A Massena Volunteer's Diary of the Civil War

December 9, 1861

We had a very pretty start for our camp. The rain was pouring down in sheets. The sun shone through the drops, making the whole scene a perfect setting for a war story. We were all very muchbebused by the weather, but we managed to make our way through the mud and rain. The tent was set up in the middle of the field, and we all gathered around it to pray for the safety of our loved ones at home. It was a very emotional scene, and we all shed a tear or two. The rain continued throughout the night, and we all huddled together in the tent, trying to stay warm. It was a long and restless night, but we all slept soundly, knowing that we were doing our part to help our country.

December 10, 1861

We started on reconnoissance early this morning. The rain had subsided, and we were all very much in need of a change. We trekked across the field, searching for any signs of the enemy. We found nothing of note, but we were all very much in need of a change. We trekked across the field, searching for any signs of the enemy. We found nothing of note, but we all felt a sense of pride in knowing that we were helping to win the war.

December 11, 1861

The reconnaissance party returned this morning. They reported that they had seen nothing of the enemy. We all breathed a sigh of relief, knowing that we were safe for the time being. We spent the day drilling and learning new skills. We were all very much in need of a change, and we all felt a sense of pride in knowing that we were helping to win the war.

December 12, 1861

We had a very hard day of it today. The rain had returned, and we were all very much in need of a change. We trekked across the field, searching for any signs of the enemy. We found nothing of note, but we all felt a sense of pride in knowing that we were helping to win the war.

December 13, 1861

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December 14, 1861

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December 15, 1861

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December 16, 1861

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December 17, 1861

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December 18, 1861

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December 21, 1861

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December 22, 1861

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December 23, 1861

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December 24, 1861

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December 25, 1861

We had a very hard day of it today. The rain had returned, and we were all very much in need of a change. We trekked across the field, searching for any signs of the enemy. We found nothing of note, but we all felt a sense of pride in knowing that we were helping to win the war.

December 26, 1861

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December 27, 1861

We had a very hard day of it today. The rain had returned, and we were all very much in need of a change. We trekked across the field, searching for any signs of the enemy. We found nothing of note, but we all felt a sense of pride in knowing that we were helping to win the war.

December 28, 1861

We had a very hard day of it today. The rain had returned, and we were all very much in need of a change. We trekked across the field, searching for any signs of the enemy. We found nothing of note, but we all felt a sense of pride in knowing that we were helping to win the war.

December 29, 1861

We had a very hard day of it today. The rain had returned, and we were all very much in need of a change. We trekked across the field, searching for any signs of the enemy. We found nothing of note, but we all felt a sense of pride in knowing that we were helping to win the war.

December 30, 1861

We had a very hard day of it today. The rain had returned, and we were all very much in need of a change. We trekked across the field, searching for any signs of the enemy. We found nothing of note, but we all felt a sense of pride in knowing that we were helping to win the war.

December 31, 1861

We had a very hard day of it today. The rain had returned, and we were all very much in need of a change. We trekked across the field, searching for any signs of the enemy. We found nothing of note, but we all felt a sense of pride in knowing that we were helping to win the war.