



Transcription of item(s) from the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society: Ransom Chadwick's Andersonville Prison Diary.

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[Volume 2]

[Chadwick's entries begin on the page for Wednesday, January 13, 1864]

From May the 1st 1864 to June the 29 1864 there Was 14,920 Prisaners Came to  
Andersonville Geo Prisaners Camp in all 26,492

No that die pr week 360

Each Month 1440

In 2 Months and 11 days 2961

From the 29 to Aug the 16th 4756 No Died 1467 from Aug the first of Sept 3187 Died  
four months In prison 19 of Co K Died

[then follows several pages of lists of deaths in this and other companies]

Sunday [i.e., Wednesday], April 20, 1864 Taken Prisaner By gen hookes Legeon Plymo[u]th  
N.C. Martched 7 dayes rode on the cars[railroad] 3 dayes to get to our destination In  
Geo[rgia] andersonville prisaners Camp live on Corn Bread and bacon dry liveing for  
us But we cant help it now I hope and trust we will get out soon

[then more lists of hospitalizations and deaths]

Friday 22 hot and still hotter 372 Prisaners Building heavy fortifycations Clost to the  
stockade so our shells will fall Inside and kill showers sum prisaners

Saturday, July 23, 1864 Coal Comfortable day short up for wood to Cook with draw Meal  
and raw meat And raw Rice

Sunday 24 still hot enough to Rost eggs a few prisaners Drew Rice fresh Beefe eet[eat]  
Mi[MS. illegible] the Diarhee Bad and I have got very sore mouth and throate feal Bad  
and Discouraged

Monday 25 hot as ever very Cool knights throat feal bad swelon and cankered Cant get a  
bit of medicen at no rate

Tuesday, July 26, 1864 Coole and Comfortable 22 More Prisaners feal Rather slim sick all  
over slim Reytions

Wednesday 27 Coole yet 446 More Prisaners Ugene Davis of Ol[MS. illegible] Come feal  
sum Better got a bad sore mouth & throat 29 More Prisaners Rain

Thursday 28 hot as ever 300 More Prisaners lot of Wounded A hard Cite Raine hard sick  
With the soar throat and Brownketus[Bronchitis] got wet as a Wrag

Friday, July 29, 1864 Clear in the Morning Rained In the Af Noon short Reytions More  
Prisaners 484 Diarhee and sore throat with Bad cough

Saturday 30 Cowdy[Cloudy] And Coolle Dug Roots for wood sick Cough myself Away  
allmost Wellington Barnard Died with the knightmaire suden

Sunday 31 Cloudy and Coole Cough No Better huganer quite sick hildreth sick to[o] got my hands full

Monday, August 1, 1864 Very Cool looks like Rain had Beeors[?] fore Dinner fair prospects of an exchange soon

Tuesday 2 still Cooll and Cloudy got up and had A wash all out of the well jest at the Break of Day 420 Prisaners

Wednesday 3 Cool and Comfortable two sick in my tent got my hands full to look for all 440 More prisaners

Thursday, August 4, 1864 hot as love and twice as hard to handle lots of sick taken out of camp. lots of traines Running

Friday 5 hot as Ever J. L. Scott Died I help take him to the hospitol see lots of our Boy[s] got a load of wood Drew fresh Beefe

Saturday 6 hot as I Cair about seeing But not for Me to Make weather had fresh Beef soup for supper a few more prisaners

Sunday, August 7, 1864 Dry and hot looks as If it mite rain 204 Prisaners  
Contucky[Kentucky]

Monday 8 hot Mugey Morning Rained at noon heavy thunder shower Cool knight

Tuesday 9 C. W. Newton Died Bleeding to the Longues went to the Dead house with his Body got a back load of wood Commensed thundering heavy and sharp the heaviest storm we have seene this summer filled our tent full wash our well out 17 foot deepe a bad go for us washed out 30 Rods of the stockade all the rebbs fell out and stood in line

Wednesday, August 10, 1864 Warm A.M Rained hard P.M Frederick Streeter Died huganer very sick Elezer[?] Densmore very sick he gives up all hopse

Thursday 11 Cloudy and Coole No sick call for Two weeks A hard scite with sick men heavy Raines everyday 37 More Prisaners

Friday 12 hoter than ever Went out with another of our Boys Nasan F. Chase Died in Camp 114 More Prisaners

Saturday, August 13, 1864 hot as I ever see I Believe sick A cevere atact[attack] of Diarhee tryed to get out to the Doctors But failed Draw small Reytions hardly enough to keepe sole and Boddy togeather Bought one Egg payed 50cts for it fried it on the Cdgy[?] By sun

Sunday 14 Warm yet sum cloudy 60 More Prisaners An Men dying like sheepe prospects of Rain

Monday 15 Hot And still hotter A lite shower Bad spel A little trouble In the tent

Tuesday, August 16, 1864 hot But clow[dy] get sum Rain Before knight tryed to get lee out But his friends was to scerce[?] to Bad Caried Elezer the hospital But had to fetch him Back

Wednesday 17 hot as ever Discouraging times Carried Elezer to the hospitol fetched him Back had Baked Beanes for dinner Hildredth left our tent Went into lee's tent

Thursday 18 hot as ever hard times and No misstake Caried Elez to the hospitol Admitted to the hospitol Reported to the Doctor Bad Coald and soar longues

Friday, August 19, 1864 hot as ever heavy shower dont feall well sold my Reytions for 25cts

Saturday 20 hot as love and twice as hard to handle heavy thunder shower E. Densmore Died to the hospitol

Sunday 21 Cloudy and Cool Rain P.M. feal very well Bela Cline died in camp help cary him out feched In load wood

Monday, August 22, 1864 Cool and Clowdy feal sum sick T Moren Died F Adamy Died

Tuesday 23 hot as ever and A little hoter if Posible feal quite well again a few Prisaners every Day allmost the rebbs hunting out the oficers that cum In here as Privates sum 3 of them from lieut's Rank to Mag[Major] generals

Wednesday 24 hotter still O how the men are a dying from 125 to 146 a day huginer fales fast A few more Prisaners had Mule Beef for supper puty high living But it will keep sole and Body together here it goes

Thursday, August 25, 1864 A scorching hot day got up with the head Ache feal rather misarable still Prisaners keepes cuming quite an Excitement About Exchange

Friday 26 Another read hot day taken in the knight with the Inflammation In the Bowells had a hard day of it Cramped and peregd [purged]

Saturday 27 still hot as ever Mugetoes [Mosquitoes] allmost eat us up feal sum Better hope I shall get Better rite alongne

Sunday, August 28, 1864 hot and very Dry Draw cooked Reytions very short allowance More prisaners

Monday 29 still hot and dry More prisaners feal quite well Agan

Tuesday 30    Jest as hot as ever    More Prisaners    have nothing for Dinner    getting Rather hungry but short for 3 days Because one of our number Reported a tunnll Being Dug

Wednesday, August 31, 1864    Clowdy and rather Cool    feal quite well    Draw Cook Reytions Rice fresh Beefe Bacon Beenes Psalt & Bread    Draw enough for 1 day    Reytions to make 1 meal

Thursday September 1    hot as ever and A little mor so    great excitement About exchange

Friday 2    hot and Dry    report fite at Macon    More prisanners lots of Wounded    1 hundred scent in from the hospitoll

Saturday, September 3, 1864    hot as ever    Nothing new

Sunday 4    hot and dry    A Rather sorrowful day    Alfred Huganer Died left me all Alone

Monday 5    still hot and dry    got the inflamation in the eye

Tuesday, September 6, 1864    hot and Dry    short of Reytions    Ben Franklin tents with me govt[?] quarters [word illegible] found Wm Kidder    heavy shower    Cleared up hot

Wednesday 7    Clear and warm    great excitement Exchange agoing off    18 Detachments leaves two day more to go to morrow

Thursday 8    still Men are leaving But they skipp us    I donte like that Much    Clowdy and coole

Friday, September 9, 1864    About the hottest Day we have sceene yet sweltering hot    still Men leaves for Exchange as we suppose    live on quarter Reytions

Saturday 10    still hot as ever    2200 prisaner left last knight    More ordered    keepe them A traveling fast As posible    went to savanna stay 3 days    15 arved [arrived] at charlston

Sunday 11    hot and dry    left prison camp for sum place    exchange I hope    happy lot of Boys

Monday, September 12, 1864    Arived at savanah    Sunrise Changed Cares [Cars] for Charleston    In an open car    hot scalding the hide of[f] of us    But we have got to stand it Arived in Charston half past 3-o-clock    saw fort sumptor    went into camp on the oald fair ground In the open field    *[written sideways in margin]* Drew 2 crackers and 6 ouz Beef

Tuesday 13    Draw Reytions fresh Beef and hard tack    feal Booly[?]    Charleston had A gener[al] inspection of the prisanners

Wednesday 14    hot and dry    lots of our Boys went out to Build Breast Works for the Rebbs    Draw soap & salt    Allmost starved    A small sliver of wood    Rained the Equinockuel[?] [equinoctial] storm comensed

Thursday, September 15, 1864 Draw very small Reytions sum cooler prospects of a famin  
with us prisners sum sharp Burning on the river Draw 1 spoonfull of flower 3 of Rice  
4 homany 2/1-pt Meal & spunsful peas

Friday 16 Rainey. Cooler short Reytions I gues I shall starve yet But I will trust to a  
provedential hand

Saturday 17 Cool line storm Commenses Bought 1 lb. Bread for 3 dollars and yet hungry as a  
Wolf large fire In town the yanks pops the shells in hot

Sunday, September 18, 1864 Rainey And cool fire in the City yet Cooked A little Rice for  
Breakfast lite Meal for me Molases Meal hominy flower Beanes Rice Psalt wood

Monday 19 Rainey and cool had no reytions for 48 hours hard feede for unkle sames  
souldiers got plenty of tobaco happy as A scunk let the cat jump Molases. Beanes.  
Rice. lard flower. Meal. hominy. soap. wood. Psalt. viniger. Bacon

Tuesday 20 Rained All knight found our selves All on A flote hard way serving our country  
tent with Jesie Green

Wednesday, September 21, 1864 hot but Clowdy had an Extry Dinner soft Bread sweete  
Potatoes fresh Beef Draw no Reytions to Day onely wood hard times if I did not have a  
little money made me A cap out of my coat tail

Thursday 22 Rainey And coole Draw small Reytions And no wood flagg of truse Boats  
met But agreed on nothing

Friday 23 Clowdy and Coole No shelling the City to day sutlers Chaplions [chaplains]  
phasitions [physicians] Exchanged

Saturday, September 24, 1864 Moore Milde General review of the prisners drew small  
Reytions and no wood yet eat Raw reytions hard liveing

Sunday 25 Very Cold Night Clear Warm morning Draw good Reytions Wood Beefe Beanes  
Rice Meal flower hominy Molases Psalt

Monday 26 A Most A Darned Coald Night had for Dinner A fresh Beef soup And Doumplins  
Et [ate] till my lower somach Akes

Tuesday, September 27, 1864 Quite Coole Draw no Reytions Rather hungry but no help for  
it kool knight

Wednesday 28 Plesant Morning Nothing for to eat Draw Reytions jest knight Stuffed my  
gut amazingly and et [ate] my sufficiency full

Thursday 29 Cool and Clowdy Drew Big Reytions had Beef to let had 3 Big Meales Shure  
Reported that we are a going to leave for a Bull pen at florance

Friday, September 30, 1864 Rainey and coole had sweete potatoes fresh that stunk Joney Bread and lots of other good things to good to mention

Saturday, October 1 hot and still hotter 1500 left for Columbia S.C. Mooved tent pitched in a mud hole the hospitol remooved Inscide camp

Sunday 2 Very hot No fireing all quiett and still 2 hundred prisaners Arived A Confed[Confederate] Chaplon preached us a sermon got the Diare a little Cheeted out 1 days Reytions

Monday, October 3, 1864 Rainey nasty weather Very Coole Mush and Molases for Breakfast feal rather under the weather

Tuesday 4 Cool and like for Rain 1500 More Men left for parts Unnone [unknown] got in to the 5th thousand with all of our Redg[regiment]

Wednesday 5 Got sum sweete potatoes Bread fresh Beef hot and Dry orders to leave Baked cakes to take with us

Thursday, October 6, 1864 started for Florance left in good order saw sum of our officers. Rained hard jest as we left the cares[cars] got weat threw and threw lay dow in the sand and d[MS. torn]g sinks sum

Friday 7 got up with the cramp and wett found our destination saw the Bull pen place for winter quarters hard sight now I tell you Marched In to the Bulll Penn sick of life allmost But yet there is hopse

Saturday 8 hot day and very cool knights like to froze to Death Draw very small Reytions

Sunday, October 9, 1864 still very Cool knights suffer very Much lots of our souldiers Are takeing the oath of Alegience jest because they suffer for want of Cloths I cant blame them much

Monday 10 hot yet days but cool nights Rained a little Drew no Reytions hungry sum I Reckon

Tuesday 11 Very cold knight and sultry hot Day Draw small Reytions Discourageing

Wednesday, October 12, 1864 yet hot Dayes and cool knights No Reytions I feal like complain sum But it will not do enny good 260 yanks took the oath of allgience and Join the Confed army

Thursday 13 A little more More Morderate weather very good Reytions

Friday 14 quite calm hard times and still harder times ahead what will we Do I say trust to god and all is well with me

Saturday, October 15, 1864 quite pleasant 201 More of the yanks takes the oath to the Davis government Drew half pint of Meal half Beans teaspoonsfull Psalt for 2 days Reytions how do you like it

Sunday 16 Warm and pleasant Beans and Bugs for Breakfast No dinner Dry pudding for supper

Monday 17 Awfull cold nights almost freeze [freeze] every night

Tuesday, October 18, 1864 quite Coole and Raine Disagreeable Weather about half Reytions hard fair shure

Wednesday 19 Coole yet and Disagreeable weather A lot of our Boys went out to work at Coopering I am almost amind to go

Thursday 20 A little more Warm and pleasant lots of new Clothing Not Much Ischued as yet

Friday, October 21, 1864 Warm and Clear lot of Blanketts Ischued

Saturday 22 Clear but Coole Built A fire place in shanty hospitol Mooved Incide New Clothing Ischued out But not my luck to get enny

Sunday 23 Clear and warm had a bean pudding for breakfast a big picknick had out of stuff sent to us from our homes

Monday, October 24, 1864 still Cool and still Cooler Nights No Reytions

Tuesday 25 Warm and fair Our cavalry scouts Reported Near here A Big dinner sweete Potatoes hominy Beanes Dumplains

Wednesday 26 Warm and very pleasant good Breakfast Drew 1 pr. Drawers geuwes[?] could fall Rained

Thursday, October 27, 1864 Cool Morning got the Diarhee Again But not Bad short Breakfast that will cure

Friday 28 quite Warm againe Exchange Newse hope sum of it is true had to sell My shoes they wer Dried so they was to small Rather Cold toes

Saturday 29 Warm and pleasant Jesy [Jesse] went out to work I would like to But cant

Sunday, October 30, 1864 Warm yet dayes but Coole nights short Reytions feal rather sad over my position jest Now

Monday 31 Coole and Cloudy Jesy goes out to work again Made a pair of Mogisons [moccasins]



Tuesday, November 1 Coole and Cloudy Nothing for Breakfast and got the Diarhee Rather tuff but I have got to stand it

Wednesday, November 2, 1864 Coald And Rainey Went out tryed get into shop to work on Perrole [parole] But failed Drew meal & Beef Allmost froze

Thursday 3 still Coald and Rainey tried to get out on the oath But I wasent good loocking

Friday 4 Coald disagreeable Weather No wood Or fire allmost Attemted to take the Oath to the south

Saturday, November 5, 1864 Clear And Coald Slept Bovley[Lovely?] had a good bead[bed] fine Bowes[?] psalt Beaf & sweete potatoes for supper

Sunday 6 A little Rainey Made A Mud shanty Cought Coald got the Diarhee

Monday 7 a large Geathering of Rebb officers & citzens to see the yank In flornce stockade the Wimen wanted to see how a soulgier acted. when they sot[shot] a yank so Lieutenant stewart scent in and had a yank fetch out and they shot him down I[n] cool Blood

Tuesday, November 8, 1864 had Election Elected Lilnkoln By 6 to one hip hip Wrah for Oald Abe four years More to fite the battles of the this War

*[Chadwick's final two chronological entries are written on the page for November 11-13, 1864]*

Florance, S.C. the 1st March 1864 [1865] left for exchange shure and thank god for that who ran [*illegible word*] we are free mens onse more But halt ask are we

well that is what has hurt me Nearly three Months the Inflammatory Rhumatism admitted to the hospatol March the 2nd [1865] Wilmington, N.C.

Monday [November] 21 [1864] RAiney Nasty Day and hard times But very little to eat And but little to Eeat it with And but a very little Ambition to eat it & so it suits the times all around jest now

Tuesday 22 still Nasty Coald Weather No shoes socks shirt rather tuff for me shure

Wednesday, November 23, 1864 Rain and snow yet But looks lik A clear up No Reytions a tunnel sum wheres In camp

Thursday 24 A little More Mild but Cold frosty Nights No Reytions yet

Friday 25 Clear and Coald had a General Review of camp No Reytions Begin to get sum hungry I Reckon had a big thanksgiving Dinner Out of a fat dog traided a big knife and a pipe for dog

Saturday, November 26, 1864 Clear but yet Coald tryed to get out scide to Work but to No affect Drew for Reytions half pint of Meal half pint Rice

Sunday 27 Warm and Pleasant Commensed Exchange as we suppose short Reytions

Monday 28 Clowdy but warm Nothing to Eat and No prosspects of enny to Day

Tuesday, November 29, 1864 Clowdy A little Shower No more Exchange for want of transpotation sad and lonely still but yet there is hopse sick at heart feal very bad

Thursday December 1 Clear and pleasent general Inspection Of the camp galvonised yanks turned Back Into Camp

[*written in entry for December 8, 1864*] January 10, [18]65 taken with the Rheumatis no sleepe or Rest for me knight or day

[*Due to two partially missing pages, Chadwick records an entry on page 1 of the "Memoranda" section*] December 14, 1864 Florance, S.C. For value Received I promise to pay R. A. Chadwick or Bearer five Dollars and Sixty cents

february 28 1895 [1865] tryed to get In to the Hospitle But could not lay on the sand untill m[y] shoulder Blaid's are all Bear and hip Boone wore through and no help or medisen

[*Hereafter are 2 pages of cash accounts (April), and a page listing staff and line officers*]

*Note to readers: This transcription was done in 1998 by Minnesota Historical Society volunteer Brent Gaddie. It reproduces, as closely as possible, Chadwick's original spelling and punctuation. In a number of instances, the spelling was exceedingly poor, or Chadwick's words archaic to latter day readers, so there may be numerous inaccuracies.*