

Northern Kentucky Views Presents:

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# The Diaries of A. C. Dicken

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(A. C. Dicken was a soldier for the Confederacy during the Civil War. The portion of his diary excerpted here is only that portion while he was still in Northern Kentucky, after which he headed south.)

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September 1, 1862  
To  
October 7, 1862

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**Monday, Sept 1<sup>st</sup> 1862**

Went to California and got my horse shod. Went to Flagg Springs and got biys ready and collected some money. We met at Norrises Mills at 10 o'clock at night. I went home and got my clothes ready and bid the old folks good... and cut out and went. I found the boys ready. We started from the mill soon as I got there. Went through Persimmon Grove. Went to Griffons ford on Licking river. Here we met James Colwell with about 50 men. We crossed the river and took Demossville. We got thirty guns. We stayed in town all night. I went on a [sleant] and took some guns by daylight got (in).

**Tuesday Sept 2 1862**

Stayed in camp all day. Went out in the evening in Penelton Kenton and Grant counties. Captured 4 guns and two private Got supper on Pea Ridge in camp at 4 o'clock in the morning. Very warm and dry.

**Wednesday Sept 3rd 1862**

Stayed in camp until noon. Went up on the railroad to Butler and took the telegraph operator. Warm and dry.

**Thursday Sept, 4 1862**

Started to Falmouth in Penelton Co. Got in by one o'clock we had a good time. I had a hard time with the guard. Warm and raining.

**Friday, Sept. 5 1862**

Stayed in Falmouth and helpt fix up a camping ground where the yankees campt in a nice Beach Grove. We had plenty of corn and hay. My horses back is very sore. We found some balls and a keg of powder that belonged to the enemy. The people treated us well. Clear and warm.

**Saturday Sept 6 1862**

Stayed in town and got my horse shot. I took (W. E. Brown) in and had him [illeg]. I took Mick Cherry and started to Stepstone. He took sick and went back. I went two miles at tha[illeg].

**Sunday Sept 7th 1862**

Took dinner with MRs. Rule. I left town at 2 o'clock. Went up to Butler. Got in at dark. We crossed the river into Campbell Co and went up Flour creek and slept in Campbell Co. I left the boys at the Wesley Chapel. I went [illeg]

**Monday Sept 8th 1862**

Stayed in the house the friends came in to see me. Warm and dry.

**Tuesday Sept 9th, 1892**

Stayed in the yhouse all day. Some of my friends came in to see me. I got news that the homeguards were around me. I went to the Corbins home and found Will Corbin and Bob Eelles there with some [illeg] The homeguards are (passing) the road often. We left while they were around the house, went in the cornfield and got my horse. We went around our farm and the shugar camp and to the sugar creek and across the mill dam up to the road and to Norris Mills. We slept at Tom Daniels and got something to eat and cut out. Stopt at my Sisters Mrs. Mary E. Rouse. Cut out and from there to Wm Prebbles. Got at 1 o'clock and fed our horses. Took some cake with the [illeg] and got some whiskey and road to Butler town crossed Licking river at [illeg] light. Warm Clear and dry. Soldier's life is very hard and poor pay. I have not slept any for two nights. A. C. Diekens

**Wednesday Sept 11th 1862**

We left Butler in half an hour. Went on the Falmouth road and layed down in the woods and slept all day. We took breakfast with Mr. Hardin. We started that evening. Went three miles to Loyed Bradford and put up for the night. Warm and clear.

**Thursday Sept 11th 1862**

Cut out early went through Colineville and to Grim Lick and on toward Williamstown. Here were the first Rebel Soldiers that I mett and turned back and went through Coalmin'sville. It was nearly sundown and I am very tired. Soon moved out and road until 10 oclock at night. We stayed at Ed Casey's all night and had a good super. Very [illeg]

**Friday Sept 12 1862**

We went twenty odd miles and put up with Captain More in Scott County Ky. I do not Recolect the gentleman's name but he is a rich man and a clever fellow. Very hot and dry. Suffer for water.

**Saturday Sept 13 1862**

[illegible] hear I found the boys from Campbell Co. The last time we have meet since Sunday. The most of them joined Tom Moors Company of mounted riflemen. I went through town and took dinner 1 mile from the place. Went to the stamping grounds and put up with John Woolin.

**Sunday Sept 14th, 1862**

Went down on Eagle Creek in Owen County and put up for the night in good time. Warm and at times very hot and dry.

**Monday, Sept 15, 1862**

Went to John Durams; he was threshing wheat. He is a good man and treated us well. Warm and looks like rain.

**Tuesday, Sept. 15, 1862**

We rested and talked all day

**Wednesday, Sept. 16, 1862**

Went to a store and got some tobacco. Army moving out.

**Thursday, Sept. 17, 1862**

West to Esq. Mcfarling and had some washing done. We had a good dinner and plenty to drink. Very warm and dry.

**Friday, Sept. 18, 1862**

Stayed close to the house and talked to the neighbors all day. Sun shines very hot.

**Saturday, Sept. 19, 1862**

I feel like traveling. Getting rested very much. Warm.

**Sunday, Sept. 20, 1862**

Started to Big Eagle Bridge to see Curby [Kirby] Smiths army but it had gone, so I and Miss [illegible] went back again. We took dinner with a good many of the neighbors. They are good Southern people all though they cant talk. Very warm, I suffer with the heat.

**Monday, Sept 21, 1862**

I left John Durams and came down Little Eagle to the Covington and Georgetown pike ten miles from Georgetown and got my dinner with a union man. Road t miles to Georgetown and found the Army here. I left town and came to John Ganoes, had a good supper and breakfast and our horse fed. We had a good time, I did not get in until late. Very hot and dry.

**Tuesday, Sept 22nd, 1862**

Came through Middletown and got my saddle fixed. The Soldiers had bought nearly everything that was to sold. I got to Paris by 9 oclock. Bob Elles and Will Corbin was sworn in the Confederate States of America. I had been sworn in some time ago. We all took a good drink of Whiskey. I had met some of the Campbell boys. We all started to Cynthiana to dinner 5 miles on the road. We got in Cynthiana at sundown. 10 of us startes to Penilton and Campbell County. We went to the left of Colemanville and put up at 1 oclock at night. Tired.

**Wednesday, Sept. 23, 1862**

I started to Falmouth 4 mi. Went to the left of Colineville and got in Falmouth at one oclock. Col. Cluke's [Duke's] command is here. I passed some of the Campbell boys out of the Leines. Some old men whose names I can not give. I cut out from here at [illegible] for home, 20 miles. I got home in the night. Warm and dry.

**Thursday Sept 24th, 1862**

I got home at daylight. I slept at my sisters and took breakfast at 2 oclock. I stayed the house all day. Nothing new. Moon shines bright.

**Friday, Sept 25, 1862**

Stayed in the house all day. Very hot and sultry.

**Saturday, Sept 26, 1862**

Left the house last night and stayed in the woods by William McDonal. Saw some of the neighbors. To warm to travel much. The Enemy close.

**Sunday, Sept 27, 1862**

Will and Bob left me last night at John Ellises barn. I got news from New Richmond the Yanks are scared very bad. I met some of the neighbors. They tell me to keep close for they are watching close for me.

**Monday, Sept. 28, 1862**

I stayed in the thicket by John Iles. He is good to me, gave plenty to eat and drink. Some of the neighbors would slip in and talk a while.

**Tuesday, Sept. 29, 1862**

I went to Flag Springs to met some of the boys, stayed all night with Geo. Nelson. Cut around a good while among the Union People.

**Wednesday, Sept. 30, 1862**

Went to Wm. McDonel early this morning. He is a good Southern man. I stayed in the woods all day.

**Thursday, Sept. 31[!], 1862**

Went to see some of the boys at Flagg Springs. Stayed with Morin Beggle.

**Friday, Oct. 1, 1862**

Stayed in the woods and in a barn opposite Moscow [Ohio] in full view of the Ohio River. The gun boats are playing all along here. Very hot.

**Saturday, Oct 2nd, 1862**

Stayed with the Widow Marin all day and slept here. Miss Morin gave me an account of the August [likely, Augusta] fight which saw light off and could hear the guns.

**Sunday, Oct. 3, 1862**

I was on the road all night noting large numbers of boys. I saw a good many of the neighbors. They do not want to leave for a day or two. I promis to wate for them. I started to bid my father and mother goodby for I am bound to leave the State the first opportunity. The home guards are after my horse. This is branfire news to me. So I cut out after him, bid the old folks goodby, went to Mr. Corbins. Here I meet some girls. There is a wedding in the neighborhood. James Morris is married to Miss Straton. The girls did not go so I slipt on them likened the nighthawk on a June Bugg and several of them went a good ways with me. I went up the Washington Trace determined not to be taken and to have my horse. I stopped to see McDona] bidding him and all the neighbors that was there. Saw Will Morin and cut out to my sisters which is three miles off in the rain and mud. Got in by 2 oclock. She is very sorry that I am going away. I layed down to sleep. Still raining..

**Monday, Oct. 4, 1862**

Slept 2 hours. Saddled my horse and bid sister fare well and started for Butler half scared half mad to think of leaving the boys behind me and The thoughts of leaving home and leaving my sister. Got in town at daylight. Passed in a hurry on the Falmouth road. Meet Bob and Will. We stopt and fed. They wanted me to go back. I told them that it would not do but they would go. I went to Lloyd Bradford and put up for the night.

**Tuesday, October 5, 1862**

Stayed with Bradford all day. Will and Bob came back. Warm.

**Wednesday, October 6, 1862**

Moved to Colinvoll and then to Cyntiana. Dry and warm.

**Thursday, October 7, 1862**

Went to Paris Stayed all night 3 miles this side with an old revolutioner.