

March 17th

Head quarters Camp ^{Fort} ~~Fort~~
Tuesday 12 o'clock we marched for
Manassas we crossed long bridge at
two o'clock P.M. we marched through
some strong fortifications at a quick
pace which we kept up until about
six o'clock when we arrived at Bailin
cross road where we took up our quarters
for the night in some deserted building
I slept in a partition parlor the first
parlor that I have been in since
I went from home Adjutant Corrigan
and a guard went on that night
after the main part of the army
and found them in Manassas and
was ordered back a gain that made
us feel rather cheap March 18th
we got up this morning in Virginia
and went over to a well and washed
us and eat our grub and then we
began to explore the country we

found where Mr Cannon ball
had left his mark in a number
of places when the Skismush took
prize there last spring there is
Some heavy guns there at Munson
hill the boys could not bear to
come back without some booty so
they captured a couple of handsome
sleek cats and brought them back
to Camp Ainton and when we marched
back through the city some of the men
slipped out of the ranks and got some
whisky and got drunk and murdered
their poor prisoners I am ashamed to
say that this happened in our company
one of the men was a corporal he was
reduced to the ranks we blackguard
the poor fellow and tell him that
the Colonel reduced him for treating
the prisoners so barbarously. we
arrived in camp about one o'clock the
men were pretty tired. the one hundred
N.Y. V. regt came here to day from Buffalo

I had a good visit with Ruben
Saxton and the rest of the boys
that I was acquainted with
March 13th I was on guard today
nothing of any importance happened
March 14th Ruben came to our camp
to day and took dinner with us I
drilled as usual we have an Austrian
rifle to drill with they are a splendid
gun to shoot we have the mine
ball to shoot March 15th we got marching
last night at one o'clock we were called
out ordered to take our arms and march
for Alexandria we arrived here about
noon having about 12 miles it rained
steady and very hard we marched
onto our camp ground without a tent
to shelter us from the storm the Colonel
said that we would call this big stump
head quarters and ordered us to break
ranks and we did too and run in every
directions we found some fresh
Buffalo bulstumps and the man that had
the charge of the change of them were no

keys we built up a fire in the
fire place and dried our selves
and eat a little grub and then I
read a chapter in my bible and rolled
up in my blanket and lay down
to rest for the night March 16th 62
I am sitting in a fresh chamber chamber
by the window I can look down on the
broad bow of the Potomac there is
a large number of vessels anchored in
the river and there is little steam
tugs running to them with coal and
other freightage I expect that we shall
go on board there with thirty or
forty thousand infantry and artillery
where we are to go I cannot tell now
I guess that there is one hundred
thousand men here now ready to
make a strike some where to day is
the sabbath I have been wandering around
the country I visited the burning ground
it is handsome I went into the fort
Crawford it mounts 28 guns some of
them are 64 pounders and some are
rifled it is a strong place March
17th I went to Alexandria to day
to get my boots fixed I went down to
the river where the troops were going a
board of the transport the river is full of them