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"STRAY THOUGHTS":  
THE CIVIL WAR DIARY OF ETHIE M. FOUTE EAGLETON

*Edited by* ELVIE EAGLETON SKIPPER AND RUTH GOVE

PART II<sup>1</sup>

[June] 8th [1862] My arm rose from the effects of vaxination [*sic*]. Davis' did not take.

14th A very warm day—about 10 O clock P.M. dear George came home unexpectedly but none the less welcome. I was so glad to see him and [John].

15th A bright Sabbath morning—George not well. I am so afraid they will arrest him. He has been *honorably discharged from the army*. . . .

19th Ma & sister Angie came out for Mollie as the Yankees have taken her Pa prisoner—it use[d] to be a disgrace to go to *jail*, now it is an honor—to go there in preference to taking that vile *oath*.<sup>2</sup>

20th A lonesome day. I finished spinning my wool yarn for winter socks & stockings—the first ever I spun. We hear today that "Stonewall" Jackson has achieved wonders in Virginia—routed Banks, Shields & Fremont.<sup>3</sup> He is the hero of Virginia. Beauregard has completely "stumped" Halleck at Corinth Miss. . . .<sup>4</sup>

22nd A bright Sabbath but no preaching—The churches & stores of all who have not taken the oath, in Murfreesboro are required to be closed—Dr[s]. & Lawyers are required to quit their practice unless they take the oath. Shame! Shame! in a civilized country.

We hear that our force [Confederates] are advancing on Shelbyville—Also that the Federals at Murfreesboro are quarreling among themselves—have

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<sup>1</sup> For Part I and the "Foreword" by Ottis C. Skipper see *Publications* No. 40 (1968), 128-37. Also, many of the individuals mentioned in Part II are identified in the footnotes of Part I. Most of the neighbors and friends of the diarist are not identified. Omissions, regardless of length, are indicated by the customary three or four periods.

<sup>2</sup> For the oath see Part I, n. 16.

<sup>3</sup> Generals Nathaniel P. Banks, John C. Frémont, and James Shields opposed Stonewall Jackson in the Shenandoah Valley. Jackson struck Banks at Front Royal on May 23 and on May 24-25 drove him back through Winchester to the Potomac River. Frémont was checked at Cross Keys on June 8. Then on the following day Jackson successfully attacked Shields' advanced guard at Port Republic and hurled it back. Shields' and Frémont's withdrawal ended the Valley campaign. Mark M. Boatner, III, *The Civil War Dictionary* (New York, 1959), 739-43; *Battles and Leaders of the Civil War*, 4 vols. (New York, 1887-1888) II, 299-301; G. F. R. Henderson, *Stonewall Jackson and the American Civil War* (London, 1900), II, *passim*.

<sup>4</sup> The siege of Corinth ended on May 30 when the Confederate troops of General P. G. T. Beauregard evacuated the city. General Henry Halleck's army allowed Beauregard's forces to escape and did not vigorously pursue them. *Battles and Leaders*, II, 737; *The War of the Rebellion: A Compilation of the Official Records of the Union and Confederate Armies*, 127 vols. and index (Washington, 1880-1901), Series I, Vol. X, 660-874. Hereafter cited *O.R.*; unless otherwise indicated citations will be to Series I.

EAGLETON

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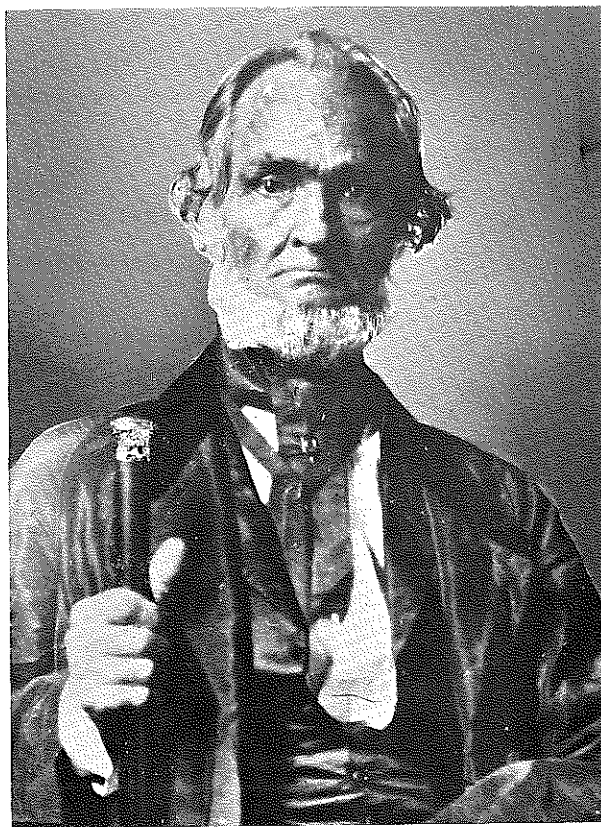
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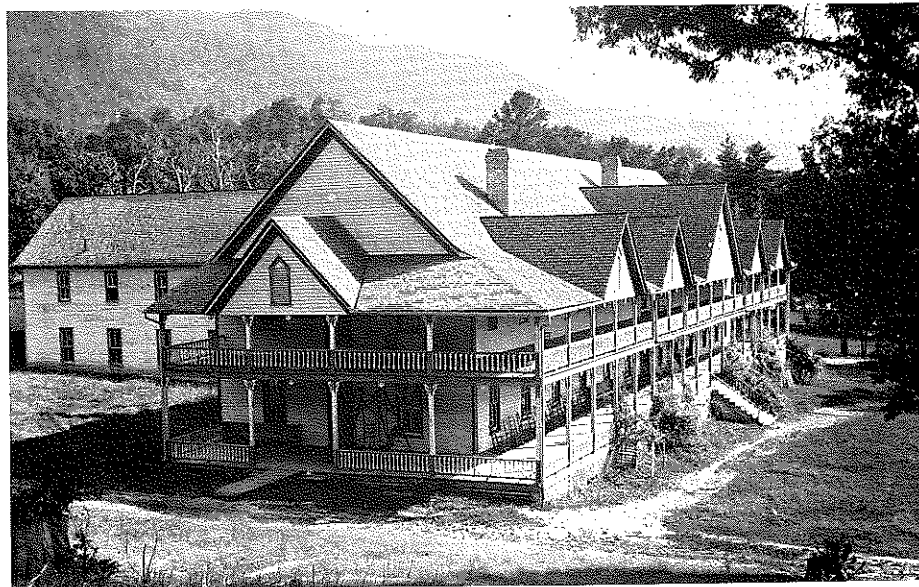
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Colonel Daniel Davis Foute  
the father of Melinda M. Foute



Montvale Springs Hotel as it appeared in 1901

arrested their own Provost Marshal [Parkhurst], with several other officers & sent them to Nashville.<sup>5</sup>

I can't think that God in his "tender mercy" will allow such a state of things much longer. Surely he will not allow his church doors to be closed by a set of vile invaders. Are there not enough *good* people in his ch[urch] to send up petitions to the throne of grace for the opening of their Ch. & the renewal of their ministers labours. "The prayer of the righteous availeth much" I, yesterday, saw the notice they sent Rev. Dr. Eagleton [the diarist's father-in-law] that he was not to preach.

26th Mollie & I went after blackberries . . . . We heard what we supposed cannonading at Columbia . . . .

28th . . . . Heard there was a fight at Columbia.<sup>6</sup> Gave John three hundred & ten dollars Confederate money to get changed—sent George seventeen dollars.

29th Ma & Bro. Sam spent the day here. Bro. S. thinks there is no hope for the Southern Confederacy—he is going to intercede for dear George & John. O that he may be merciful.

JULY, 1862

2nd, Mollie & I went over to Mrs. Gannoways. We also began to quilt Sister Elvira's "flower pot" quilt. . . .

4th The time honoured, oft celebrated, once glorious fourth of July but alas! glorious no longer. George & John came very unexpectedly. . . .

6th A very pleasant day up to five O'clock this evening—when who should come galloping up but four low down vile Yankees surrounded the house & said "We have come after two men that are here"—who sent you—by what authority did you come, have you any papers? were questions asked by George. "The Provost Marshall sent us we have no papers but a pass" "How long will it be before you are ready to go?" In a few minutes so off they [George and John] had to go escorted by four *nasty* Yankees—& perhaps have to lay in the Court House all night. Pa Eagleton has the fever, sister Vira went in to see him.

7th A long day. George & John were released by taking the oath & John came home this evening. G. did not. . . .

13th The Sabbath notwithstanding we were alarmed by the war of cannon at the breakfast table—Sister Vira & John started to church, when they halted about a mile from home & advised not to go any farther for the town was afire & there was a battle there. [N.] B. Forrest's [*sic*] Cavalry & the Texas Rangers came into town & demanded a surrender of the place<sup>7</sup>—When Capt. Rouand<sup>8</sup> [Rounds] [Provost Marshall] would not do it—then the Confederates

<sup>5</sup> There is no mention in the *Official Records* of Lieutenant-Colonel John G. Parkhurst being arrested and sent to Nashville. When General N. B. Forrest attacked Murfreesboro it was Parkhurst's Ninth Michigan Infantry, then serving as provost guard, that held the center of town on July 13, 1862. Robert S. Henry, "First With the Most" *Forrest* (Indianapolis, 1944), 86; John Allan Wyeth, *Life of General N. B. Forrest* (New York, 1899), 87.

<sup>6</sup> No listing of a battle or skirmish in Columbia, Tennessee, has been recorded prior to July 17, 1862. Frederick H. Dyer, *A Compendium of the War of the Rebellion* (Des Moines, 1908), 608.

<sup>7</sup> The Texas Rangers were first organized in 1836 as a semi-military mounted police force to protect settlers from the Indians. During the Civil War some of the Rangers formed part of General Forrest's brigades. Boatner, *Dictionary*, 833; Wyeth, *Forrest*, 84.

<sup>8</sup> Captain Oliver C. Rounds was in charge of Company B, Ninth Michigan Volunteers. He and his troops acted as part of the provost guard for the city. When they were attacked in the courthouse they held their position until the enemy set fire to the lower part of the building, at which time they were compelled to surrender. *O.R.*, XVI, Part 1, pp. 803-5.

said "The court house or the Devil" so the Court House they took. After hard fighting until about eleven O clock. Our men gained the day took about 1200 prisoners. Killed & wounded there is various reports about. It is thought they are about equal.<sup>9</sup> Old Rouand [Rounds] was dragged from under Mrs. Reeves' bed—where he had concealed himself for safe keeping. Many of the women & children had to stay in their cellars. Some 18 came out here about two O clock & said they had not had anything to eat that day. O what times—I never want to hear of the like again. I have often read of war but I never felt it before. George was in town until late in the evening.

14th All calm & quiet once more. George started for Lincoln County. Heard today that the Federals at Shelbyville & Lebanon heard of the skirmish at Murfreesboro & they "skedaddled". Mollie & her family left for Woodberry—Very lonely. Rains hard. . . .

24th Left. "Gravel Hill" about 3 P.M. spent the night at Dr. L. W. Knights.

25th Off again—passed Beach Grove—a small place. Spent the night at Mr. Brewers 15 miles from McMinnville.

26th Passed Jacksboro—the residence of the noted V. French—McMinnville & spent the night at J. B. Rogers—"Rock Island".

27th Crossed Collen's [Colin's] river—crossed Calfkill [Calf Killer Creek]—passed Sparta—called at Huggen's [Huggins?] & got our horse fed—passed "Bon Air" Springs, great many soldiers there—spent the night at the Widow Sampson's on the mountain.

28th Passed Crossville—Crab Orchard spent the night at Renfracos.

29th Stopped at Mr. Browns got our horse fed—Passed Post Oak [Springs]—Spent the night in Kingston at Esq. McEwings, a nice stopping place.

30th At Esq. A. J. Foutes—31st At Esq. W. Foutes.

#### AUGUST 1ST, 1862

At Maryville—Put up at Aunt P. Wilsons.

3rd "En route" for "Paradise Lost"—spent the night at Mr. Laws.

4th In the [Cades] Cove at last after 12 days *hard* traveling.

#### OCTOBER 1ST, 1862

Off for Maryville.

2nd Dined at Uncle R. Eagletons—spent the night at Rockford.

Oct. 3rd Dined at Mr. Coffins, "Stock Creek." Spent the night at Knoxville. . . .

14th Spent the night at J. Coffin's.

15th Dined at Mrs. Wilson's Maryville—Spent the night at Mr. McClains on Little River. 16th In the Cove. . . .

26 First snow—4 inches deep—Five soldiers spent the night here.

28 Two more soldiers here tonight—deserters I guess.

April 22—1863. About 12 o'clock in C. Cove, Exile was born.

#### SEPTEMBER, 1863 . . . .

Sept. 10th Took boarding for one week at Mr. G. B. Caldwell's [an elder in the New Market Church]—2 miles from N. Market [New Market]

<sup>9</sup> Forrest's cavalry swooped down upon upon one of General Don Carlos Buell's brigades at Murfreesboro and captured the entire Federal force of 1,750 men. Union losses were 19 killed, 120 wounded, and 846 captured or missing. Dyer, *Compendium*, 848; Stanley J. Folmsbee, Robert E. Corlew, and Enoch L. Mitchell, *History of Tennessee*, 2 vols. (New York, 1960), II, 52.

Sept. 18th Went to housekeeping in N. Market—Mr. E.'s Father and Mother—Sister Angie—& Mollie & three children & two negros [*sic*] are in family with us.

Sep. 20th Exile Campbell was baptised by the Rev. Dr. E.—his Grandpa. . . .

Nov. 8—Bro. John E. came in the night—11th He was arrested taken to Knoxville of the 12th of Dec. 6th He was released & came back to our house.

1864

Feb. 13th Fed. soldiers took possession of the Ch. [at New Market?] destroyed the bell rope—a dozen chairs—nice communion table—& the morocco binding off the elegant Bible. At Dandridge the[y] made a wagon yard of the grave yard—took up the tomb stones to make fire places to winter quarters.

March 14 Dr. Eagleton and family moved back to Murfreesboro only five in our family when yesterday there were 14. . . .

25 Snow about 11 inches deep.

April 8th Confederate fast day—not observed here. . . .

May 30th Nancy Elizabeth born. July 24th Rev. J. McCampbell baptised her. . . .

July 25 1864 Heard that Mrs. Eagleton our beloved mother was dead.

Aug 3rd Our house searched—many things stolen—Soldiers sent by here by our next door neighbors & Ch. members. Trying to run Mr. E. away from this church.

7th Mr. E. received orders never to preach in this ch. again, but feeling it his duty to preach still continues. I tremble for him.

18-25 O My Soul! if the last two weeks were just blotted from my life—My husband torn from me in the night beaten "with many stripes" most unmercifully knocked down twice by a stroke with a club over each eye—came home to me "bleeding at every pore"—persecuted—demanded to leave his family—his ch.—his country. Leave us—Oh how can he—but leave he must—we are denied any sympathy from friends—if they extend any they are threatened with the same fate of dear George. But we have some old tried friends who come notwithstanding the many threats, "A friend in need" &

But George goes in company J. N. Caldwell, O. B. Caldwell & others. He gets 9 miles from home is fired on but not hit. He gets away *safe—thank God*. And now for me—I am left without a home with three little children—the oldest just "beginning to wear pants"—but we have plenty to eat for which I have great reason to be thankful for & by the grace of God will try & do my duty to my children & take the best care of them I can until joined by my dear husband again—O how lonely the time will pass.

26th of Aug. Heard that Mr. Eagleton got cut off from the Wheelers Com[mand] at the river [The diarist probably intentionally omitted the place] Made his escape [by] another route. Mrs. Hodge came to see if I had flour enough. Mr. Hightower requested me to send there for fruit. The union people here are very gracious to the children, who thanks them for it—Rains hard! Feds in town.

27th Rebs at Mossy Creek [the present Jefferson City], Union men left town. I never knew a night of more incessant rain, thunder & lightning than last night. Mrs. Moffett & Julia Dick called.

28th Rev. Fielding held forth at the Bab[tist] Ch—There is something breeding—the union people "smell a mice"—Mrs. Moffett & Mat & Mr. Smith called. 29th Col [William] Brazzelton [Brazelton] commanding a squad of 50

Rebs entered town at 9 A.M.—At 3 P.M. Feds here. What a way to live—Many arrests made on both sides.

Aug 31st A skirmish at Mossy Creek last night—Rebs victorious<sup>10</sup>— . . .

Sept. 1st No Scouts here today . . .

2nd Yankee Scout passed through. Rebeckah came in today brought me chicken & peaches—she seems cheerful under her trials—O that I had a brother *near* to lean on & look up to as she has—3 little children to look up to me for home, food, & protection—O God help me to do my *duty* toward them—The Union People here are determined to keep me out of a house here—But the Bible says "blessed are they that are *persecuted*" More lonely than usual—imagination at work.

3rd Rain, Yankees in town—at Mrs. Smith's & Moffetts.

4th Sabbath—Presbytery met at Spring Place—Esq. Dick called for the Ch Book, Mr. Foust & Mr. Harrison nominated to go to Presb[rytery]—Yank in town arresting. Mrs. Smith over.

5th Spent at Col. Dicks—A terrible storm—heard of the death of Gen. John [Hunt] Morgan. Captured at Dr. [Alexander] Williams in Green[e]ville—Shot in the Summer House in the garden after he surrendered—30 prisoners passed down to Knoxville.<sup>11</sup> . . .

7th Very busy assisting Mrs. Moffet making her son (prisoner) some clothes—received a letter from Aunt B. [Boaz]—Rebs reported at Mossy Creek. Cars would come no farther than the plains [Strawberry Plains] with a force.

8th no Scouts in town. Cpt. Crawford that searched our house was wounded at the [Strawberry] Plains.

9th Spent at Mrs. Smith's & Inmans. A heavy Fed force came down the Country.

10th A regiment of Kentuckians went up.

Sep. 11th The trials of war are great. I asked Dave why he *loved* me he said because God would not love him if he did not love me.

12th Called at Mr. Bakers today & got some peaches. Heard that George preached at Newport—I know he was not able. Mr. Hinchy took 9 bags of wheat to mill for me.

13th Been busy all day packing up to move—as these outlaws forbid me a house in town—Mrs. Smith, Inman, Wm. A. Moffett & Harrison called in. The authorities are after Syemore [Seymore or Seymour]—God grant they may catch him & hang him as high as Hayman [Haman].

Sep. 14 Heard from George—he's improving—Mrs. Naft, Mat Moffett—Mrs. Moffett & Mrs. Smith—Miss Ma Inman—Mrs. J. & N. Caldwell—Mr. Moffett & Smith & Esa Dick all called. Got 25 yds. cloth from the weavers for which I paid 25 cts per yd. I sent it to the weavers in the bale & got it back in cloth at that price in Greenback. I thought I had made a good bargain.

15th Very busy all day—rose at 4 o'clock this morning—8 o'clock at night Mr. Childress came to advise me that the wagons would be here to move me in the morning. Oh did I ever spend a twelve months as this past twelve has been—Mrs. George Fain (who was driven from home in Dandridge) Mrs. Gen

<sup>10</sup> Between August 29 and September 4, 1864, there were military operations in East Tennessee. For the skirmish at Mossy Creek at Union loss of 1 killed and 8 wounded was reported. Dyer, *Compendium*, 873. Col. William Brazelton, Jr., of Jefferson County, organized the 3rd Tennessee Cavalry Battalion (Confederate). Civil War Centennial Commission, *Tennesseans in the Civil War*, 2 vols. (Nashville, 1864-65), I, 24.

<sup>11</sup> Brig. General John Hunt Morgan (1825-64) was shot on September 4 in Greeneville. Basil W. Duke, *A History of Morgan's Cavalry* (Bloomington, Ind., 1960), 538-40.

Brazzelton [Brazelton], Mrs. Moffett & Mrs. Baker came to see me. I feel that I still have *friends*.

16th Friday—I moved from N. Market without a *sigh*. Mr. Waugh hauled two loads for which I had to pay him \$4.00—Mr. Hinchy hauled one for which I paid him \$2.00. Mr. Gid Caldwell hauled one—Mr. Smith & Moffett came *out* & helped me "fix up"—Mrs. Brazzelton [Brazelton] gave me \$2.75 for my churn & keeles. . . .<sup>12</sup>

18th This day one year ago we moved to N. Market—C. Blackburn here. A prayermeeting organized in the college [Holston College—a Methodist school] today—why did they not go to church were they afraid George's ghost would haunt them? . . . .

20th Mr. Gid Caldwell—our protected [protector] arrested today. . . .

23rd Rains—Mr. Harrison brought me some molasses—a fight at Lick Creek [Greene County]. Confederates victorious. . . .

27th Fight at Bull[']s Gap.<sup>13</sup> Rebeckah spent the evening with me.

28th Making apple jelly—29 Rains—Feds headquarters at Green[e]ville.

30th Understand the Saltworks has been taken.<sup>14</sup> Reading "Mothers Recompense"—Let Miss A. Kilgore have 6½ yards cloth for which she was to wash.

Oct. 1st 1864—Very busy reboiling molasses and making apple preserves. Spent the evening at Mrs. A. Caldwell's—Rebs at Mossy Creek. 2nd Flags of Truce meet at Dandrage [Dandridge] to prepare for exchange of prisoners. Reading the "Ways of Providence" by T. S. Author [Arthur].

3rd F. of Truce accomplished nothing. Mrs. A. Blackburn & daughter spent the evening here. . . .

5th Called at Rebeckah—the 10th Michigan went down to the "plains" to meet Forest [N. B. Forrest].

6th Rains—7th Spent the day at Tuck[a]hoe at the Widows of Rev. J. McCampbell. A pleasant place to visit—formed some new acquaintances—Understand that Atlanta has been recaptured by the Rebs [a false rumor] . . . .

8th Something up—Citizens stampeding—the 8th Tenn. went up to the [Cumberland] Gap today. . . .

10th Walked into town & got a roll of leather—Heard of the arrest of a Con soldier who was hid at Rev. Harrison's. . . .

14th Heard the Feds were leaving Knoxville [another false rumor]—God grant they may.

Oct. 15 Another beautiful Sab. without any preaching—Another victory at Mossy Creek—3 Yanks killed—Cap. Lewis & all his men but one captured.<sup>15</sup> One reb-sleeps in his coffin in the Bab Ch N Market—the Cars did not come

<sup>12</sup> This could be the word keeler, which means a very broad shallow tub, especially one for holding liquids. Mrs. Brazelton was the wife of Gen. William Brazelton, an outstanding citizen of Jefferson County, who had commanded the First Division of the East Tennessee militia, and the mother of the Col. William Brazelton, Jr., mentioned above, n. 10.

<sup>13</sup> No reference to an engagement at Lick Creek at that time has been found, but a skirmish was reported at Bull's Gap on August 24, 1864 (a month earlier). Dyer, *Compendium*, 837.

<sup>14</sup> Probably King's salt works near Lebanon, Virginia, where late in September Gen. Stephen G. Burbridge advanced to the saltworks and was confronted by a force commanded by Gen. John C. Breckinridge. The salt works were partially destroyed by Federal General George Stoneman later in December. *Battles and Leaders*, IV, 478-79.

<sup>15</sup> There was a skirmish at Mossy Creek against the Michigan 10th Cavalry. Dyer, *Compendium*, 1275.



up. Tis reported that Gen [Samuel P.] Carter has moved his headquarters from Knoxville to Danville, Kentucky.<sup>16</sup>

17th Spent the day with several friends at Julia's. Got the childrens shoes. Heard of Mr. Maybee being murdered—Oh how thankful I am that George is not here. Esq. Dick let me have 6 pounds of leather for a green hide weighing 42 pounds.

19th Spent the day at Julia's—sent Mr. M. \$10.00 on Georges note.

21—about 1 in the night a Reb scout came in—Mr. Gid [Caldwell] was one of them. Mr. E. has gone to Lexington Vir to Synod—Mr. Smith came & brought me a bag of potatoes & some beef—I now hear the Cavalry bugle—whether it is Rebs or Fed I don't know—We have been looking for both partys. What a state of suspense to be in—Listen! what is that—*clinck, clinck* goes the spurs—*tramp, tramp* goes the horses. Look! at the Yanks Commanded by Capt. Brown. Getting down—coming in—my little hut is running over with them "Where is your husband? In the Confederacy "In the army? No Sir—"How old is he" between 28 & 30 Sir—"Got him conscripted before this time"—No Sir—he wrote me by a "flag of truce" that he was not in the army—"you lie dam you"—

22 More Yanks—"Got any bread?" No Sir—"Any meat?" No Sir—"Any butter?" no cow to make butter from—"What in the hell do you live on?"

23rd Took Rebeckah her dinner—About 100 Yanks here foraging—chickens & hogs "go up"—*One* said he run 66 Rebs out of the woods above this—I thought like the Indian said "heap big lie that." They have made a hospital of the house we lived in at N. Market—See an account of Mr. E. escape in the "Christian Observer"—O dear here is the Feds stealing the bread out of the oven & under the bed looking for apples—One of them asks "Is your husband in the reb army?" No Sir—"The hell"—& off he rides.

26 I hear a soldier passing & singing. "I hope you will not forget me Mother if I am numbered among the slain."<sup>17</sup>

27 Raining. The Soldiers are moving to Mossy Creek—Paid Mr. Newman 4 pounds of Bacon for his son's days work. I'm sick.

28th No better—the Dr.—Rebs & Feds both in town today. Got a letter from George by "flag of truce"—My chairs & bedsteads that was [*sic*] left at town were reported & about to be confiscated—When Capt. Gracie bought them for \$16.40.

29th Mr. Smith came out—bad news from Gen [J. C.] Vaughn heavy loss—110 prisoners & the wounded.<sup>18</sup> My face & eyes some better. I loaned Mrs. J. Caldwell \$10.00 in almighty Greenback. . . .

Nov. 2nd Gen Vaughn reported whipped—he falls back to Jonesboro. . . .

<sup>16</sup> General Samuel P. Carter was appointed by Gen. Ambrose Burnside as provost-marshal-general of East Tennessee in 1863. He was relieved of this duty in January, 1865. The *Official Records* do not indicate that Carter ever moved his headquarters to Danville, Kentucky. William Rule, *Standard History of Knoxville, Tennessee* (Chicago, 1900), 169; *O.R.*, XXXXV, Part 2, p. 620.

<sup>17</sup> From the song, "Just Before the Battle, Mother," by George F. Root. Original words read: "But, oh, you'll not forget me Mother, If I'm numbered with the slain." This song, plus many others written during the Civil War period, was sung by both northerners and southerners. Irwin Silber (ed.), *Songs of the Civil War* (New York, 1960), 151-53.

<sup>18</sup> During October and November, a detachment of the brigade of the 3rd (Vaughn's) Tennessee Infantry Regiment took part in the fighting around Bull's Gap and Morristown. A report of November 10, 1864, showed the brigade under Major General John C. Breckinridge's command. Centennial Commission, *Tennesseans in the Civil War*, I, 180.

4th Winter is earnest. Cold sleeting rain.  
 5th Went over to Mrs. A. Blackburns—made arrangements to partly pay our debt—She would not let me pay any money.  
 6th Sabbath—clear & cold—the first ice I've seen this year—been reading "Spurgens Gems" [Charles Haddon Spurgeon]—he must be a very bright man.  
 7 Raining—Mrs. T. Inman sent me a pound of madder [a dyestuff].  
 8th I went to the woods & hauled Mrs. A. Caldwell's son home who had been knocked down because he would not give up his horse to a renegade. I had to dress his head. . . .  
 10 Went in town—left \$3.00 with J. Moffet to get alum. Heard that everything Pa had was taken from him, poor old man to be deprived of the comforts of life in his old age . . . .  
 14th Ah! What a stampede was never heard of—The Yanks running in every direction—report—10 Rebs drove 500 Feds to the [Strawberry] Plains—Breckenridge [John C. Breckinridge] & Vaughn . . . .  
 16 Kind O'Clear & kind o'cloudy—Rebs still here. 'Tis thanksgiving day in Dixie—no preaching at N. Market for the troops are moving. I sent word to Gen. Vaughn if there was any chance of my getting a government wagon to move in—have not received a reply yet. Rec'd a note from Col. Dick—Our Salt [lose salt mines]—if we moved.  
 17 Clear. Cannonading hot & heavy at the "plains."<sup>19</sup>  
 18 Gen Vaughn has routed Gen [Alvan C.] Gillim [Gillem].<sup>20</sup>  
 19 Still rains. 20 Sabbath—no preaching . . . 8 O clock—who should step in but *George*—Long looked for. . . .  
 24 O how can I ever give *George* up again—he left between 7 & 8 O clock P.M.  
 25 Reb picket fired at below town. *George gone*—Oh how lonely. All bright out of doors. . . .  
 27 Sabbath—such lonesome weather. Gid & O Caldwell came. *George* came back about dusk. Rebs still at Mossy Creek. Had a pleasant prayer-meeting.  
 28 Warm—we killed our beef . . . .  
 30 Nannie 6 months old—Mrs. Smith came out & cut Mr. E. a suit of gray clothes. Several here for dinner. Army fell back to Morristown. *George* had to leave today about 12 Ocl. . . .  
 Dec 4th A beautiful Sabbath—No preaching nor no Yankees greatly to our relief. I've been reading the Ch. Observer—was surprised to see upon what good terms the old & new School ch [churches] united—don't think I can feel at home with them.  
 5th Busy sewing—Davie asked "if heaven was not in Dixie."  
 6 Rain—half sick & blue—Mr. Wilson called to sell me a hog—asking me 25c per pound groce [gross] & allowing me \$9.00 a bushel for salt & it sells readily for \$10.00—this thing of trading is repulsive to me. This is a world of stern reality. Davie heard a buzzard hollow—said he 'spect it was *God calling him up to his house*. Sad tonight—"those twined with my heart have left me here to live in vain"—it seems strange but all things loved by me pass away. Some in death—some to forget—some—well no matter what, I must teach this

<sup>19</sup> There were actions at Strawberry Plains on November 16-17. Dyer, *Compendium*, 874.

<sup>20</sup> After Morgan's death, Vaughn commanded the forces in eastern Tennessee until Lee's surrender. Gillem, a Union general, commanded an expedition to East Tennessee from August, 1862 to March, 1865, with the 4th Division, Cavalry Corps, Army of the Cumberland. The two commanders probably fought against each other during this time. Boatner, *Dictionary*, 342, 343, 868.

woman heart not to love—O won't it be a happy reunion of hearts—a gala day in the south when this war is over—O happy day!

7 It rains, it shines & the wind blows. Mr. A M Campbell got 16 lb. Salt for the making of childrens shoes. I heard that my poor old papa was in Knoxville—where o where is my mother & sister—their only protector taken from them. Tell me kind heaven is this cruel way of living our doom—see old gray headed men torn from the bosom of their families from their pleasant fireside—Tis not on man that these partings fall heaviest—he goes forth into the fierce strife of the world & enters into its business & turmoils—until he has no time for sorrow—little for remembrance—he gives a thought once in a while to the hearth he has left behind—he thinks sadly for a while of the tear wet face of one to whom he bade goodbye with a kiss long ago—perhaps a tear dims his eye at the remembrance but the whirl of his active life soon brushes it from his memory. Women think always—he is never absent from her thoughts—the last dream at night is of him & with the first thought of the morning his thought is blended. His footsteps seem sounding upon every wind. She lives over a thousand times the day they have passed together, she remembers every soft word he has spoken—everything for which he expressed a preference she cherishes—the past is her treasure house—She lives not in the present but in the hope & the memory. The children have been good.

8th Dave wanted to know this morning when the past disappeared "if the sun had not borrowed the frost?" He heard me say "plague on" he said Ma I will have to pray for you tonight—I wonder if George is thinking of "God's Holies" as some one has styled wives & children. . . .

10th Reb scout passed—wrote to George—had a letter from Mag. Exile is 20 months can't talk. Sharpened my pencil & Dave wanted to know if "*the point grew out*"—Called at Mr. A. Caldwell's. Began to read "Elm Tree Tales" by F. Irene Burges Smith. . . .

20th Yankees gone to Bristol.

21 It rains, it snows, such getting in of wood & chips & pine—a bad spell of weather.

22nd Snow—been getting wood. 23. Sarah, my nurse left today. A yankee scout passed.

24 Clear but cold—At home all day by myself—so lonely—busy fixing up Christmas presents for the children. Apples, cake, candy—we can't get toys now—been cutting & carrying wood—Began to read "Know-Nothing"—Excitable!

Dec. 25, 1864!! Rain. Well I thought last Christmas dull, but this is worse. Jan. 9th 1865 I feel just like Thomas Moor [More] says "who would inhabit this bleak world alone"—so lonely tonight.

10 . . . went to town—sold one bushel of salt for \$10.00 in greenback.

11 Rain—Exile sick—sit up with him in the night—lay down before the fire to take a "nap"—woke up & found my *dress on fire*. Old Charles hauled wood—charged me 4 doz eggs for the days work. . . .

14 Took a wagon went over to Rebeckah & got a press. Got a shoat from Frank Newman—weighing 90 lb gross (67½ net) paid him \$14.00. This has been a beautiful day. Mr. Smith cut me some wood. . . .

16 Spent the day at Mrs. A. Caldwell's—got a pair of shoes for myself—gave \$4.00 for the making & I found the leather. . . .

19th Had a letter from T. E. Oldham informing me of pa's extreme illness. . . .

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24 Intelligence today that dear Pa died last Wednesday & was buried Thursday with masonic honors. My poor Mother & sister Jane are left alone. God knows alone what will become of them. Bro. Thomas [Jefferson Foute—Another brother, Obadiah Boaz, was still living.] came for the *first* time to see me—a *joyful* yet *sad* meeting—his horse was taken from him at our front gate by the Yankees.

25 Bro. went to Knox—intends to try & get to Ma's. Davie gave me a good reproof for reading novel a week or two ago; said "Ma read to me" I picked up the "Lamplighter" & began to read—he said Ma read to me about God—he wonders how God made him without *nails*. . . .

Feb 1 Cloudy. Rebs victorious at Plains Roads. . . .

Feb. 1 Cloudy. Rebs victorious at Plains Roads.

22. Rain. Heavy cannonading at the Plains & Knoxville in honor of Washington's birthday. . . .

March 1865

15th Yankees in the yd. taking the chickens. Nannie very sick . . . .

17 Clear. Old [William G.] Brownlow is giving me suit in his paper calls [me] a Spie—a She-Devil of Hell in the shape of a Pres[byterian] ministers wife—going to arrest me.<sup>21</sup>

18. Gen [George H.] Thomas' troops gone up—many of them here—all behaved well—Was sent for to dress Mr. A. Caldwell's *band* which he has been suffering with for some time—gave the Fed Soldiers some Tracts to read. . . .

22. A real March day—feel very uneasy because Gen [A. C.] Gillim's [*sic*] men are coming back. I don't fear Gen. Batie's [Beatty]<sup>22</sup> army—but do Gillims: O God of mercy protect us—Nannie better.

23. Yanks are serenading here. 24. Nannies throat swollen [*sic*]. Kept this day as a day of fasting & humiliation in behalf of our army—O God wilt thou shield our Soldiers from every bullet & temptation & make them valiant soldiers of the "Cross of Christ."

25. Clear—Seen a "Bulletin" published at N. Market<sup>23</sup>—it at last can sport a paper. Met with a curiosity in the shape of a Fed. sol[dier]—by the name of Rowe—he told was foraging for Gen. Stanly [David S. Stanley] & told me a gooddeal [*sic*] about their plans & purposes & then beg me not to betray him—when he went to start said "Madam this is one of the happiest evenings ever I spent."

26. Clear Sab—a Catholic poluted the holie sanctuary in New Market by preaching in a heretic church. . . .

28. Cloudy. Soldiers banging at the door in the night. . . .

29 Raining—was aroused often in the night by the soldiers. They moving up the country—Nannie no better—been reading "Cin[cinnati] Commercial" "Pres[byterian]-Witness" 30. Rain—made some calls. Rec'd from sister M. 10 yds black calico—1 spool thread—1 paper pins—coarse & fine comb—brass kettle—bought of Mrs. A. C. 4½ yds, calico for 40 cts. a yd. Read the presen-

<sup>21</sup> Ethie is probably referring to Brownlow's editorial, "Capture of Brazleton [Brazelton]." William Brazelton, Jr., the son of General William Brazelton, was captured in New Market, and according to the editorial, "A she-devil [Ethie Foute Eagleton], the wife of a rebel preacher, had come in advance of him to spy out the land." *Brownlow's Knoxville Whig and Rebel Ventilator*, March 15, 1865. On March 4 Brownlow had been elected governor of Tennessee.

<sup>22</sup> Probably General John or General Samuel Beatty of the Federal forces.

<sup>23</sup> No other mention of this newspaper has been found. It is probable that only a few issues were printed. There had been a newspaper in New Market during the 1830's.

tation speech of a gold watch by the colored brethren of Knox. to Gov. Brownlow, The speech was grandeliquent—written by Horace Maynard. Elder L. Foust refused to pay me any subscription to the Ch. [church] Had a letter from Pa Eagleton.

31st Cloudy—A fight above Jonesboro. Got 1/2 doz. tumblers.

April 1—"All Fools Day"—Clear—2-3. Clear & warm, gave 50 cts to the Con[federate] hospital at Knox.

4-5 Spring like day—called at Mrs. A. C. I believe it is confirmed at Richmond—that the Fed- entered town after 3 days hard fighting.<sup>24</sup>

6-7 Fed searched the house after Gov. property—

8th Mrs. Glen here—called at Mrs. Moffets—It was the veritable Monroe Meek that reported me to Brownlow. . . .

10-11 Rain—Called at Mrs. Moffets—Tis confirmed that Lee has surrendered—last Sab. morning about 8 Oc.

13 Been trying to get a cow, my children are so starved for milk.

15 Rains—N. Market the "Stars and Stripes" were floating—the young people & old marching up & down the street singing "Rally round the flag boys"—At night the town was illuminated. . . .

24 . . . Cars been running longer & louder than usual—O depraved man "by nature thou art in stupidity & insensibility a block"—been reading the Bible and life of "E. Payson."<sup>25</sup>

25 Clear. Patching—Mrs. Cook here. O if I just had a cow—when I go to any body elses table I see the rich milk & butter I hear my children beg for it I can't keep the tears back—I cannot buy it at the exorbitant price it is selling at. The milk & butter would help out with my meat which is growing short. Weighed Exile 28, Dave 33, Nan 17 months old weighed 18. . . .

May 5th Last night was roused up by a low voice 'Ethie, ETHIE'—I bounced up—O Julia what is the matter? Three soldiers took Gid [Caldwell] off to Mossy Creek. I dressed myself, went up & staid [sic] with them till 11 O cl. when Gid came back said they gave him about 30 stripes I think this is making peace with a vengeance.

6th Hard for me to get to work. Esq. Dick came & told me the people of N. Market thought Mr. B. acted very prudently in not having them torn to pieces when Wheeler's command was here. What an insult, but I considered the source. . . .

19 Off for Knoxville. 20. Off for Stock Creek. Spent the night with Esq. Snider in Tucklechie Cove.

21 Off for Cades Cove—reached there about 12 O cl. found all well. feel so sad—no pa there, he was always the first to meet me, but he is gone! . . .

July 16th George came with buggy & wagon to move us to N. Carolina

19th Busy making preparation 20 Off to N.C. with Woods, Morrison, Bradford, Bro. T[homas], Sister J[ane] & niece Mag. Twas a trial to part with my dear old mother, I never expect to see her again. Camped in the mountains. Slept in a tent on the ground. All tired.

<sup>24</sup> On April 2, 1865, General U. S. Grant's troops broke through the Confederate defenses, and the city was abandoned that same night by Lee's army. Richmond surrendered the following day. *Battles and Leaders*, IV, 725-28.

<sup>25</sup> Edward Payson (1783-1827), a Congregational clergyman from Portland, Maine, was noted for his burning revival spirit and oratorical ability. After his death he became one of the most read of American divines. *Dictionary of American Biography*, XIV, 333-34.

21 Moved on by sun up—Many "ups" & "downs"—rough road—built bridge—ate dinner. Camped again in the mountains.

22 At Culbertsons ate dinner—started, rolled rock—clum [*sic*] the mountains—turned over the wagon—parted with my dear Brother & Sister & niece never perhaps to meet them all again. Camped near Crisps bad road.

23 Sat. Bad neighborhood for man & beast—can't lay over. Move on. Got Mr. Welck to come with us across Tuckaseys [Tuckasegee River] (he waided it carried Exile) & up a bad place in the mountain—Camped at Ellis'—

24 Passed Col. W. Thomas' farm—pretty place, met Indians, crossed Tuckasege[e]—bought potatoes—molasses—butter—

25 Rained—stopped at Webster . . . .

26 Crossed Balsom [Balsam] Mt. passed Wayn[e]sville. Spent the night at Mr. Shooks on Pigeon River.

27 Crossed French Broad through Ash[e]ville—a much larger place than I expected—2 miles this side we staid alnight [*sic*] at free Georges, nice bed.

28 On the bank of the Swananoë [Swannanoa] R. I am writing 12 O cl, crossed the river twice, dined at Alexander's—Crossed Swanano [Swannanoa] Mt.—lunched near the top—at 4 O clock. Camped near Martins.

29th Came thro Marion— . . . .

30 Sab. rained on us all day dreadful hard, but we hastened on to cross Muddy Creek ere it is too high. Camped at Walker's not a dry thread on—got first ripe peaches.

31 Crossed Silver Creek on thro Morganton to the depot, 2 miles this side take Cars at 12 O cl. & landed at Uncle Thomas' at 4 P.M. 247 miles.

Aug. 3 Came from Uncle T. with Cousin James Watts, to our new home, there found Mrs. Dr. McClelland, Aunt "Roasy" & Cou. "Rixie" Watts to receive us. "Dinner waiting." . . . .

31 Went with Cos. R. Nesbitt to see his mother—the only surviving sister of my Grandfather. There is the place where the first store that ever was in Iredell Cy. Aunt D. Nesbitt is 86 years old—she goes about & tends to her domestic affairs.

Sept. 1, 1865 Came home from Aunt D. Nesbitts. She put many presents in for me. 3 George gone to Shiloh [N.C.] . . . .

Nov. 4th . . . had letter from Sis J[ane] They are driven from their home [Cades Cove]. . . .

28 . . . Amused at some of the childrens funny sayings, Exile says the stopper [handle] came out of his hammer. Davie wants to know if Christmas lays eggs—he broke a squash—& told me it "fell to staves."

Oct 6-7 Cold raw weather. The Parsonage is raised today. Want to get in 1st of Jan. . . .

21 . . . Busy cooking and packing up—A letter from Sis J. mailed at Pulaski[;] they have moved—Poor mother monieless [*sic*] & homeless.

22 We christened the L of the Concord parsonage, moved.

25 Notable day dull. Too wet for the Temperance Society to meet. Old Uncle Billy Morrison—the oldest Elder in the ch. ate dinner with us. We received a letter from Messers J. & S. Eagleton [of Philadelphia] informing us that there was a "Christmas Box" in Statesville sent by Adams Express Company—Kind brothers—26th Busy fixing up.

27 Busy—Received the "box"—Ball, whistle—transparent slate—top, doll, cravats—Balmoral, gauntlets—doz. linen Kerchief—sague, hood, pair Slippers—O how thoughtful. Oct 10th 1866 Mother died on the 6th Minnie was born on the 5th.

December, 1867

Had a protracted meeting in Concord ch. this 2nd & 3rd weeks in this month. . . .

22nd Today is the *last* Sab. at Concord Ch. *O that I might blot from my memory*—May I never witness such another *Farewell* scene. May I never have to part with a congregation that I loved as dearly as I do these. I did not know I loved them, did not appreciate their love for us, so much until it came time to bid them a *long, lasting "Farewell."* O how my heart aches every time I think about them.

23 Monday took the Cars at Statesville, passed through many pretty places—24th Left Augusta at 7 $\frac{3}{4}$  P.M. 25th Left Montgomery at one O clock. Left Mobile 26th 7 $\frac{1}{2}$  A.M.—Steamer "Louisa."

27 At the St. Charles Hotel. N. Orleans—Where we have to "lay over" some days.

31st  $\frac{1}{2}$  after 5 O clock aboard the "Idahoe" (Capt Blanks) en route for Millers Bluff—Ark. Up the "Father of Water"—old river up Red river Black & Ouchita [Ouachita] rivers—did not get as far up as the "Bluff" on account of "low water", got off at Trenton—there took a cotton wagon "Capt Sol" an unbleached American, came as far as Eldorado Union Cty—a desperate cold spell. One place the Creek ran six inches over the wagon bed & we had to ride for three miles before we got to fire & the trees were covered with ice.

Jan. 9th left Eldorado in an open wagon—The bushes were lapped across the road until Mr. Eagleton had to walk many places & pull them away until the wagon could pass. The childrens feet were swollen [*sic*] in their boots until had to draw fresh water & put them in. Traveled 20 miles & reached Mt. Holly Union County Arkansas about 7 O clock at night. Boarded at Esq McRae's three weeks.

31st Came to housekeeping at Mt. Holly Parsonage.<sup>28</sup>

<sup>28</sup> Additional genealogical information. One of the two brothers of the diarist was Thomas Jefferson Foute, born May 31, 1828. He married first Cassie H. Sherrill, and second, Mrs. Susan Sherrill Osborn. He is mentioned above in the diary entries for January 24 and July 19, 1865. A younger brother, Obadiah Boaz Foute (Oct. 7, 1839-Aug. 16, 1875) married Mary Catherine Sherrill (Aug. 6, 1846-April 15, 1927). He is mentioned in the diary entry for January 28, 1862. See *Publications* No. 40, p. 133. The Aunt Boaz mentioned in the entry for September 7, 1864, was Eliza King (daughter of Richard Hugg King and his wife Mary Ross King), who married Obadiah Boaz. She was an aunt of Ethlinda, since she was a sister of Dorcas King Foute, Ethlinda's mother.

Two errors in the "Foreword" to the diary in *Publications* No. 40 should be noted. On page 128 the date of the first post office in Cades Cove should be 1833 instead of 1837, according to a letter from the Post Office Department in the Papers of J. W. Oliver cited to the editors by Durwood C. Dunn of Townsend, Tennessee. On page 131, line 17, the date should be 1863, not 1862.