

DIARY OF JOHN BERRIEN LINDSLEY, 1861-1865, ABRIDGED

1861

- Jan. 4 National Fast Day –
22 Heard John Bell [*Presidential candidate 1860*] at the Capitol.
- Feb. 9 Saturday – Election passed off orderly – but great enthusiasm. [*On January 7 Governor Isham Harris had called the Legislature into session to adopt a resolution enabling this election – citizens were to cast their votes for or against a convention to discuss secession. On this day the vote ran 4-to-1 against secession. However, when a second election is held in June, Tennesseans will vote to join the Confederacy by a significant majority.*] polls closed at 4 P.M., at 6 P.M. generally agreed that the Union party had carried the state by an overwhelming vote: and that no convention was passed by a decided vote.
- Mar. 29 At a little past six P.M. a very severe storm – high wind, heavy rain, thunder, lightning – blew off the roof of the tower of the Howard School with bell weighing 1200 lbs – damaged the roof of the main building – Also damaged 2nd Cumb. Pres. Church – and several private houses. My old refectory building also.
- Apr. 14 Preached in Edgefield church – Col. IV. 1 [*“Masters, give unto your servants that which is just and equal; knowing that ye also have a Master in heaven.”*] – 70 min
20 — All this week the City intensely excited – waves of revolution tempestuous.
- May 5 Preached – Edgefield church – Luke 2.14 [*“Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men.”*] – 55 min.
25 Randal McGavock left for Camp at Dover.
29 Great revolution procession.
- June 8 Election day on Separation & Representation or versus – passed off very quietly. Regarding the whole matter as null from illegality, I did not vote. In Middle & West Tennessee no canvass was allowed – the speaking & printing being all on one side. It is said that in East Tennessee a full & free canvass took place.
- July 4 Very quiet.
31 11 P.M. reached Richmond [Virginia], 9 hours behind time.
- Aug. 1 Busy inspecting the field – what openings for volunteer surgeons.
2 Visited General hospital – some 400 sick & wounded soldiers & prisoners
3 Tredegar Iron Works – drive with Capt. Weems.
5 Tredegar Works – Hospital with Col. Rains [*Col. George W. Rains of North Carolina, 1842 West Point graduate, was soon put in charge of the erection and outfitting of the principal Confederate powder mill, which would operate from April 1862 until the end of the war.*] Very hot weather.
6 Hospital with Dr. Gibson
7 “ with Rev. Wills of Macon & Rev. Flynn of Milledgeville, & to prison hospitals with Hon Ben. Hill of Georgia. [*Benjamin Hill served as a Georgia statesman for more than three decades. Hill began his political career in 1851 as a state representative, served as a Confederate senator during the Civil War, and*

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- (1861) *won a seat in the U.S. Congress in 1875, resigning that to take a Senate seat, which he held until his death.]*
- 8 Union Hill Hospital – Surgeon Briggs.
- 9 Hospital – Dr. Logan of Charleston – night with Dr. Gibbes at Prof. Gibson’s – former has typhoid fever.
- 11 Dr. Moses Dr. Hoge. Hospitals with Loftin & Richardson.
- 12 Jos. L. King of Knoxville – agreeable acquaintance – left. Dr. T.G. Richardson.
- 14 Interview with Sur. Gen. Moore. [*Samuel Preston Moore, 1813-1889, was Surgeon General of the Confederate Army from July 31, 1861, until the end of the war. One of his major achievements was to provide the Confederate troops with medicines from native Southern plants.*] After this stay at Richmond & much observation became satisfied that volunteer surgeons were not welcome. Also concluded to recommend to the Nashville Ladies the Young Men’s C. Association’s Army Committee as the best agent for managing their contributions
- 23 Moved to Camp of Gen. D.S. Donelson.
- 24 In Camp.
- 25 Preached to 16th – Col Savage’s regiment. II Tim 2.3 [*“Thou therefore endure hardness, as a good soldier of Jesus Christ.”*] – 30 min –
- 26 Attended drill of Savage’s regiment.
- Sept. 2 At Abingdon 2.30 – found that we would have to stop – a collision – road blocked up – 2 or 3 killed – 15 wounded soldiers. 1 P.M. reached Bristol.
- 5 8 A.M. at Nashville – traveled 1755 miles –
- 11 Ladies Solders’ Relief Society – spoke 30 minutes –
- Oct. 6 Commenced lectures on the Bible to the Cadets – 9 A.M. every sabbath.
- 8 Tableaux for solders’ benefit.
- Dec. 2 Last two weeks great excitement about Militia – drafting, &c – Both departments of the University disturbed by it.
- Winter so far very mild. Gun factory on College street nearly finished. Flour mill near the waterworks finished this autumn.
- A year of confusion & trouble.
- 1862**
- Jan. 14 Thunder storm at night; very heavy rain in Franklin Co.; several houses unroofed in Murfreesboro.
- 23 Great excitement about Zollicoffer’s disaster [*Nashville resident Felix Zollicoffer, 1812-1862, became the first Confederate General to die in battle, when he inadvertently wandered into a Union position at dusk.*]
- 26 Sunday. Remains of H.M.R. Fogg received. [*Henry Middleton Rutledge Fogg, only son of a prominent Nashville lawyer and educator, was Zollicoffer’s aide during the Kentucky campaign. Zollicoffer immediately had the young man’s*

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body shipped home to his parents' house, which stood where the Nashville Public Library now stands. No one expected then that the General's body would follow a few days later.] Immense crowd at Depot.

- 28 Funeral of Henry Fogg – large attendance. [*Another Nashville resident who attended the funeral wrote this in her diary: "Today attended the funeral of Maj. Fogg...I think I never saw such grief & sorrow in any one's face as in Mr. Fogg's...His mother was wonderfully sustained by the hope she has in his death & her abiding faith in God. She sang at the funeral of her lost child." Fogg was buried in Nashville City Cemetery.*]
- Feb. 1 Gen. Zollicoffer's remains arrived.
- 7 Last lecture of my course. Great apprehension for the safety of Nashville.
- 10 Monday. Examined candidates.
- 12 Signed diplomas – 9 A.M. notified that the University buildings were needed for hospitals – By dark had all the Libraries removed. 4 P.M. requested by Dr. Pim to act as Surgeon.
- 13 By 8 P.M. the buildings completely emptied and swept. Coal & provisions on hand – 18 men working – steward & 4 Med. Assistants engaged. Quartermasters arranged with.
- 14 After breakfast notified Post Surgeon Pim that my hospital was not in readiness; but would be in two days. He ... replied that he must send the convalescents as the Bowlinggreen sick were arriving in large numbers. On conversing farther found out that it was intended to establish also a camp for convalescents on the University grounds. Meeting Medical Director Yandell, I remonstrated – He agreed with me that the Hospital and encampment would greatly interfere with each other. I hastened to Capt. A.J. Lindsay, commander of the post, and after much persistence got an order to remove the encampment, if the tents were not already pitched. Hurried up to the University, & fortunately they were just laying out the camp. Capt. Cottles civilly received me, and agreed at once to carry out the order if I would shelter his men for the night. Snow was still upon the ground. All day crowds of 40, 60, 100, or 120, were pouring in from the different hospitals, or from the Bowlinggreen army. They were tired & hungry, some had not breakfasted, none had dined – By night we had not less than 700 in the Stone College & Barracks. We managed by very hard work to get them something to eat by 8 or 9 P.M. To the 500 in the barracks we distributed a gill each, of brandy from the Hospital stores. Both buildings were comfortably warmed. Drs. Hoyte, Humphrey Peake, Wheeler & Lane, with Thomas (of Demoville & Bell) were my assistants. Gartlan also.
- 15 Saturday – Hard work all day to feed the big crowd. Tom Woods & Meniffee [*Marginal note in different handwriting: "color men"*] very useful in dining room. All of us perfectly worn out with the task of feeding some six hundred convalescents, & taking care of one hundred or more quite ill persons -- Reports & rumors of the battles at Fort Donelson. Night speaking at the Capitol – Triumph over the repulse of the gunboats.
- 16 Sunday – Johnston's army passing by the University from 10 A.M. until after dark – camped out near Mill Creek. Light of campfires very bright at night. The

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army was in rapid retreat – the men disliked bitterly giving up Nashville without a struggle. The Southern army however was too small to make a stand against the overwhelmingly superior numbers of Union troops. About 12 M. [*The “M” stands for “meridian,” and means “noon.”*] a doctor in uniform rode up & gave me to read an order addressed to all the Surgeons of hospitals in Nashville – to wit: imperative directions to assemble all the men who were able to walk, place them under charge of a Surgeon or Sargeant [*sic*], with orders to report at the camp on the Murfreesboro pike. This order was executed and by 2 P.M., we had but little more than one hundred. (In the forenoon Capt. Cottles had reported to me that his encampment for convalescents at the fair grounds was ready; and had carried off with him at least 200 men; getting a promise from me to send them dinner. I went out to the fair grounds with the Capt. On the way heard of the fall of Fort Donelson.) About 3 P.M. after dining all my men and starting off the last to the camp, went to work getting dinner for the men who went to the Fair Grounds in the forenoon – while doing so an officer came with an urgent request from the men not to forget my promise. Garthan pressed a wagon & took out two loads to them. He kept the wagon for getting commissary stores – it turned out to be Stokes of Triune –

4 P.M. Buildings now looked vacated – so all hands were set to cleaning up the buildings for the reception of the wounded from Fort Donelson who might arrive at any moment. Drs. Peake & Hober, with Saunders & ten or 12 men and boys, pretty well fixed up the lower floor of Stone College, with bedsteads &c. purchased from the Faculty by permission of Schon given the Friday previous. They were kept hard at it until 2 A.M. of Monday; then until daylight doing same for barracks. During all Sunday

- (16) from about 10 A.M., when the news of the fall of Fort Donelson reached here, the wildest excitement prevailed in the city. Very many persons left the city in vehicles – many on the cars [*railroad*] – the Gov. [*Isham G. Harris*] & Legislature decamped – Nashville was a panic stricken city. The Union men alone seemed to have their wits about them.

About 9 P.M., with Stokes wagon & six of my patients as guards went to the commissary; got bacon & six sacks of coffee. Made a second trip after midnight: found the stores closed except to the moving army.

In all my Commissariat affairs Lieut. John King McCall was very kind and useful to me.

- 17 Monday – At daylight dismissed Deubler & company. Waked up Dr. Peake, and made out a requisition for 750 men for 90 days on Capt. Schaaf, Commissary. This was on the supposition that many wounded men would speedily arrive from Fort Donelson, and that when the Federal army occupied the city we would have some four or five hundred patients. In case these men were not recognized as prisoners of war we would thus have a fund to support the hospital say six weeks until they were well: or in case the rules of war were observed the hospital would be turned over to the Federals well supplied.

After breakfast it rained very hard. I walked to Dr. Yandell's office. Called twice – saw Childers – neither Yandell nor Pim in – Went to the

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Quartermaster's Office – fortunately found Major John Sehon in –packing up busily to leave – explained my requisition – he wrote a few lines of approval.

Hurried to the Commissary's – great crowd there, everybody carrying off bacon. Gartlan had our wagon getting a load. While waiting on him I had a fine opportunity of witnessing the scramble – all sorts of vehicles in use – stout men walking off with sides and hams – Irish women tottering under the same. Some persons secured large amounts. This promiscuous and irregular scramble was so much in the way of parties getting supplies for their regiments that Gen. Floyd stopped it about noon.

Had now about 100 men at the University. Mrs. Lindsley & Mrs. Hoyte did good service this day with kitchens & stoves in cooking for us. Much work done in fitting up hospital.

After dinner learned that Dr. Yandell was anxious to see me at Dr. Martin's. Found him there. He told me that himself & Dr. Pim were obliged to accompany Gen. Johnston, and that they wished me to under-take the duties of Post Surgeon. Agreed to it. Loaned my carriage to the Dr. to take his family to the Depot. In taking this work it was understood that Dr. Pim would attend to the duties of the office for two days so as to give me time to get my hospital ready – and also that I was to retain my post as Acting Surgeon at the University. Had a few minutes interview with Dr. Pim: said the hospitals were in great confusion as several of the surgeons or assistants had suddenly left; and that it would be necessary to send to each one to ascertain their present status. About 5 P.M. Dr. Hay, Assistant Surgeon at the Johnson hospital, came to the University greatly troubled: he had a house full of wounded men, and owing to Dr. Eve's sudden departure the day previous, everything was in confusion. Went down at once with Dr. Peake, who after looking around agreed to take charge immediately. On Saturday I had engaged one of Carroll Napier's [*marginal note in a different hand: "A collar man"*] carriages – found it very useful now.

As a day of panic and terrified confusion this was equal to the preceding – Large bodies of the retreating army were hastening through, and getting their supplies as they passed.

Many citizens and their families left on the cars and in vehicles. So absorbed was I with my special work as to be but little struck with the universal terror; it was not until my attention was called to it afterwards that I realized it. What I saw of Johnston's army to day and yesterday fully equaled any description I have ever read of an army in hurried retreat before a superior force, whose fangs they must avoid. There was hurry, confusion, alarm, and on the part of many a sullen dissatisfaction at not being able to fight.

Went to bed in good season – perfectly worn out.

Tuesday – About 1 A.M. the gunboats at Broadway landing were fired – a brilliant conflagration – fire alarm was given, the people aroused from their slumbers, and great excitement occasioned until the truth was known. Mrs. L in great terror waked me up – hurried over to the University had my carriage up – alarmed Dr. Peake and my young assistants very uselessly – then drove to Mr. McGavock's and brought Ma up to my house. Pa went to Franklin on Monday, and as Ma was by herself we were naturally much frightened at the idea of a

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general conflagration. After making a visit to Mrs. L. I took Ma home: it being now not far from day.

From Sunday on there had been a great deal of pressing of all kinds of vehicles: a carriage or wagon of any description could with great difficulty be retained unless guarded by a soldier or two with musket & bayonet. I made up a guard of some ten or fifteen men from my convalescents; and they proved invaluable in guarding my vehicles and getting me access to the public stores. I was welcomed by the officials employed in the latter on condition of detailing several of my men to guard their doors and keep out intruders.. The military authorities during the last few days of Confederate reign sadly neglected their duty in respect to guarding the government stores, and thus threw a great deal of additional labor upon the civilians occupied in the various departments. It was a matter of wonder to me that the latter discharged their duties so coolly and faithfully. With sufficient guards the retreating army could much more readily have been supplied; much larger quantities of stores saved to the Confederate Government; a regular distribution made to the citizens instead of an irregular & disgraceful, as well as demoralizing, pillage & scramble.

During this ante-daylight excursion after Ma, I brought Carroll's other carriage to the University Hospital for the sake of protection; and while he was getting ready made a visit to Mrs. Porter's.

Good success this forenoon at the Commissary's – secured among other items 50 boxes of star candles [*Stearin candles – The most common candles – tallow – were inexpensive, but were very smoky and drooped in warm weather; beeswax candles were better, but more expensive. Stearin, also called adamantine (like stone), was a commercial candle made from animal fat that was mechanically and chemically processed – it had a higher melting point than tallow and a longer burning time.*], also 50 boxes of soap.

Gave directions about consolidating the hospitals – moving the Meredith to the Academy &c.

3 to 5 P.M. at Medical Head Quarters – office work. Gave the printer copy for a hand-bill – an appeal in behalf of our sick & wounded – Dr. Childers, the clerk and assistant of Dr. Pim; showed to Van & myself that the whole number now could not be much over one thousand.

Went to Ma's with my family for the night. Children made a row – I did not get much sleep.

19 Wednesday. About 4 A.M. I sent Nelson [*inserted note in different handwriting: "collored"*] to Franklin for Pa; who returned after breakfast. A perfect deluge of rain this forenoon.

Mr. J.T. Hogg agreed to act as Book-keeper and storekeeper for me. He had been employed ever since the war broke out, as chief in the Quartermaster's clothing department. He proved a great assistance. Passed the night at Pa's – sleeping in the dining room. [*Pa is his father-in-law, Jacob McGavock; Ma is Jacob's wife Louisa, the daughter of Felix Grundy.*]

20 Thursday. About 1 Nelson waked me up saying that Carroll [*Napier*] was at the door anxious to see me. So I dressed in a hurry and went out. I had placed two guards in his stable for protection, but it so happened that a party of fifteen armed

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men had come to impress himself and carriage for some official, and there was likely to be a fight between them & my two men; when Carroll bethought him of my certificate as Post Surgeon, which he showed them, stating that he would call me in person to confirm it. When we reached the stable they had departed, being doubtless satisfied with the paper. A guard of three men at the stable opposite, of Morehead's Mounted Kentucky Rifles, who were watching their officers' horses, had given their countenance to mine. So I treated them all to a good lunch and drink of whiskey furnished me by Nelson.

At 2 A.M. Nelson gave me a nice breakfast, hot coffee &c, which was shared by Dr. Bowlecock & Mr. Colvin both from Memphis; whom I met at the Corner of Cherry [4th Avenue] & Deadrick inquiring for a coffee house. Had a good chat with them. The Dr. was with Walker in Nicaragua. They told me that they belonged to a company of artillery stationed at Fort Zollicoffer [*ammunition depot on the Cumberland River just west of Nashville – its purpose was to guard the city from gunboats, but it was abandoned soon after the fall of Fort Donelson*]; were moving their guns and ammunition and would be off about daylight – the last train on the Chattanooga railroad.

After breakfast went back to the stables & got young Rogers, one of the Kentuckians, to accompany me to the University. He had previously informed me that the Clothing Depot was opened for soldiers, who were allowed to get as much made-up clothing as they could carry. Reached the University about 3 A.M., found the guards about the stores awake. Sent for Dr. Wheeler to see that all was right at my home (where he was stationed for the night). Then had all my sick folks aroused – those who were well enough formed into a line, and so marched down to the Quartermaster's to get their share. They needed clothing, and when I made the announcement they prepared eagerly for the march. By this time (3 to 4 A.M.) the suspension and railroad bridges were all in flames. I have never witnessed a more strikingly beautiful scene than that which met my eyes while standing at the door of the college mess hall, about 4 A.M. The Wire Bridge was a line or flooring of fire, the Rail Road Bridge a perfect frame work of flame; the whole lit up brilliantly the quiet sleeping city and suburbs.

The men now being collected by Dr. Wheeler we marched down Market street. By the Rutledge lot I met Major John Sehon [*John L. Sehon was a prominent Nashville lawyer; his wife Annie was the youngest daughter of Judge Thomas Maney.*], Quartermaster, on his way from Nashville. Bade him farewell. Asked his opinion as to my mode of paying hospital debts; which he approved. On reaching the Clothing Stores, corner of the Square and Front street, I showed the men how to proceed, and took a walk up to the Capitol for the fire-lit view. The Ordnance works just west of the State Prison [*on Church Street, between 16th and 18th Avenues*] were now in full blaze and added to the brightness of the illumination. Passing by Aunt Felicia Porter's found the house lit up and the children at the window. Went in and chatted a few minutes.

At 5 A.M. Carroll's carriage was at Pa's. Took Nelson and returned to the Quartermaster's stores. Set Nelson to getting shirts, drawers and pants, of which he brought several carriage loads to Mr. McGavock's office, to save distance. Before dusk these were removed to the University Hospital.

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About 7 A.M. had another breakfast. Then drove to University. Found breakfast not ready, although all concerned were notified to have it very early as all hands were needed for the grand campaign for Quartermaster's and Commissary's stores. This was no trifling backset.

Found Mr. Hogg, and went back to town: Met Mr. Brigham at Sehon's official quarters: he joined us. Passing A.V.S. Lindsley's office, saw a negro man coming out of the cellar. It proved to be Bradley, Van's waiter. Told him that if he would open the office for us and attend on us all day he should have one hundred dollars. He went along at once. Mr. Brigham got Mr. Forest to assign us the side-basement entrance on Front street [*First Avenue*]. Stationed Lawson to guard it. Hogg went regularly to work selecting the most valuable unwrought goods, and sending them down to our door. No small task as these goods were in the upper stories of a floored warehouse. So we got up a corps of some twenty assistants who were admitted on my password. (Post Surgeon Lindsley)

Hogg, Brigham, and McGowie accompanied each carriage full to my brother's office where they were deposited, and the door locked up.

We had not been long at work before the Mayor R.B. Cheatham, & John M. Lea came to get my carriage to convey the commissioners on behalf of the Corporation to the place of conference with the Federal authorities. They could procure a vehicle no where else. So I willingly obliged them by letting James Napier go. [*inserted note in different hand: "Carroll son" – Note: James C. Napier, 1845-1940, would later become a lawyer, the first black city councilman in Nashville, and Register of the U.S. Treasury under President Taft.*] After a while Carroll came up with the other carriage and continued the transfer of goods. About 11 A.M. Mr. Hogg told me that a wagon or two was now indispensable for moving bales of rough & heavy cheap articles. So I went to Dr. Atchison's office and got his buggy and driver which were of essential service for the next three hours – Drove out to Garthan's & the University and all about the city in this buggy. Dr. Mayfield went out to Mr. Litton's with me. Thus succeeded in getting a couple or more of vehicles by means of which we carried away as much as was thought desirable of the Quartermaster's goods before 4 P.M.

As I was driving down Market street [*Second Avenue*] below the Medical College, Capt. Hawkins [*later Major James M. Hawkins, Nashville Battalion Infantry.*] company of Home Guards were marching up the hill on their way to the army. The company was quite full & I recognized many familiar faces. They gave in response to my bows a hearty farewell cheer. It was very sad indeed to see these poor fellows in obedience to stern military rule, leaving their homes and families just on the eve of the enemy's advance.

The scenes of confusion, pillage, and pilfering at the various Government storehouses this day to be witnessed baffle all description. At the Commissary warehouses as on Monday bacon and other stores were freely given away. This occasioned a promiscuous rush after provisions which interfered very much with the details of soldiers, horsemen mainly, occupied with getting supplies for the last Confederate troops leaving for the South. At the Quartermaster's corner large crowds were attracted by the hopes of a similar distribution of the clothing &c. Here however little was given out except for the moving army, the hospitals, and

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to individual soldiers who were allowed to take away made up clothing. Very many persons however went in dressed as soldiers & helped themselves liberally. The Irish women made themselves very troublesome at these store houses. Frequently the horsemen would charge upon them with brandished swords to make way for their wagons. Yet they did no damage, and intended none. Considering the pressing wants of the retreating army, and the great annoyance and hindrance occasioned by the mob of beggars, it is surprising that the soldiers exhibited so much patient forbearance. An officer whom I met about Mid-day told me that he had thirty, sick, starving men to feed near the Chattanooga Depot; and could get neither conveyance nor food. I told him to press a small contraption which was hauling bacon for a citizen, and went with him to Broad street where we got flour &c.; he then went on his way happy enough.

Dr. J.W. Hoyte during this day added largely to our commissary stores. At night we paid off all our impressed wagoners quite to their satisfaction.

- 21 Friday – After breakfast saw in his old quarters Gen. B. R. Johnson [*Bushrod Rust Johnson, 1817-1880, born in Ohio, was a professor of engineering at the University of Nashville before the Civil War. He surrendered to Grant at Fort Donelson but was able to escape. He would fight at Shiloh, Stones River, and Chickamauga, later becoming part of Lee's Army of Virginia. He is buried in Nashville City Cemetery.*], who had reached them about 11 o'clock last night. He gave his sanction to my hospital plans: & two useful papers to me.

About 9 A.M. sent a protection against impressments to A.V.S. L. through Kroeschel. [*See note, March 6, 1862*]

Van came over, & about 3 P.M. met me on Broadway. Gen. J. was with me. Capt. Corbitt of the *Hillman* had offered his boat to go after the wounded free of charge. Commissioned Van to go with the boat under a flag of truce. Dr. Hay undertook to get notice to the Physicians.

- 22 Saturday. At 9 A.M. crossed the river in a skiff – Visited several hospitals. Col Morehead of Kentucky [*probably J.C. Morehead, who led Morehead's Partisan Rangers*] at the hospital about 12 M. Rained very hard indeed from 10 o'clock all day.
- 23 Sunday. B.R.J. [*Gen. Johnson*] off to Murfreesboro. Busy moving the stores left by the Medical Purveyor to the University Hospital. Also in getting University Hospital ready for the wounded. By this time about 75 of the Federal wounded had been moved thither from the Johnson Hospital. About 30 of the Confederate sick still remained. Federal Cavalry pickets came to Edgefield.
- 24 Monday. Academy and University Hospitals were prepared for the wounded expected from Clarksville. It was supposed that the number would be about 300. Letters from Cave Johnson [*1793-1866, an active supporter of both Jackson & Polk, represented Tennessee in Congress, and served as U.S. Postmaster General and president of the Bank of Tennessee. A reluctant Confederate, he had surrendered Clarksville to Union forces four days earlier.*] and other persons represented their condition in Clarksville as deplorable. Doubtless it was so during the panic & stampede just previous to the Federal occupation.

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At 4 P.M. the *Hillman* landed; in the presence of an immense crowd. Went on board – my brother reported that he had brought up only four cases – as the people at Clarksville were taking good care of the sick & wounded. He reported the Federal fleet was near at hand.

This three-story brick building built in 1855 and still standing today, Lindsley Hall of the University of Nashville, was used as a hospital by both armies. The foundation was white-washed with lime to prevent "contagion." The main university buildings stood on College Hill, near the site of today's Howard School. Many of the larger buildings in Nashville were used as hospitals by the Federals during their occupation.
[George N. Barnard photo, Library of Congress]



Feb. 25 Tuesday. 8 A.M. Witnessed from University Hill the arrival of the Federal fleet: a noble but distressing sight. Nelson's brigade of 5000 passed by the University about 4 P.M. [*William "Bull" Nelson, 1824-1862, former Naval officer from Kentucky. He will be killed by another Union general, Jefferson C. Davis (not the Confederate President), during an argument in September.*] Quite a number of Federal surgeons came to the University during the day: Dr. Gay of Columbus, Ohio – Hart & Cleveland of Cleveland – Cooke of Toledo. They asked leave to send some sick men next day. Between 9 & 11 P.M. some 60 or 70 were brought up.

The University buildings now presented a fine hospital garb – clean swept, 400 nicely arranged cots – fine neat grounds. Being directly in the way of the army it was not surprising that the surgeons so quickly took it.

26 Wednesday. Troops passing all day. Busy visiting our hospitals, advising with surgeons, &c. &c. By sunset both our buildings crowded. Dr. Taylor & Dr. Swift on the grounds this afternoon – antipodes. Drs. Johnson & Purple located themselves in the Faculty House.

The army passing still. All the air and assumption of a conquering host.

The Surgeons with whom I had to do not a little truculent. Taylor & Johnson perfect brutes. Swift a real gentleman. Johnson installed himself in my office in the Faculty house.

27 Visited all my hospitals. Conferred with Dr. Swift & also with Dr. Bowling. Evening at University Hospital.

28 Friday. Visited Market street No. 1- Johnson & Academy Hospitals. Surrendered University Hospitals & stores to Surgeon Johnson.

The Commissary stores worth about 3000\$ dollars –

The Purveyor's stores about 1500\$ according to Mr. Hogg.

Agreed to aid Dr. Swift in procuring coal. Ebenezer Swift of Massachusetts – Senior medical officer at present in the city. [*Ebenezer Swift,*

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1819-1885, born in Wareham, MA, first served under Winfield Scott in the Mexican War. By the end of the Civil War, he would be Army Medical Director, with the rank of Colonel.]

- Mar. 1 Saturday. Visited the Hospitals with Dr. Swift. Dr. Hoyte left to visit the Fort Donelson prisoners. Dr. W.P. Jones took the Academy Hospital.
- 2 Sunday. Round among the Hospitals. Dr. Kercheval took the Johnson Hospital. Saw Dr. J.D. Winston with whom I had frequently conferred in the last ten days.
- 3 Monday. Among the Hospitals – Confederate surgeons trying to wind up and get out of the way.
- 4 Tuesday. With Dr. Murray (on Buell's staff – Senior Medical officer & director now) & Swift, looking at hospital buildings. Took them to Van's office & gave up Quartermaster's stores. This would end up my business as Acting Post Surgeon P.A.C.S. [*Provisional Army of the Confederate States*] Afternoon went out to Stewart's nursery with Garthan.
- 5 Wednesday. At Hospitals. Kroeschell [*This is Herman Kroeschell, born in Germany, 1818. Owner of a brass foundry & pump factory in St. Louis, he came to Nashville in 1854 to develop coal mines. He was assistant professor of chemistry in Nashville, but had no sympathy for the Southern cause, would soon leave the South for Chicago.*] walked with me to Coleman's to see about meat which he was at present supplying the hospitals with upon my personal order.
- Saw the gunboat – landings thronged with steamboats, wagons & soldiers. Noticed guards stationed before certain houses in the lower portion of the city.
- 6 Thursday. With Dr. Swift about Hospital buildings. Old laboratory – Armory. Admitted my claim in behalf of the University for the remnants left by the Confederates in the Old Laboratory.
- Dr. A.H. Thurston of City New York replaces Dr. Johnson, who by this time had demonstrated his entire unfitness to every one – from Dr. Murray to the lowest servant on the grounds.
- 1862** 8 Saturday. Saw Dr. Dudley Winston. Gardening.
- 9 Visited hospitals.
- 10 Dr. Swift about Quartermaster's stores.
- 11 Took clothing to Bowling's hospital.
- 12 Shields took possession of the goods at Van's office.
- 13 With Shields; rainy forenoon. Dr. Swift to supper.
- 15 Rain. Attended Shields' sale – reported to Dr. Swift.
- 17 Saw Horn about fixing my two rooms in Faculty house. Set workmen to repairing the fence around University grounds.
- 19 Busy about getting another hydrant in University grounds at request of Drs. Swift & Thurston.
- 20 Waited with Pa [*Jacob McGavock*] on Gov. [*Andrew*] Johnson.
- 23 Duffield's brigade passed through. [*William Ward Duffield, 1823-1907, a rail-railroad construction engineer, was at this time commanding the 23rd Brigade of the Army of the Ohio.*]
- 24 Went to Stewart's nursery – about trees –

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- 25 State Hospital & Insane Asylum with Dr. Swift. Mrs. L. gave us a nice lunch before starting. Buell moved to Columbia.
- 26 At State Hospital Dr. Swift certified to 90 cases fit for parole by reason of being disabled. In forenoon Mr. Garthan & self walked to Lishy's nursery – about trees.
- 27 694 patients at University Hospital.
- 28-29 Busy at garden – early crop in, occupying whole of three acres. The different roads leading from the city look very desolate – fences on many farms destroyed – farmers afraid to plant, no work doing.
- 31 Explored Major Lewis' grounds for trees.
- Apr. 1 Warm, very dry & dusty – forest trees budding.
- 5 Busy at trees and garden this week.
- 23 Busy having the Old Laboratory secured.
- May 3 About dark, splendid meteor from west to east in Southern part of the heavens.
- 12 Called on Paymaster Harris.
- 17 Much time this week in getting papers fixed for Dr. Swift.
- 23 Went with Garthan to Magready's, Hays, & Smith's inspecting strawberries – Travelled 30 miles. Magready's seedling – British Queen (Hayes), Wilson's Albany, Triomphe de Ghent, Trollope's Victoria – Burr's new Pine – noteworthy.
- 28 Called on J.B. Lippincott.
- 30 Talk with Mr. Lippincott on the times. [*Joshua Ballinger Lippincott, 1816-1886, was a prominent book publisher, who published the writings of Lindsley's father, Philip. Born into a Quaker family, he would almost certainly have been opposed to the war.*] He said that I ought to write out my views, & that he would be glad to publish them.
- 31 Month closes very warm – worked not less than five hours daily in the garden – much attention to marketing.
- June 11 10:40 P.M. Eclipse commenced – in about an hour total.
- 14 Dr. Thurston gets an order from Provost Marshal enabling him to expel Prof. Stewart and family from University Buildings. The latter deeply distressed. I wait on the Dr., find him immoveable, and omnipotent as he rests his order upon the two new laws repressing sedition and rebellion – see city ordinance & Gen. Johnson's order. Summer getting hot now for the first time.
- 16 Monday. Saw Prof. Stewart, A.V.S. Lindsley, Med. Director Swift & Surgeon A.H. Thurston – hope to get Prof. S. reimbursed for moving, and so have peace. Upon asking Van what is the law – he answered There is no law.
- 17 Prof. S. Moved. This whole business a fair instance of taking the under hold: also of the petty tyranny exercised in Revolutionary times.
- 18 Pa subpoenaed to attend trial of Judge Humphreys.
- 20 Left with Pa at 7.45 A.M. 530 P.M. at Louisville
- 21 Took a carriage drive about the city and through Cave Hill cemetery. Ma with us. 12 M. Left on mail boat.
- 22 4 A.M. at Cincinnati – 150 – Heard Dr. Thompson preach.
- 23 7. Left Cincinnati. To Columbus 107 – Newark 33, Steubenville 117, Pittsburg 74. At 8 P.M. Monongahela house.

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- 24 Looked about the city. 4 P.M. left – supped at Altoona.
- [25] 1 A.M. at Harrisburg, 6 A.M. at Baltimore, 9½ at Washington.
11 o'clock at the Capitol. Pa before the Judiciary Committee. Looked in at the House and Senate.
- 26 Thursday. The trial commenced at 12 [*Judge West Hughes Humphreys, 1806-1882, served in the Tennessee General Assembly (1835-38) and as State Attorney General (1839-1851). In 1853 Franklin Pierce appointed him to preside over all three District Courts in Tennessee. However, because he supported secession, the U.S. House voted to impeach him from holding Federal office on the grounds that he 1. was a public advocate of secession, 2. was giving aid to an armed rebellion, 3. was conspiring with Jefferson Davis, 4. was serving as a Confederate judge, 5. had imprisoned a Union sympathizer "with intent to injure him," and 6. had confiscated the property of Andrew Johnson and Justice John Catron. The trial began and ended on June 26: Humphreys was convicted of all counts except the one involving Johnson. He was stripped of his judgeship and barred for life from holding federal office.*], closed at 5.30 with a recess of 30 minutes. We were on the floor of the Senate Chamber during this time. Visited the Navy Yard.
- 27 War Department for pass to see Brother Randal. Mr. Forney's office at the Capitol to receive mileage (226.80). 5.30 to Baltimore. Barnum's City Hotel.
- 28 To Druid Hill Park. Harbor and principal streets. 1-6 P.M. to Philadelphia.
- 29 A drive to Fairmount Park, &c. &c.
- 30 Saw Mr. Lippincott – 2-7 to New York via South Amboy. 5th Avenue Hotel.
- July 1 Drive through Central Park, Broadway.
- 2 8 A.M. at Tremont House, Boston. Some time to get pass over to Fort Warren – Brookline – Cambridge – Mount Auburn.
- 3 9 A.M. – 10 A.M. to Fort Warren – There till 6 P.M. A great treat every way – Forenoon little misty – afternoon splendid. We enjoyed the views of the Harbor greatly. Much satisfied to find the prisoners of war faring so well.
- 4 8.30 to 5 P.M. – to Albany – Congress Hall.
- 5 8 A.M. to 9 P.M. to Niagara Falls – International. Warm day – fatiguing travel.
- 6 Goat Island &c. 3 P.M. crossed over to Clifton House – Walked to Table Rock.
- 7 10.30 to 7 P.M. to Detroit – pleasant day. 8 P.M. left Detroit – sleeping car.
- 8 6 o'clock at Michigan City breakfasted
9.30 A.M. left – 12. at Jeffersonville via Lafayette & Indianapolis.
- 9 7.45 – Left Louisville – 6.30 at Nashville
- 11-12 Rumors about partisan movements in Kentucky.
- 13 Report about Confederate capture of Murfreesboro.
- 14 Great alarm – preparations made to receive an attack from the Confederates in the city – cannon planted around the University and Capitol, & Hume School – and commanding principal streets – companies also stationed to support the artillery – Federal officials say the city will be destroyed if attacked.
Fortunately for us it proved a false alarm.
- 15 Excitement abated. A whole regiment now encamped in the Rutledge & University grove.

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- 19 Saturday – Apprehension still entertained. A brass rifled gun still at corner of Lindsley & University Avenues. A week of alarm and terror. Very hot weather – heavy rain – river rose rapidly several feet.
- 21 Monday. Skirmishing at Mill Creek – artillery all around our house. I will both lay me down and sleep for thou Lord, makest me dwell in safety.
- 21 Gen. Forrest with his cavalry drew up opposite the Insane Asylum about 5 P.M., and sent detachments to destroy railroad bridges.
- 22 Tuesday. Streets barricaded with wagons – every preparation made to resist Gen. Forrest. Twelve pounders rifled – command principal streets.
- 23-24 Reinforcements arriving – city more quiet.
- 25 Nights cool and pleasant this week – Busy weeding.
- Aug. 4-5-6 Work in garden – 3 days.
- 17 Michigan 11. Encamped on Drill ground of University campus.
- 19 Moved off. Last few days much excitement about [*John Hunt*] Morgan's movements. St. Cloud stripped of its trees – being fortified. [*This is St. Cloud Hill, where the Army was just beginning the construction of Fort Negley.*]
- 31 Capt. Bridges of 19th Illinois – to lunch – from Chicago.
- Sept. 6 All this week great excitement – news from Washington & Cincinnati. Buell's army commencing its retrograde march.
- 7 The great body of Buell's army passed through Nashville today. Twelve regiments encamped on the University & Lindsley grounds – occupying all indeed except my grounds – Webster Lindsley's tent just across Carroll street – opposite estate lots – Col. Kise 10th Indiana [*William C. Kise, 1815-1884*] in Hoyte's yard – Sinks in his garden.
- 8 11½ A.M. Mrs. Lizzie Blunt Thurston died suddenly – wife of Brigade Surgeon A. Henry Thurston, in charge of University Hospitals.
- 10 McCook's division moved off.
- 11 4 Kentucky & 17th Ohio made their sinks in our garden. Notice given to move Hospitals Nos. 2 & 3 from University buildings, as needed for military quarters.
- 12 Waited on Col. Moses B. Walker of 31st Ohio about books and apparatus. [*Walker, 1819-1895, a lawyer, was educated at Yale; he was in Gen. George Thomas's Army of the Cumberland throughout the war. Severely wounded at Chickamauga, he had to be tied to his horse. Part of the military occupation of Texas in 1868-69, he was appointed a Federal Judge and served on the Texas Supreme Court for five years.*] Sent part of my furniture to Pa's. About 9 P.M. old laboratory consumed – bright & rapid – Three bombs exploded, loud report. Col. Croxton of 4th Kentucky in Hoyle's front yard – very kind – [*John Thomas Croxton, 1836-1874, graduated from Yale with honors; in April 1865, his capture of Tuscaloosa would eliminate one of the Confederacy's last major supply and munitions centers. In 1872 President Grant would appoint him Ambassador to Bolivia, where he died of tuberculosis two years later.*]
- 13 Waited on Gen. [*George Henry*] Thomas – said that Dr. Hoyte's & my house should not be demolished without his order, and only in case of battle impending. He also said that I must see Gen. Schoeff & tell him to have guards placed at

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- every door of rooms containing books, &c., of the University. [*General Albin Francisco Schoeff was born in Hungary.*]
- 14 Saw Woods, Berry, A.V.S. Lindsley – all say books & apparatus should be boxed.
Boxed up my books.
- 15 2 A.M. – Gen. Thomas’ division began to move – all off by daylight –
With Mr. Garthan & three hands hard at work securing the University which was entirely deserted. About 10. A.M. a brigade under Col. Roberts of 42nd Illinois encamped in the Campus. Lt. Col. Miles & Col. Harrington 27th Illinois occupied Hoyte’s lot.
- 16 Purchased boxes for packing books – Schott at work on the apparatus. Col. Harrington of 27 Illinois accepted my invitation to lodge in my parlor – very ill of Cholera Morbus. [*Cholera Morbus, sometimes called the “summer complaint.” was a common, non-contagious diarrhea probably caused by spoiled milk or food poisoning.*]
Showed S. Y. McMasters, D.D., LL.D., Chaplain of 27th Illinois regiment, and President of St. Paul’s College, Palmyra, Mo., through the Medical College. Formerly professor in W.M.J. at Drennom – He gives a highly favorable of B.R. Johnson as a mathematician & disciplinarian.
University property much damaged by the move yesterday – Faculty furniture & fixtures sadly abused – although we did all we could to protect it.
- 17 Four hands – Garthan, V.S. Lindsley, Ben W. & J.K. Smith and F.W. Gaines packing up University Library – Schott & Assistant at the Apparatus.
- 18 Rifle pits dug all across my garden.
Noticed that Dr. McMasters, chaplain, had no chairs or table in his room while the [contraband] had – the latter are quartered both in the barracks and recitation building. [Runaway] Negro men, women and children occupying the handsomest College buildings in the State! What vandalism! how little in accordance with Northern devotion to education.
- 19 Spent two hours in getting sinks removed from my garden. Col. Roberts ordered the change for me.
Damage done the University by the encampments this far may be set down thus –
- | | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| To Fencing over 6000 feet — | 1500 |
| To Furniture carried off &c | 1000 |
| Heating & washing apparatus | 500 |
| Boxing up books & apparatus | 200 |
- 20 Finished boxing up University books.
- 23 Finished moving the Society & Museum furniture into Chancellor’s Office.
Medical building broken into several times during past week – A box of candles and two blankets stolen.
Mr. Groomes & Dr. Pulliam both say that the wooden sheds on Laboratory lot were set on fire by soldiers.
- 24 Securing Medical College Buildings.
News received of battles in Maryland on the 14th-15th instant. Results uncertain. [*He is referring to the series of skirmishes and battles leading up to Antietam. McClellan defeated Lee at South Mountain and Crampton's Gap but*

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did not move quickly enough to save Harper's Ferry, which fell to Stonewall Jackson on September 15. Jackson secured the surrender of 12,419 Union troops – the largest capitulation of Federal forces during the entire Civil War, along with a large body of supplies. On September 17, Lee's Confederate forces would be caught by McClellan's troops near Sharpsburg, Maryland. This battle would prove to be the bloodiest day of the war: 2,108 Union soldiers killed and 9,549 wounded; 1,546 Confederates killed and 9,029 wounded.]

Confederate cavalry all around the city – annoying the foraging parties sent out from the city.

Reported that the Federals were defeated near Iuka on the 14th. [*In fact, the Battle of Iuka, Mississippi, September 19, saw U.S. General Rosecrans halt a Confederate advance led by General Sterling Price.*]

- 27 Very little rain this month – warm. On the whole a good month for sweet potatoes and cabbage. My late crop worth at market price not less than two hundred dollars destroyed by the soldiers early in the month. The rifle pits damaged my shrubbery & fences fully one hundred more.
- Oct. 1 Most beautiful day – mild – forests still green.
- 2 Thursday at dawn Dr. Wm. James Bass killed – an aggravated murder from best information. [*Bass was Sallie Lindsley's cousin – their mothers were daughters of Felix Grundy.*] Sat up with his remains with Mr. Donegan.
- 3 10 A.M. Funeral services at the house – crowded. P.S. Fall preached an Oct. admirable discourse full of Christian sense and feeling.
- The brutality exhibited by the Federal soldiers in this affair awakens the intensest indignation. I never witnessed its like. Credit is accorded Gen. Negley for not interfering with the funeral which was conducted strictly as that of an ordinary individual dying in an ordinary way.
- 7 Tuesday – A large Federal force left at midnight and early to-day beat up the Confederate quarters on Murfreesboro Pike about 13 miles from Nashville. At 2 P.M. they returned with prisoners and plunder, and big tales of the fight.
- 18 This week the Federal troops on the alert – Skirmishing c. two and more miles out. Much anxiety as to the results of the battles at Corinth and Perryville. [*The Battle of Corinth, Mississippi, Oct. 3-4, was part of the Iuka-Corinth campaign. U.S. General Rosecrans again defeated the Confederates, led this time by Maj. Gen. Earl Van Dorn. However, Grant was sharply critical of Rosecrans' failure to pursue Van Dorn's weakened forces. The Battle of Perryville, Kentucky, Oct. 8, saw Confederate General Braxton Bragg winning a tactical victory over Maj. Gen. Don Carlos Buell, having pushed his forces back nearly a mile; however, hearing of the arrival of additional Union forces, Bragg retreated to Tennessee, leaving behind not only 900 wounded men, but also the critical border state of Kentucky, which remained in Union hands for the duration of the war.*]
- 20 Monday. First frost.
- Nov. 5 Cannonading at daybreak – saw a shell burst a mile southeast. From 12 to 1 P.M. heard some 200 cannon shot on Franklin turnpike. Confederates threatening all the approaches.
- 9 Federal army returning from Kentucky.

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- 16 Large movement of troops out on Murfreesboro Pike.
- Dec. 1 Called with F.B. Fogg [*Francis B. Fogg, 1795-1880, was a lawyer and an active supporter of the Nashville public schools; he was also one of the founders of the University of the South.*] on General Schuyler Hamilton. [*Hamilton, 1822-1903, was the grandson of Alexander Hamilton. A West Point graduate, he was a hydrographic engineer after the war.*]
- 2 42nd & 27th Illinois regiments move from University to Lindsley grounds. University buildings put in order for hospital. D.B. Sears . Lieutenant . Quartermaster 27th Illinois regiment of Moline, Rock Island Co.
- 4 Army still passing through southward.
- 5 Snow – commenced thawing.
- 6 University buildings now again occupied as hospitals No. 2 & 3
- 10 Col. Harrington &c. moved about 12 M. At dark another brigade came in. 85 Illinois – Col. Moore encamped opposite my garden.
- 25 Mild day – very quiet.
- 26 Sheridan's entire baggage train encamped on University campus – a great forward movement today. Half of the wagon trains went with the army – other half sent within the City. All day immense trains going out and coming in on all the streets in view of my home. [*This was Rosecrans' Army of the Cumberland – 45,000 troops heading toward Murfreesboro.*]
- Lieut. Vieullot of 3rd Kentucky Cavalry [*probably First Lt. Ernest Vucellot*] encamped opposite Market street corner. Lodged with me – one o'clock in the night two armed soldiers tried to break into Fanny's room – frightened the servants greatly. Fanny came screaming up to the house. So soon as the men saw the house lit up they took to flight.
- 27 Saturday – Lieut. Vieullot with us to-night.
- 28 After dinner the Wagon trains moved their camp. Van & self have had three excessively hard days of watching. Between 40 & 50\$ of Fence destroyed.
- 31 20 Teams encamped on University grounds – rescued fence by giving Wagon-masters ¼ cord of wood. Rumors of battle near Murfreesboro. [*This is the Stones River campaign, which will continue until Bragg's retreat on January 5.*]
- So ends this year of the horrors of war forever memorable in the Annals of the World, as stamping indelibly upon the northern faction the mark of Cain. Unable to conquer, they endeavor to exterminate a people.

1863

- Jan. 1 Bright, beautiful day. Federal soldiers report a great battle near Murfreesboro – driving all before them – All the wagons flying into Nashville. [*Stones River is a major battle of the Civil War, with a high number of casualties on both sides.*]
- 3 Rain – All this week repairing fence.
- 5 night – heavy rain – Steamer *John A. Fisher* from Clarksville on Sunday, the 4th – with flour.
- 5-6 Immense wagon trains moving out: very hesitatingly.
- 6 Murfreesboro now in possession of Federals. The churches and several large storehouses fitted up for hospitals in the last few days. Federal wounded

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- continuously brought in. Intense anxiety among our people about their relatives and friends in the battle – Mrs. Josiah Nichol has 13 grandsons there – Nearly every one has kinfolks in the Confederate army.
- 7 Professor McArthur (Davis school – Chicago) of Joliet visited Medical Museum.
- Feb. 20 State Hospital burned.
- Mar. 5 Philip came from Greenwood [*near Lebanon TN*] – great desolation there. Reynolds’ division having camped one night around the house.
- 25 Put in claims for University (-167-) Estate & self before U.S. Commissioners. Confederates quite lively in vicinity – rumors of approaching battle.
- Apr. 3 10th Kentucky – Major H.G. Davidson of Louisville Commanding encamped for night on University grounds – Major to lodging & breakfast – He related a singular case of rascality of a Federal chaplain & Colonel towards Dr. James R. Hughes of Springfield, Ky.
- 9 Dr. Hoyte left for Illinois – Dr. Bryan formerly Prof. of Surgery – Philadelphia Medical College took charge of University Hospital – A.W. Kelley of 59th Illinois – (Derby, Vermont) – leaving.
- 16 Handed to Capt. Driver my declaration of citizenship to accompany University claim. [*Captain William Driver, a Massachusetts sea captain, had retired to Nashville not long before the war. He was the owner of an American flag that had great meaning to him, and he kept it hidden from Confederate sympathizers who would have destroyed it. When Union soldiers took command of the Tennessee Capitol, Driver offered them his flag, which he called “Old Glory,” to fly over the city. At this point he is in his early sixties.*] Spoke to him in behalf of claim of Moses B. Stevens his estate. He appeared much interested about it.
- 18 Children’s party: Bessie Hoyte’s birthday – Dr. Hoyte got home at dark, just as we were all leaving.
- 25 Past week great trouble and alarm in the community. Many citizens arrested for politics.
- 28 Mr. McGavock, Ma and myself took the oath of allegiance. H.H. Harrison administered it. The former gave joint bond for five thousand \$. I gave bond for five thousand dollars.
- Capital dinner at Dr. Hoyte’s – Dr. Lynde there who has just taken charge of University hospital. Dr. Bryan had by mistake reported here, having been ordered to the Department of the Tennessee & not the Cumberland.
- May 4 Mrs. L. took the oath of allegiance – gave bond for five thousand dollars. A.V.S. Lindsley – security.
- 16 Sunday. Returning with Dr. Hoyte from a walk to Garthan’s, when on the street crossing from the Franklin Pike by the old Wilson Tanyard [*tannery*] we met a boy with the Louisville *Democrat* about 6 P.M. Dr. Hoyte buys a paper – looked over the telegraphic column. Told me the substance as he went over it; suddenly made an exclamation. I stepped up and he pointed out the announcement—“Colonel McGavock of the 10th Tennessee killed.”

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- We hastened home. Soon as we reached the house Fanny told me that ~~Brother~~ Master Randal was killed. Nelson had just come from Pa's with the newspaper. Mrs. L. deeply affected.
- After a cup of coffee we hastened to Pa's. Found him and Ma in deep distress. Randal was their oldest son & the pride of the whole family.
- I consider the news probably; but still by no means certain & endeavor to comfort them accordingly – Such is war.
- 18 Caught a little boy stealing gooseberries. Took him to his father – Mr. Ryan a baker.
- 19 The *Daily Press* contains a dispatch from Murfreesboro, taken from the *Atlanta Intelligencer* confirming Brother Randal's death.
- 26 Dr. Correy's letter to his father states the above reports to be untrue.
- 28 The breast works around the city repaired.
- June 4 Heard cannonading – direction of Franklin. [*On June 3 there was a skirmish near Murfreesboro; on June 4, an engagement at Franklin.*]
- 8 From 9-12 A.M. before the Commission on Claims – chiefly for the University – found them businesslike and civil.
- 10 Three hours (with Dr. V.S. Lindsley) securing medical college building.
- 11 With Mr. Garthan at Medical College – also before claims commission for estate.
- 12 Four hours with Garthan securing Medical College buildings & boxing up books of University Library deposited with Med. Fac. – Prof. Winston there & approving – Bowling at Chicago.
- 13 Mess Hall roof re-shingled.
- 15 Letter from brother Grundy, Memphis, June 3rd brings certain intelligence of Brother Randal's death. State that he has his seal ring – and knows where he is buried.
- 17 Medical College boxing up University books.
- 23 Moved books from Medical College to Stone Building – five boxes.
- 28 Sunday – Moderated the Congregational meeting of 2nd Presbyterian Church – Rev. J.S. Hays called to the Pastorate unanimously.
- July 8 Prof. James L. Meigs [*b. 1827, for whom Meigs High School is named, would be Tennessee's second State Superintendent of Schools*] – seems disposed to combine his school with our Collegiate Department.
- 11 Prof. Stewart. about College. pleased with having Meigs for a colleague.
- 13 Received a note from J.L. Meigs dated 11th, stating his acceptance of our proposition.
- Dr. Bowling called – Talked about his Chicago (Medical Association) trip – Agreed that we should carry on the Medical School next winter – each professor lecturing daily if necessary.
- 23 Actively endeavoring to get the University claim for rent into the Quartermaster's department, and from the Claims Commission.
- 24 Ditto – prospect good.
- 25 Called on A. Henry Thurston – Post. Med. Director – to get a note

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- recommending Provost Marshal to give Uncle Nelson [*note in a different hand: "Had been free for years."*], an exemption from impressment. [*African American men and women were being impressed from all over the city to work on the construction of Fort Negley and other types of jobs for the Union Army.*] The Dr. polite and kind as ever – gave it. Bowling, Winston, & self met at Medical College. Concluded to attempt a full course next winter with assistance of Briggs.
- 27 Good part of the day attending to University claim.
- 28 To day likewise.
Made Dr. Lynde a call – looked through the University buildings – Much improved since he has had charge.
- 29 To Mt. Olivet with Bro. Van, & Sisters M. & E. to arrange Lindsley lot. Several hours attending to University claim.
- 30 Russell Houston Chairman promised to give proper certificate respecting University claim.
- Aug. 4 Board of Claims – University – Called on Rev. Dr. Howell.
- 26 Collegiate Faculty met in my lecture room – all present.
- 31 Working to get collegiate school rooms ready.
- Sept. 7 Collegiate Department opened – 4 professors – 21 students.
- 12 28 students now. Rev. Philip S. Fall opened his Girl's school on the 7th, has now 70 pupils. [*Fall, a former Baptist minister who lost his post because of his Campbellite views, was involved in the establishment of several schools for girls and the spread of the Church of Christ in Tennessee and Kentucky. His sister Charlotte, also an educator, married Tolbert Fanning, founder of Franklin College in Nashville.*]
- 20 At African church a negro man shot down by the guards engaged in pressing. It is the custom of the Military authorities to go to the colored people churches on Sunday when they wish to make a big haul of pressed men. [*Note at bottom of page*] The man died afterwards – Briggs attended him.
- 29 Horrible catastrophe at Maxwell House. [*This large downtown hotel, still under construction, was used as a barracks and prison hospital for the Union army.*] Stairs gave way – two hundred confederate prisoners precipitated from fifth to second floor. _____ killed _____ wounded.
- Oct. 9 Mrs. L. fixed up the parlor – bringing back her furniture from Pa's.
- 22 Medical Faculty meeting – Present Bowling, Winston, Briggs, Lindsley. Dr. B thinks prospect gloomy: first week 200.00\$ will not be received. Dr. Briggs thinks a class of 30 or 40 will attend. All agree that if the sum total of receipts amount to 2000.00\$, so as to pay each one 400.\$ and expenses we will be well satisfied. Formerly our current expenses amounted annually to from 4 to 6 thousand dollars.
- Nov. 2 Monday – Medical College opened – Some fifteen students looking about: mostly inquiring for Anatomy and Chemistry.

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- 15 Fanny, our seamstress and washerwoman, born and brought up in Mr. [Jacob] McGavock's house missing this morning. No surprise as we have been expecting her to leave for some time.
- Dec. 18 F.G. McGavock arrived. [*Felix Grundy McGavock, 1832-1897. He is also a physician. His family lives in Arkansas, but spends part of the year at their farm in Tennessee.*]

1864

- Mar. 12 Henry Berrien of Princeton, New Jersey, here to look after the remains of his son – a soldier. He re-interred them in our lot – City Cemetery.
- 13 Devoted these two days to Mr. B.
- 24-25 Perfected with Dr. Bowling a plan for a Free Medical School, something after the fashion of the University of Michigan. Very busy this week arranging the centre building of the Medical College for tenants so as to exclude squatters, and keep control of the premises for the Faculty.
- Apr. 1 Quite busy this part month in refitting and repairing the Medical College buildings, so as to accommodate a number of families without interfering with the Medical & Collegiate school.
Dr. Bowling and myself have both settled in the conviction that when peace comes we should put the Medical Department upon the same basis as that of the University of Michigan: and thus render it as formerly a great school.
- 10 Conference with Session of First Church about re-opening services in Medical Hall if nothing better offered.
- 11 Called at Capt. [J.F.] Isom, Quartermaster, University Buildings were put on the Rolls June 1st 1863, at a monthly rent of 350\$.
- | | | |
|------|----------------------|------------|
| P.S. | Howard school brings | 150 |
| | Hume “ “ | 125 |
| | Hynes “ “ | <u>100</u> |
| | | 375 |
- May 1 Dr. Herbst succeeds Dr. Lynde.
- 2 Called on Gen. Dana Webster.
- 9 Waited with Dr. Herbst on Medical Director Clendenin, about Fence &c. on University grounds. [*Dr. W. Clendenin was one of the few people who recruited black nurses and saw that they were paid.*] Van then went with him to Col Donaldson, Quartermaster.
- 10 Billy's family took refuge in Medical College. [*note above Billy's name, in different hand: "had been freed for years."*] Government taking basement of my house.

April: mostly employed in refitting Med. Col.

May consumed in garden – Extra labor very difficult to procure.

June 30 Hospital tents put up on University Campus.

Sept. 1 Great stir. City threatened by the Confederates.

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- 2 News of the occupation of Atlanta by Sher[man].
- Oct. 20 Called with Brother Lawrence on Dr. Robertson [*Dr. Felix Robertson, 1781-1865, had been a professor of medicine at the University of Nashville. The son of James & Charlotte Reeves Robertson, he was the first white child born in the Nashboro/ Nashville settlement, was twice mayor of Nashville and is sometimes known as the city's first pediatrician. He is buried near his parents in the Nashville City Cemetery.*] & on Mrs. James K. Polk.
- 24 With Mrs. L. on Mrs. Dr. Foster & Mrs. Bilbo. [*This is Lindsley's 42nd birthday.*]
- Dec. 1 Great excitement in Nashville. A battle expected. Gen. Thomas' army drawn up in line about five miles south of the city; awaiting Gen. Hood's army. [*This is the lead-up to the Battle of Nashville. By the time it ends on Dec. 16, there will have been 4,400 casualties.*] No such times since December 1862 [*Battle of Stones Creek*].
- 2 Much excitement – army movements to and fro – A very large force of government employees three up entrenchments from the reservoir through University grounds, Mrs. Crockett's & Dr. H. Lawrence Lindsley's lots. The works were also staked off through my place. Capt. N.W. Wilcox, Missouri Engineers, New London, Iowa, & Capt. Barlow very kind and considerate. They took pains to make the works run so as to destroy as few houses as possible. Dr. Hoyte's and mine were directly in the line, but they were made to fall immediately behind.
- 3 Saturday. Citizens expect Gen. Hood to attack the place. Breastworks commenced through our place. Considerable cannonading.
- 4 Sunday. Skirmishing; cannonading. About 500 men working as yesterday on fortifications through garden.
- 5 Monday – skirmishing – more quiet.
- 6 Tuesday – outside fence taken for abattis [*a line of defense consisting of a barrier of felled or live trees with branches (sharpened or with barbed wire entwined) pointed toward the enemy*]. Capt. Barlow told me that his orders were to make the fortifications permanent; & recommended me to move my servant's house & shed. Skirmishing.
- 7 Wednesday. About 10 A.M.: brisk skirmishing between Murfreesboro & Nolensville Turnpike's. Smoke from musketry of each line very plainly visible. Capt. H.J. [*Henry Jackson*] McCord (101 Ohio) Fremont, Sandusky, Ohio. Lenon [?] commenced at the house. Turned cold.
- 8 Th. Capt. J.H. Root, 61 Wickliffe st., Newar[k], N.J. very kind indeed. He has charge of the hands walling up the works. House up to ditch.
- 9 Friday. Cold, sleet. Capt. Root had the breast-work levelled, and his men helped to roll the house through; stopped when halfway for the weather.
- 10 Sat. House to its place; shed moved. Cold – ice.
- 11 Sun. Very cold. 10° at 10 A.M. Got a guard.
- 12 Mon. 13° at 7 A.M. Thawing a little. Coups de canon. Skirmishing.
- 13 Tues. Thawing fast. Skirmishing.
- 14 Wed. Very muddy. Garden overrun with idle employees.

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- 15 Thur. Brisk musketry and artillery firing waked me up about 2 A.M. At daylight soldiers filed into position behind breastworks. A brigade of five regiments occupied our ground. 142 Indiana immediately in front of our house. Sent Mrs. L. and children to Pa's.
 First day of the Battle of Nashville. At my house the heavy roar of artillery on the centre was heard all day.
 On the left skirmishing, off and on, through the day: visible plainly.
 Federal batteries occupied Love's and Foster's hills.
 By night quiet; Soldiers slept in the trenches.
 Mild – damp – muddy.
- 16 Friday. At 10 A.M. the mercury = 65°.
 Cannons heard during forenoon; in afternoon the battle very fierce – one continuous roar of artillery.
 Shower in evening.
- 18 Sund – Very mild; showers – perfect April weather. Soldiers all gone from us.
- 22 9 A.M. – 15° – Called to see Med. Director Brinton. Said he would not use the Medical College for hospital purposes unless absolutely needed.
- 24 Called on Capt. J.W. Barlow – got leave to rebuild my fences.

1865

- Jan. 18 Inspected my three rooms at the University – all right.
 20 7 P.M. alarm of fire at University – chimney of stone building merely.
- Mar. 4 Great flood, over river bottoms. 2 inches lower than February 1862.
- Apr. 3 Great rejoicings over news of capture of Richmond, Petersburg & Gen. Lee.
 15 Saturday. 10 A.M. News of the Assassination, promulgated at Nashville. A day of festival turned into one of mourning.
 19 Funeral celebration in honor of the late President. [*Lincoln died April 15.*]
 Procession mainly soldiers and employees. Occupied 1 hour & 33 minutes in passing Sewanee house.
- June 2 Attended Judge Catron's funeral. [*John Catron, a Nashville lawyer who had been a close friend of Andrew Jackson as early as 1812, served on the U.S. Supreme Court from 1836 until his death, taking part in, among other things, the Dred Scott decision and several cases concerning interstate commerce. Although he was a dedicated supporter of states' rights and the institution of slavery, he also backed the Union during the Civil War.*]
 Notable feature in history of Nashville during past two weeks is return of large numbers of former citizens who had cast in their fortunes with the Confederate cause.
- 22 Thursday. Sister Annie Dickinson & two children. [*Anne Elizabeth McGavock and Henry Dickinson had two teenagers by this time: Louisa Grundy (17) and Jacob McGavock (14). Jacob, who had enlisted as a private in the Confederate army just before the end of the war, would*

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- eventually become a lawyer, assistant U.S. Attorney General, an attorney for several major railroad companies, president of the American Bar Association, and Secretary of War under President Taft.]* Brother John and his bride arrived at Pa's. [*John Jacob McGavock had married Miss Sally D. Martin a month earlier.*]
- 26 Elected by the city council a member of the [*Nashville*] Board of Education.
- July 11 Attended funeral of Dr. Felix Robertson who died on the 10th at 1 A.M.
- 14 Visited the Z.H. school buildings [*Zollicoffer Hill is the area where Tennessee State University now stands.*] with Mr. Pearl [*Joshua Fenton Pearl served as Superintendent of the Natchez Institute in Natchez, Mississippi (the first public school in MS), from 1845-1848; as Superintendent of the Memphis Public Schools from 1853-1854; and as Nashville's first Superintendent of Public Education from 1854-1861. Exiled during the early part of the Civil War because of his Northern sympathies, Pearl was principal of a female seminary in Detroit, Michigan. His wife stayed on in Nashville for some time trying to save a portion of their property and to be near their son, who had enlisted in the Confederate army.*] Will require much work to get them ready – Will not be ready until Oct. 1.
- 28 Much reflection about the Collegiate Dep. Un.
From carefully inquiring am convinced that if we had the buildings & a faculty there would not be enough students to support the institution. The states South of this have no currency as yet.
The last week of July No. 2 [*hospital*] closed. Lieut. Col Hamlin Med. Inspector tells me that some two months will be required to remove everything.
- Aug. 7 Prof. C.A. Lee called with Dr. Eve. Mr. Cornelius told him that up to Aug. 5, 1865 he had buried 14,540 federal soldiers. This being the total since the occupation of the city in Feb 1862. Prof. Lee spoke very highly of Mr. Cornelius.
- 31 B.R. Johnson [*General Bushrod Rust Johnson, 1817-1880, was a professor of engineering at the University of Nashville before the Civil War, returning to that post when the war ended. In 1870 he would become Co-Chancellor of the University with former general Edmund Kirby Smith.*] & others to dinner.
- Sept. 11 University buildings (Faculty House excepted) turned over to me upon my petition as Chancellor. Last two weeks much occupied with this business.
- Oct. 3 Full meeting of Medical Faculty – very harmonious, great satisfaction expressed at the care taken of the buildings by Bowling and myself.
- Oct. 10 Board of Education, gave a supper to Maj. Gen. Donaldson – Col. Wickersham, Major Wills, &c – Well advised.
- Oct. 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14.
Daily with the Board of Officers appointed to inquire into the damages done to the University buildings.
The Board composed of,
Capt. S. H. Eno, 101st U.S.C.I.
1st Lieut. John M. Shafter, 17th U.S.C.I.
2nd Lieut. Wm. G. McClellan, 17th U.S.C.I.
- 17 Tuesday. Left in evening train.
- 19 Daylight at Cincinnati – Purchased pickled pork & groceries for the plantation.

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- 27 To Gen. Harding's with Mrs. L. [*William Giles Harding, who came to be known as "General Harding" in 1839 when he was elected brigadier general of the 16th Brigade, Tennessee Militia, married Elizabeth Irwin McGavock, the second cousin of Sallie Lindsley's father. Elizabeth's father Randal, a former mayor of Nashville (1824), built Carnton Plantation in Franklin. William owned Belle Meade, which Elizabeth struggled to save during the Civil War after her husband was arrested and imprisoned. Belle Meade survived the war to become the "Queen of Tennessee Plantations," famous for thoroughbred horses and Southern hospitality. Notes from Remarkable Tennessee Women by Susan Sawyer.*]
- Nov. 6 Med. Dep. opened at the Masonic Hall – address by myself – 30 ~~hours~~ minutes – Nashville and the University – Introductory by Dr. Eve – 1 hour. Audience large. Some 75 students.
- 14 Attended the Golden Wedding of R.H. McEwen – great throng. [*The McEwens were cousins of Sam Houston. R.H. McEwen was the state's first Superintendent of Public Instruction.*]
- Dec. 19 Tuesday. Mrs. L. and self attended the wedding of Sallie Polk Jetton [*an orphaned great niece of Sarah Childress Polk. Shortly after the President's death, Sarah adopted the girl, who stayed near her for the rest of her life.*] – brilliant assemblage – no dancing.

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