stone images which were once worshiped by the ancient Aztecs The alter of Sacrifice is about 4 or 5 feet thick and 20 in circumference & is richly carved Another is an image of the sun Very large & uncouth but richly carved It is said that 20,000 human beings were sacrificed on this alter to this image annually54

Sat
The Stores and shops are opening & the city presents a better appearance since business is opening

Mexico City Sep 20th
Moved from the University to a large tobacco ware house near the edge of the City

Sun 26
Episcopal preaching in the palace by Rev McCarthy55

Tues 30th
This will always be a day of pleasant recollections to us We presented Lieut Coulter a sword as a testimonial of the feelings of the Company for his good conduct & kindness to us and his gallantry in the different Battles through which we have had the honor to follow him Chapultape in particular

Sep 30th
In the evening we went to the Theatre Nacional-De-Santa-Anna which is undoubtedly the finest building of the kind on this continent56

54 The “Equestrian Bronz Statue” was probably of Charles V, Holy Roman Emperor, 1519-1556, or perhaps of Charles VI, Holy Roman Emperor, 1711-1740.
55 Chaplain to the 2nd Division of Volunteers.
56 While usually a harsh critic of Mexican architecture and interior furnishings, Sergeant Barclay praised the National Theatre as “the finest building I have yet been in, and is said, by those who know, to surpass anything of the kind in the States.” Letter from Thomas J. Barclay, October 10, 1847, in the Pennsylvania Argus, December 31, 1847.
Mexico City Oct 2nd
We were almost shook out of our propriety and our boots by an earthquake which took place about 8th A.M. It lasted several minutes but did no serious damage here

Sun 3d
Another slight shock was felt Went to the Plaza De Toris [Plaza do Toros—Bull Ring] to witnes a bullfight It was very interesting but rather barbarous an affair for this enlightened age

Mon 4th
Col Wm B. Roberts died last night and R. C. McGinley this morning. Went to the National Theatre to see a spanish play it was quite interesting Henry Fisher is discharged from inability to do military duty & is going home by the first train

Mexico City October 31st
Capt S. H. Montgomery is ordered to Vera Cruz. Chat McLauglhin is going with him as forage master as clerk he is rendered unfit for service by exposure to wet & cold at the Garita De-Belen it is likely he will go home Lieut Coulter is ordered to Vera Cruz to bring us the clothing & effects belonging to the Regt we were inspected & mustered into the service by Capt Marshall as a part of the first [Worth's] Division Nov 1st The train started to Vera-Cruz in command of Col Harney it is to return as soon as possible Orders

Conditions in Mexico City during the United States occupation, and likely other times as well, were less than salubrious. Cholera, dysentery and Mexican snipers took a significant toll and letters home, often published in local papers, told the story. “The city itself is extremely filthy, and as it is a perfect level the dirt and filth remain standing in the sewers in many parts of it. Besides this, the lower classes are very dirty in their habits. There is a great deal of wealth and a great deal of misery here, and I judge there is no city in the world, where there are such great numbers actually doing nothing—living by theft and begging.” Letter from Thomas J. Barclay, October 23, 1847, in the Pennsylvania Argus, December 12, 1847.
“Soldiers had their throats cut by wandering to remote parts of the city. Sentinels were killed while on guard. Squads of five and six men would go to Mexican taverns, get drunk and quarrel; when the Mexicans would fall upon them with their knives, either killing them or cutting them in a most shocking manner.” Letter from Edward Smith, Private, Co. I, 2nd Regt. Pa. Vols., October 24, 1847, in The Daily Morning Post [Pittsburgh], December 10, 1847.
re'd to the Regt for the Election of Colonel to fill the vacancy occasioned by the death of Col Roberts

City of Mexico Nov

Geary it is supposed purposely kept the Election off till Montgomery should get away fearing that Montgomery would be elected

Nov 3d

The Election today resulted in favour of Geary Todd & Loeser were the opposing Candidates. It is said and I believe with much truth that Geary used low & infamous means to insure his election in the first place he held out the idea that if he was elected Col a vacancy would occur which might be filled by some of the Company officers & as there were ten or twelve who wanted that office they used their influence with the men for Geary of in favour of Geary.

City of Mexico Nov 3d

Geary fearing that Todd would be Elected offered him $200.00 or a commission if he would withdraw. Many of Gearys votes it is said were purchased with liquor some with money shoes &c Many Voted for him on promises of promotion he tryed that game in our Company but did not succeed We all voted against him and Electioneered against him.

Nov 4th 1847

Election for Lieut Col Maj Brindle was elected Lieut Armstrong run against him & got a Very respectable vote

Nov 5th

Election for Major Lieut Mc-Michael was taken up by the Anti Geary party & Elected by a majority of 73 it was a sore defeat to those who had used thier influence for Geary.

City of Mexico Nov 5th

We had a great spree on the result of the last Election

Nov 7th

Through Geary's damnable intrigue & chicanery in making false representations to the General in Chief he procured an order to abrogate


the Election of Major & approve the Election of himself & Brindle and
derprived by his Damned rascality a man of an Office to which he
was duly Elected—and threw an insult upon the men which Elected
him Geary represented at first that the Regt was much greater than
it was or he would not have got the order for the Election Then
because we who opposed him Elected a good man who would not suit
his racally Views he represented the Regt as being too small to have
three field officers so McMichael was turned out—

City of Mexico, Nov 18th
A. Mail came in from the States which brought us many letters &
causd us much pleasure and satisfaction60

Nov 21st
Recd 2 months pay and allowance for clothing

Dec 1st Wed.
On Guard to day

Thus 2nd

nothing new to day61

[Entries from December 3, 1847, to December 11, 1847, largely
consist of “On Guard to day” or “Nothing new to day.”]

60 First Lieutenant James Armstrong received a letter in the November 18, 1847,
mail which had been posted in Greensburg, Pa., September 3, 1847. In a
letter to the Argus Armstrong commented on “the anxious expectations
with which everyone here looked for the coming of the late train, all
wishing to hear from home,— It was indeed a holiday here when the
mail came in bringing news from home.” Letter from James Armstrong,
November 22, 1847, in the Pennsylvania Argus, January 14, 1848.

61 It appears that, from the volunteer point of view, any action after the storm-
ing of Chapultepec would have been anticlimax, but in the face of in-
activity boredom and frustration undercut morale. McWilliams generalized
these sentiments in “nothing new to day” diary entries, while other Guards,
like James Armstrong, publicized their discontent through letters in home
newspapers. “You complained . . . of the dullness of the times in Greens-
burgh; they cannot possibly be duller than they have been in the army for
the last five or six months, except while on the march or engaged in
fighting the enemy, which necessarily occupied a small portion of that
time.” Letter from James Armstrong, November 22, 1847, in the Pennsyl-
vania Argus, January 14, 1848.

An anonymous Guard protested “the volunteers are all very anxious
to get home. They have got petitions signed pretty generally, requesting
Congress to recall them. We are all anxious to get home now, for we ac-
complished all we came for.” Pennsylvania Argus, January 14, 1848.
Even the pro-war Pittsburgh Daily Morning Post raised the rhetorical
question “why do not our citizens move in the matter of procuring the
discharge of the two Pennsylvania regiments. The boys have done good
service, and their places should be supplied by fresh recruits.” The Daily
Morning Post [Pittsburgh], January 21, 1848.
Sun 12th
Lieut Coulter returned from Vera-Cruz this is the anniversary of the Virgin who appeared at Guadalupe The country folk gather in large numbers in town and as usual got drunk and had some fighting 62

Thus 16th
On Guard to day at the State prison There are many Mexicans prisoners here and some American deserters Also Col Riley is here in the party 63

Friday 17th
Very cold last night ice froze in the water course ¼ inch thick

Sat 18th
Orders read at parade for marching tomorrow morning

Sun 19th
This morning we left the city and marched to San-Angel South East [South-southwest] distance 9 miles quarters in a monastery built in 1734 fine quarters

Mon 20th
This day we do without bread & meat Joseph Smith came up from Puebla 64

Tues 21st
Drill this morning Adjutant Dutton came up with 40 recruits for our Regt Battalian Drill & dress parade this evening

24th
Tolerably dull to day but to make the evening more lively we bought some Brandy and made Lemon Punch and spent the evening in dancing &c &c—

San Angel Dec 25th Christmas
On Guard to day — nothing new —

62 According to tradition, the Virgin Mary appeared December 9, 1531, to an elderly Indian on a hill northwest of modern Mexico City. The Virgin appeared again three days later and instructed the Indian to pick flowers and take them to the bishop. When the Indian presented himself to the bishop, roses cascaded from his cloak and revealed a likeness of the Virgin. Pope Benedict XIV approved a mass and office in 1754 to celebrate the Virgin’s appearance at Guadalupe. A. M. Garibay, “Guadalupe,” New Catholic Encyclopedia, Catholic University of America, VI (New York, 1967), 821-822.

63 Colonel Bennett Riley of Twigg’s Division.

Dec 31st
We were mustered into the service of the United States by Captain Hooker\textsuperscript{65}

Jan 1st [1848]
This day we spent in the monastery but had no delicacies as on former New Year's days. The past was a Year of great events in the history of our past lives— we closed the day with a Dress Parade.

Jan 2nd
It is hardly necessary to note the weather as it is always fine at this season of the Year and scarcely ever changes—

San Angel Jan 2
The fruit trees are in full bloom and look beautiful. Closed the day with a dress parade.

Jan 3d
Spent this day in Garrison. Nothing transpired of much importance.

Jan 4th
Battalion Drill and Dress parade. Nothing new to day—

Jan 5th
Battalion Drill and Dress parade as on Yesterday. This Garrison duty we are tired of it—

Jan 6th
Whilst we were on Battalion Drill and Dress parade this afternoon a skirmish took place between some of the first Pennsylvanians and the Mexicans in which there were several Mexicans killed and some 2 or 3 Pennsylvanians wounded. It occurred in a polque shop [tavern] where the Mexicans assembled to celebrate the festival of the Holy Kings [Epiphany]—

Jan 7th
Some amused themselves helping the Mexicans to cut Barley.

San Angel Jan 7th 1848
Harvesting in January is something rather uncommon for us but this is not all— You may see Blossoms and even young fruit here in the Orchard. Closed the day with a Dress Parade—

\textsuperscript{65} Lieutenant Colonel Joseph Hooker, "Fighting Joe" of 1862 Peninsular campaign fame.
McWilliams' Travels in Mexico
February 5, 1847 - June 20, 1848
McWilliams' Route, 1846-1848

- Pittsburgh
- Greensburg
- New Orleans
- Tampico
- Mexico City
- Lobos Islands
- Veracruz
Jan 8th
This being the anniversary of the Battle of New Orleans it will be quite a memorable day in the Crescent City [New Orleans] we as usual have a Drill and Parade—

Jan 9th
Dull as usual

Jan 11th
Very Dull—

Jan 13th
The padres [Spanish: padres—priests] charged our boys with stealing Apples out of a room through the keyhole. This evening we had a Dress Parade—

Jan 14th
The boys are all engaged in writing letters home as a mail it is said leaves tomorrow

San Angelo [San Angel]
Jan 15th 1848.
Col Donniguez brought in 3 Generals one Colonel and several Others One General made his escape

Jan 16th
This is Sunday no Dress Parade The weather is very fine—

Jan 17th
This day we recd the report of the Secretary of war and news from New Orleans up to the 4th

Jan 18th
We this day heard of the death of another member of Company E. Joseph Shaw he was lain sick a long time.

Jan 20th
We are too healthy for Uncle Sam's rations are insufficient we are all anxious for an increase of rations

66 It is possible that "padres" could mean Irish-Americans. In that case, perhaps members of Pittsburgh's Hibernian Greens leveled the accusation.
67 Colonel Manuel Dominguez.
San Angel  Jan 24th 1848  
Many of the Boys recd letters from home we heard of the Death of Michael Heasley he reached home and died the same evening. he was buried with funeral honors.

Jan 25th  
Nothing New— As I have not described this monastery or building in which we are quartered I will endeavor to give at least a feint idea of it— It is a very large building erected in 1735 It is filled with paintings and Portraits mostly representing scriptural scenes It is divided into long passages and cells with a very pretty Church attached It is surrounded by a very romantic looking Orchard and this Orchard is surrounded by a wall enclosing at least 100 Acres. We recd Our pay to day & the Boys are in a high glee—

San Angel  Jan 26th 1848.  
We have a rumor of peace to day I know not what confidence to place in it time will show we had an arrival of One of Our Company Benjamin Marts whom we left sick at Vera-Cruz. He was sent to New Orleans and from there he was sent to Baton-Rogue he had no Descriptive Roll and Consequently could not be discharged so he returned back to the Company we were all very glad to see him he left another member of the Company that was with him at Perote his name is Jacob Weise.

Jan 27th  
2 men and a sergeant on guard to day a rumor is current of the taking of Santa Anna by Col Hays of the rangers all are busy writing letters as a mail it is said laves soon— A good deal of sickness prevails at present— Drill this evening—

San Angel  Jan 28th 1848.  
Lovely weather a small fire in the Orchard the Padries ring the

---


71 Colonel Jack C. Hays of the Texas Rangers.
Bells and assemble the humbries [hombres] who soon quenched it.

Doing no damage of consequence. We closed the day be a Battalian
Drill and a Dress Parade. All hands are busy writing letters these
little messengers of affection and friendship carry joy to the Old
home stead

Jan 29th

Nothing particular Occurred. Fine weather offering spring rumors
of peace.

Jan 31st

Came off guard this morning. Last night an Officer of the New York
Regiment died suddenly—

Feb 1st

Capt Barclay of the N. York Regt was this day buried with funeral
honors—a pig chase was to come off today but was postponed—

San Angel

Feb 2nd, 1848

The weather is cloudy and a little cool to day half the company on
guard This evening Col Robert’s funeral sermon published in
Uniontown was read to the regiment on Dress Parade—

Feb 4th

A soldier of the Palmetta Regiment [South Carolina] Shot himself
to day the cause was his being sent to the guard house for some
trifling offence

Feb 6th

Half the Company on guard Some of the Company Visited the
Battle field of Contraras

Feb 7th

Two waggon masters Coming from the City discovered 7 Armed
Mexicans under a bridge three of them had escopetes [carbines]
and four Sabres—the waggon masters having revolving Pistols rode
up to each side of the Bridge and threatened to shoot them the
Mexicans threw down thier arms and surrendered and were brought
to San Angel as prisoners.

Peace hung in the balance January 29, 1848. On that day Trist abruptly
halted peace discussions in an effort to hasten final terms before the
Mexican government folded and/or the Washington government finally
snuffed Trist. Four days later the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo was
signed. Singletary, 160.
Feb 8th
Three men were killed between Tocabaya [Tacubaya] and the City
Eleven men were arrested on suspicion

Feb 11th
On guard today and whilst the Sergeant of the guard was taking the
names of the guard some person took his Gun and left a bronze
Barrel in its place
The North American gives the Official News of the treaty of Peace
being Signed. 73

Feb 12th
Capt Brooks of the South Carolina Cy Drilled the guard about 2 hours
which was a very unusual thing it cased a great deal of excitement
amongst the guard the day after the gasmn was relieved Capt brooks
kept the old guard and driled tow hours after Dismissing 74

San Angel  Feb 12th 1848
then he started for his quarters the boys hissed at him and threw
eggs at him and hit him with one he came back with a guard
Struck a man on the head with a musket and put two of our officers
under arrest for coming with the men after starting again he took a
musket from one of his guards and Damed any man to hollor that he
wold blow his Brains out and started off the moment he got to the
gate the boys again hollored he however went to his quarters

Feb 13th
this morning after the Companies had marched out and Stacked
arms in the plaza Capt Brooks passed by for the purpose as we
thought of trying the Men they again hollored at him he then
drew a six shooter and snapped it 3 or 4 times at the Crowd where
he might have killed his friends as well as his enemys as there were
men of all regiments in the Crowd by then went and loaded as we
supposed and some of Our men loaded thier Guns Our Regiment
was then formed and marched out to the field for to pass review
before Gen Cushing it was about two miles to the field after the

73 Not the Philadelphia North American, but rather one of approximately
eleven newspapers published for United States troops in Mexico. Smith,
II, 226, 460.
It is interesting to note that weariness with war and war critics inspired
the Pittsburgh Post on this same day to declare that, even though
victorious militarily, the United States would never enjoy victory in fact
"while a party exists in our own country who are aliens in heart . . . ."
74 It is possible that this was Captain H. Brooks of the 2nd Artillery.
regiment halted Capt Brooks came along the line and Ordered Lieuts Wolf and Davis under arrest We were then formed and passed in review and Drilled till Nearley Dark it was Dark before we reached quarters on our return to quarters Col Geary halted us And cautioned the men to Not disgrace themselves by using ungentlemanly conduct towards Capt Brooks he also told them that he would put the officers under arrest75

Feb 14th
Bregade review and Drill to day by Col Wyncooop of the first pennsylvanian76

Feb 15th
Inspected by Magor Buchanon of the 4th Infantry he was verey particular the men were charged with things lost77

Feb 16th
this evening of dress Parade orders were read that Col Wyncooop of the first Pa Volunteers would assume the command of this brigade Cushing being absent on a Court Martial at Puebla—

Feb 17th
rumers that the Mexicans government at Quaretaro was overthrown by Santa anna it was said to Be in favour of peace78

75 General Caleb Cushing.

76 Colonel Francis M. Wynkoop, 1st Pa. Regt. Vols., 28, enrolled at Potts- ville, Pa., December 1846 as a private in Co. B, 1st Regt. Pa. Vols., elected colonel of that regiment in Pittsburgh, December 18, 1846. Although he later denied it, Wynkoop ran for a Schuylkill County, Pa., Congressional seat on the acidly patriotic Native American ticket in 1846. Following this unsuccessful effort, he affiliated with the Whigs but soon withdrew from their ranks declaring that "if there is any reason which will prevent General Scott from effecting an honorable peace, ... it is the spirit of treason which I unhesitatingly say is promulgated by the leading Whig journals at home." Letter from Francis M. Wynkoop to Francis W. Hughes of Pottsville, Pa., September 9, 1847, in The Daily Morning Post [Pittsburgh], November 30, 1847. See also: The Daily Morning Post [Pittsburgh], December 28, 1846; PA, 457.

77 Major Robert C. Buchanon, Fourth Infantry.

78 Although the hawkish Santa Anna resigned the Mexican presidency and was relieved of military command by mid-October 1847, hawks persisted in the predominantly moderado government of Interim President Pedro Anaya at Quaretaro. Anaya sought to minimize the inevitable encounter with hawks by rushing the ratification of the Guadalupe Hidalgo treaty by the Mexican congress. Hawks, disturbed by Anaya's tactics and enraged by
BATTLE OF CHURUBUSCO

The War between the United States and Mexico Illustrated, embracing Pictorial Drawings of all the Principal Conflicts, by Carl Nebel, . . . with a Description of each Battle, by Geo. Wilkins Kendall. . . (Philadelphia, Appleton, 1851) [Copyright by Kendall]
Feb 19th

The papers give notice of Genl Scott being relieved of the command of this Divisen of the Arney by Majr Genl Paterson. And Genl Scott leaves for home. 79

Feb 21st

today our Company and company H of the First Pa regt went to see the battle field of Churubusco. It is South East of the City about 3 miles. Fort was very strongley fortified. There is a church to the left of the Causway or go to the city some fifty rods where they had thrown up breastworks around. It was at this place the American Deserters made such a strong resistance. It was here the Mexicans hoisted the white flag, and Riley pulled it down three different times and at the Bridge Mead across the Stream of Churubusco there was a very strong breastwork thrown up around the Bridge the Fields around were all in corn at that time and afforded a good protection to our men. The Mexicans could not see them until they got pretty close to the Battery the wagons on the causeway was another good protection for our men. 80

Feb 22nd

This being Washingtons Birth-Day we should like to do something in honor of the day but we cannot. There is to be a ball this night at the Lafayette house for Officers and citizens. A private is no go there. The humbles are engaged in taking a stage out of a gutter which brought the Senoritas to the Ball—

San Angel  Feb 23rd 1848—

This evening there were orders read at Dress Parade to the effect of a mail leaving the City on the first and fifteenth of every month and leaving Vera Cruz on the third and seventeenth of every month—

Feb 24th

This morning the regiment was ordered out for Drill but it being much earlier than Usual not more than One half of the Regiment were out. The Drill which was to take place this morning was turned

the treaty’s terms, called treason at the moderados and public tension increased apace, thus grist for the rumor mill. Henry Bamford Parkes, A History of Mexico (Boston, 1950), 220-221; Singletary, 100, 158-162. 79 As a consequence of a feud with Worth and Pillow stemming from the “Leonidas” letter incident, Scott was removed from command by President Polk and replaced by General William O. Butler. Singletary, 125. 80 Co. H, 1st Regt. Pa. Vols. were Philadelphia’s Cadwalader Grays commanded by Captain R. K. Scott.
into a Dress parade. Orders were given to the regiment this evening for Drill. Next morning at six O'clock, and before Breakfast—

Feb 25th
This morning we up and out for Drill at six O'clock we had a fine drill it lasted an hour and a half at Dress parade. Orders were read for cleaning up for regimental inspection on Sunday.

San Angel Feb 26th 1848
We have no drill this morning this day is set apart for Washing. A large mail came in this evening. Thomas J. Barclay, our orderly Sergt received the appointment of 2nd Lt in the 11th Infantry. Our Company mourn the loss of him.

Feb 27th
After being relieved from Guard we assembled together for the purpose of purchasing a sword for T. J. Barclay who recd the appointment of Lieutenancy. Sergt D. Mechling & R. Coulter & A. Gordon were appointed to purchase the sword. But returned without getting One as there were no good Ones to be found. They were informed that there would be some good ones up in a few days by the train.

San Angel Feb 28th 1848
To day we drew ticks and filled them with short straw which makes a comfortable bed for us after sleeping on Brick and Stone floors for more than a Year.

Feb 29th
We were mustered into the service to-day this being the eighth time by Capt Hooker this evening. Orders were read to the Regt that Capt Montgomery was dismissed from the U.S. Army.

March 1st
Gen Love has returned after an absence of 12 Days. Scout after the Guirrilles he reports having a fight with them in which he killed 150.


82 Private David Mechling, Co. E, 2nd Regt. Pa. Vols., 27, farmer. There does not seem to be evidence to support his being a sergeant at this point; however, Mechling was elected second lieutenant of Co. E, May 27, 1848. Coulter, WPHM, XXIV, 125. Private Andrew D. Gordon, Co. E, 2nd Regt. Pa. Vols., 27, scale builder, corporal March 1, 1848. Coulter, WPHM, XXIV, 123; PA, 316.
and took some prisoners he had Only One man killed and Three wounded The Texian Rangers got a good deal of plunder they nearly all have Lances and sabres

March 3d
A part of our Company on Guard to day at the Polque shop—Brigade drill at 3 Oclock got to quarters at dark

March 4th
Battalion Drill to day And one of our Company got his Discharge Jacob Kegerise

March 6th
two more of our Company was Discharged Ed Hamberg and Richard McCleland and went with this train Seven Company of the first Pa regiment and thier lieut Colonel Black has Command of the train News of another fight . . . by . . . batalion of mounted men but Col Henderson and 12 men was lost of Our men and about as many of the Guerillas Col captured $3200 worth of government toBacco from the guerillas

Sanangle March 7th 1848—March 7th this Day end the carnival with the mexicans they had a three Day festival preseeding the Commencement of lent

March 8th
the Brigade passed in reveu with major Genl Worth Genl Cadwolder was presant on the occasion the day was warm the reveu came off well on the 29th of february there was an Ermistice ratified betwene Genl Worth and smith as commissioners on the part of the mexians are mora and Guidano [Quijano] it is said a pass port or rather an order from Genl Butler to Genl Twiggs to permit Santi Anna to embark at Veracruz through Mr Mora and Guidana [Quijano]—the mexicans commissioners has been asked for By the mexicans government at Queretare [Querétaro] the mexicans
Came out of the Church this morning with a cross painted on there forehed with blew paint it amused the boys very much to see them it is a Religus performance on ash weadensday

March 10th
the Armistice was read to our regiment on drill this afternoon

San angle March 11th 1848
March 11th Dress perade this Evening to day the hospital was moved from the City [Mexico City] to San angle of Genl Cushing Brigade dress parade this Evening— — —

March 12th
Dress perade this evening at 5 and a mail arived here this Evening I received two letters from home won from G McW

March 14th
Company Drill this evening we had a fine time time of it the Capt treated us to the pulque and Drilled us a little no dress parade this evening

March 15th
to Day nealy the whole Company is on guard the prisoners were moved away from the guard house in our quarters till a large Building I think it has ben an old Barn I think it will lesson the main guard

March 16th
Dress parad this evening this day Brevet Magor Genrl Worth withdrew the Charges he has prefered against Magor Genl Scott and Magor Genl Scott with drew the Charges he prefered against Colonel Dunken for writing letters to the States Concerning the army

86 General Ignacio Mora y Villamil.
General Benito Quijano.
Article 2 of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo provided that terms were to be drawn up by military commanders of both sides. Armistice negotia-
tions began February 22, 1848, and final terms were ratified March 4 and 5, 1848. Mexican negotiators at first demanded immediate and total removal of United States troops. However, the government's acute aware-
ness of omnipresent threats of rebellion convinced them that staged with-
drawal of occupation troops might preserve public order and, in the long run, save the government. Both nations agreed to expedite the departure of Santa Anna from Mexico. Smith, II, 181-182, 242, 470-471.

87 Lieutenant Colonel James Duncan.
A special military court of inquiry was convened to investigate the charges and counter-charges stemming from the "Leonidas" letter episode.
San angle March 17th 1848
March 17th to Day we had company Drill without arms they Drilled Squad Drill learning to march lock Step.

March 18th
Dress perad this morning at 10 oclock orders were read concerning ex president John Quiny Adams Deth all regimental Colurs is to be at half mask and in mourning for six month all officers is to wear crape on there left arm for six months and Every half hour though this Dday there is to be a gun fired And twenty nine after sun Set and to cease from all Duty During the day—

March 19th
Dress parad this evening a small party of our company went out to contrares [Contraras] to se the Battle ground

March 20th
Col Childs leaves for Pueblo [Puebla] to Resume his cammand of that post he will be accompaneyed by Col hays and his Regiment of texan rangers and cpt White of the Lusianna mounted men Col hays we understand is to take command of the rod Between here and Veracruz And keep it Clear of Robers

San angle March 20th 1848
Brigade Drill to day at 3 oclock By Col. Wynecoop a mail cem in to day I received one letter from my cuzin mary morrow By it there was a grate many fur the company

March 22nd
this morning at 10 Oclock our Brigade Marched to the field one mile distant and Wer Reviewed By Gen Patterson Col Wyncooop commanded the Brigade and Evry thing passed off in good order

March 27th
Drill In the after noon Orders red to which Gen Patterson said that we war the best looking Volenters ever he saw in the field also Col Geary addrest the Reigment high ley praise

[March 28 to April 10 entries are mainly “On guard,” “Dress perad,” “Drill,” etc.]

Aprile 11th
Company inspection in the After non and Dress perade on guard to

88 Ex-President John Quincy Adams died February 23, 1848.
89 Captain E. D. White.
Day on the 10th minester arived Sevier from the Stats Came of
gard this morning lay in the yard

[Daily entries from April 12 to April 19 are, for the most part,
recitations of guard duty and dress parade boredom.]

April 20th
Onguard at Coyecan [Coyoacan] where the umbres Assembled it was
was one of there holidays they marched in posesion [procession?] with an imege on sumthing similer to a bier isupose [I suppose]
it is Representing there Sarows entering some Plaza idont [I don't]
understand it

[April 21 to May 5 entries generally characterized by “Dress
perad” and “Nothing of importance.”]

May 6th
A party of our Company went to hunt the Remains of Lieutenant
and bought him to the quarters

[More “On guard,” “Dress perad,” and “Nothing of importance”
entries from May 7 to May 26.]

May 27th
A Drille . . . Orders to fil the vacanceys in rank An alection in our
compone aleted [elected?] David mechlin [Mechling] lieutenant
The Whole Bregade aperd to be in good Sperets that evening

May 29th
Dress perad Orders red on Dress perad to take up the line of march
fur the united states it raised a greate exitent

May 30th
laft Sanagle fur the united States at 6 clock got to camp at 2
oclock Colnel Wine Coop in command of the Begade encamp at
Agotela [Ayotla] the rad [road?] dusty the day Warm the men
marched along in good sperets kene to get home

90 There were two peace commissioners sent by President Polk to acquaint the
Mexican congress and interim president with United States Senate
amendments to the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo: Attorney General
Nathan Clifford and United States Senator (D.—Ark.) Ambrose Sevier.
91 April 20, 1848, was also Holy Thursday and McWilliams probably witnessed
the removal of a consecrated host from the church to a place of special
repose for Good Friday and Holy Saturday. Francis X. Weiser, Handbook
May 31
Left Agotelo [Ayotla] at 6 and passed through San Martien [San Martin] 3 miles encamped at 3 o'clock. B and E [companies] were the van guard. The road was dusty. The Day was warm. The Mexicans were busy harvesting that day.

June 1st
[Left] the Riofrea [Río Frio] at 5 o'clock marched encamped at 2 o'clock that evening. The Mexicans were busy harvesting that Day.

June 2nd
Left San Bartholomew [San Bartholomew] marched 8 miles. Got to camp at 10 o'clock. The Day was warm. The road was dusty. They had to stop to gather in forage and provisions. Some of the men went on to Pueblo [Puebla] and met there company the next day.

June 3rd
Left camp at 6 o'clock. Marched through Pueblo [Puebla]. The band played through the city. Marched to Amezuke [Amozoc] 22 miles. Encamped in the plaza. Rained that night but did not disturb us aney.

June 4th
Left Amozuke [Amozoc] at 6 o'clock. Marched to Spenol [Spenol] 15 miles. The Day was pleasant. Got to camp about noon. Rested very well.

June 5th
Left Spenol at 6 o'clock. Marched 15 miles. Encamped at Od-gara [Odgara] the warm springs. Got to camp at 2 o'clock. The Day was warm. The road was dusty. Rested very well.

June 6th
Left Odgara at 6 o'clock. Marched to Tipealco 22 ½ miles. Got to camp at 2 o'clock. Got wet before we pitched our tents.

June 7th
Left Tipealco at 6 o'clock. We got to Perote at 1 o'clock. Rained that night.

June 8th
Left Perote at 5 o'clock. Marched to Lehoya [La Jolla] 19 ½ miles. Marched through the black pas that day. Got to camp about noon.

A verey wet Day abated after we got to camp and we rested very wel

June 9th
left lahoye at 9 oclock marched through Jalapa encampt 3 miles from it got our tents peched be fore the rain com on the rain was warm

June 10th
left same at 8 oclock marched 6 miles encampt as if we war a going to stay a while there the[y] wer verey perticular about having the tents piched kep us moving about there a god while we had Rain that evening the ground verey damp that night in camp N sarah [Encero]

June 11th
lay in camp that Day dress perade that evening orders red fur to have company drill ery morning and brigade drill after that and dress perade in the evening Role to be coled 3 times a day the men thot it wold be a midling troble—sometime geting them to do it the privets had a grate time coling the roles and com down on Wine Coop miling hard got out with camp kettles beet round the colnel advised them Stop it the men Abayed and went to there tents

June 12th
N sarah [Encero] camp lying in Camp nothing of importance to Day dress perade this evening at 6 oclock a plesent evening

June 13th
en Sero [Encero] camp companey Drill this morning general orders to strike our tents either to give room fur more troops or to draw a draft of the encampment as it aperes to be the plase of collect-the troops fur trans portation or to embark Dress perade this evening at the usual hour

June 14th
encaro [Encero] camp nothing of importence to day company drille this morning the[re] past of verey warm light shour in the evening Dress perade this evening

June 15th
en saro [Encero] Camp company Drill this morning orders to pre pare to march to the bech in the morning to embark for the united stats the first rgod [brigade?] South Carolina starts to day
1969

A WESTMORELAND GUARD IN MEXICO

June 16th
left ensaro [Encero] Camp fur the Gulf to embark fur the united stats
left camp at 7 oclock in the morning marched 13 miles got to
camp at noon camp plandelrea [Plan del Rio] the Day unCom-
fortabley warm the road verey Dustey

June 17th
left the plandelrea [Plan del Rio] at 1 clock this morning marched
to the nationshel Bridge [Puente Nacional] the advans got there
at 5 oclock the rear at 9 oclock lay over that Day the day
uncomfortabley Warm the men cold hardley Stand the heat

June 17th
left the nationshel Bridge [Puente Nacional] at 5 oclock in the eve-
ning got to san wan [San Juan] at 12 oclock that night the
Nig[h]t verey warm it Rained verey hard be fore we got our
tents piched

June 18th
the men marched of[f] Just as the[y] chused that Day got to the
bach [beach] in un regeler order but all got in safe and stod it better
than if the[y] had bene kep to gether

June 19th
lay in camp on the beech that Day waighting fur orders to em bark
fur new orlens [New Orleans]

June 20th
embarked on the mary kings land fur new orlens Got out of sigt
of verey cruz [Veracruz] at dark

June 22th
on see the[y] had to stop to clene there Boilers evry day Regular
until we crosed the Gulf til we got to fresh water

June 23th
on the gulf it was Cam that Day

June 24
a shirk [shark] kept playing around the boat the[y] tried to kech
it But cold not do it we had some Grate sport while we war stoped
to clene the boilers

June 25th
... Crossed the Bar and clened there Boilers raised stum [storm?] at Dark
June 26th
Ancherd below orlens [at Algiers, Louisiana] the cornel went a shore fur orders came back and reported that we wold have to go to pitts burgh to be discharged the men did not like it93

June 27th
went abord of the charles hamdon [Charles Hammond] fur cincin nata [Cincinnati] did not fair as wel as we expected on the account Colnel wine coop thinking him self a better man than he reley was94

June 28th
passed Baten ruch [Baton Rouge, Louisiana] and a grate maney shoger farms it is a fine Looking cuntrey level the land looks well

June 29th
pased naches [Natchez, Mississippi] a bout sunup A solder of compane G of the first Reigment pennsylvanias fel over bord and was droned Same day pased General Tailors farm and naches got to vicks burgh [Vicksburg, Mississippi] 7 oclock that night95

June 30th
pased provence [Lake Providence, Louisiana] the Day was verey warm nothing of Importance

93 Private Coulter explained the Guards' unhappiness at learning they would not be discharged until returning to Pittsburgh. "Both officers and men will sustain a loss from it, losing our mileage, which would be far more than necessary to carry us cabin passage home . . . . Sold my gum coat to one of the mates for $3.00 thereby raising some funds." Coulter, Diary, June 26, 1848, in Coulter, WPHM, XXIV, 119.

94 Through influence and ingenuity Company E secured cabin passage to Cincinnati on the Charles Hammond. At Camp Carlton, seven miles up river from New Orlean, the Hammond stopped for Colonel Wynkoop's 1st Regiment of Pennsylvania Volunteers. Private Coulter described the ensuing scene: "This gallant officer was in a glorious state of intoxication and refused to ship his soldiers in the steerage of a boat while other men were engaging cabin passage." The 1st Pennsylvania boarded and the Guards agreed to a redistribution of cabins and deck space, although not without misgivings. Coulter muttered to his diary, "I have slept in worse quarters, but this was doubly hard on account of the disappointment." Coulter, Diary, June 27, 1848, in Coulter, WPHM, XXIV, 119.

95 Probably Private Robert Scott, Co. K, 1st Regt. Pa. Vols., The Daily Morning Post [Pittsburgh], July 18, 1848. Private Coulter, also traveling on the Hammond, passed General Taylor's plantation during the afternoon of June 28, 1848. Moreover, Coulter noted that General Taylor "was on the river bank as we passed and saluted the boat, which was returned by loud cheers." Coulter, Diary, June 28, 1848, in Coulter, WPHM, XXIV, 119-120.
July 1st
nothing of importance pased through a fine looking Contrey in the warm climet

July 2nd
pased mamphes [Memphis, Tennessee] at 9 oclock in the morning
pased Randolph at 6 in the evening in Tenessee

July 3th
got in to kentucky nothing of importance entered the mouth of the ohio about 7 oclock in the evening got a long very wel that night was cool on the boat

July 4th
on the ohio river pased the Robers cave there was a large assembly of lades and Gentlemen assembled there fur the purpose of celebrateing the forth of July pased shawetown [Shawneetown, Illinois] that evening at 5 oclock

July 5th
pased a number of small towns I cold not find of the name of them the night was verey dark and storney So that the pilert was a bliged to stop until it was over it was so dark

July 6th
got to louis ville then went abord of the Germantown fur pitts burgh spent the day in luisville fine looking plase 96

July 7th
left louis ville at 10 oclock fur pittsburgh pased madison [Madison, Indiana] at 2 oclock in the afternoon got to cincinnata about Day Brake on the 8th

July 8th
Stoped at cincinnata som time Reached maysville [Maysville, Kentucky] at 6 in the evening pased several towns

July 9th
pased several towns pased pumroy [Pomeroy, Ohio] about 5 oclock in the evening

July 10th
pased mereata [Marietta, Ohio] at 6 oclock this morning got to

96 The much-desired cabin class was secured by switching to the Germantown. Private Coulter's cousin, Eli C. King of Louisville, Ky., was instrumental in arranging cabin passage for the Guards on the Germantown. Coulter, Diary, July 6, 1848, in Coulter, WPHM, XXIV, 120.
wheeling [then Wheeling, Virginia] 6 oclock this evening  Stubenville [Steubenville, Ohio] at 10 oclock

July 11th
arrived at pittsburgh Where we met a grate maney old acquaintanceas97

July 12th
turned over our catrege boxes and muskets

July 13th
Spent the Day in pittsburgh98

July 14th
mustered out of the Servis of the united Stats

July 15th
payed of  Started for Greensburgh got there at 6 oclock wher

97 Perhaps hoping to offset the 2nd Pennsylvania's grim departure of two winters previous, Pittburghers hosted a grand welcoming for returning volunteers in July 1848. The Post editorialized in a rhetorical vein, "Shall we not receive them with spontaneous, a glorious, an enthusiastic greeting?" and a June 24 meeting was called at the St. Clair Hotel to plan welcoming functions. The approaching river craft transporting the returning volunteers was heralded as it reached Wheeling, Va.: "The second Regiment has just arrived here. The steamer Hancock has just passd with Col. Hughes' Regiment of Marylanders. We shall leave at once, and will be in Pittsburgh about noon tomorrow."

Unfortunately the Guards' return, like their departure, was anticlimactic. Most of the 2nd Pennsylvania arrived in Pittsburgh July 10 and the initial ceremonies including a parade through town (Route: Water, Smithfield, Fourth and Ferry) were recent history. The July 12 Post carried an account of their arrival: "The company of Westmoreland volunteers commanded by Capt. Jno Johnson, arrived at our Warf yesterday morning at 11 ½ o'clock, where they were met by the chairman of the committee of arrangements and cordially welcomed. This arrival was unheralded and our citizens generally were not permitted to lend their smiles and their cheers. A host of warm hearts from old Westmoreland were soon on the steamer, and fathers and sons, wives and sweethearts were found in happy communion— . . . ." Somewhat gratuitously the Post added, "We got a fair look at them as they passed our office. We think them the best looking fellows that have yet returned; this is the opinion of all." The Daily Morning Post [Pittsburgh], June 22, 1848; July 10, 1848; July 11, 1848; July 12, 1848.

98 A Westmoreland Guards' banquet at the St. Charles Hotel highlighted "the Day in pittsburgh." Fifty-seven toasts virtually ran the gamut of proposals: "The Union — the political cord that binds, . . . ." "Westmoreland — She brings forth brave sons," "The gallant and chivalrous dead . . . they fill honorable graves," "James Buchanon," "The 'Ladies of Pittsburgh' — beautiful and affectionate," "The Press: the best guardians of the peoples rights." The Pittsburgh Post returned the compliment a few days later in a report of the banquet: "We never knew a party of young men collected together under such circumstances to behave so well." The Daily Morning Post [Pittsburgh], July 17, 1848.
we were received with a warm reception and marched through the town closed with a speech from Burrl [J. M. Burrell].

July 16th

beried lieutenant RHL Jonston it was a very large funeral . . . went to Salem [New Salem] that evening with som more of the Company.

July 17th

Returned home

99 The Westmoreland Guards' return to Greensburg, unlike their arrival in Pittsburgh, was favored by better circumstances than their Christmas 1846 departure; economic conditions, on the whole, were better — and it was summer. Another ad hoc committee organized their welcome. A mass procession escorted the Guards from the Allegheny County line to Greensburg. Following J. M. Burrell's speech at the courthouse, they were guests for a celebration at "John Moritz's public house" where 76 toasts were offered, some to honor, others to even old scores like one to "Col Wynkoop — Beneath the contempt of a Guard." In turn, over the remainder of the month, other Westmoreland County centers honored the Guards: Youngstown, July 17; Saltsburg, July 22; and New Salem, July 29. Each of these occasions featured a standard agenda of a parade and banquet followed by a prodigious number (82 at New Salem) of toasts. Pennsylvania Argus, July 14, 1848; July 21, 1848; August 11, 1848.