

# NATIONAL ORGANIZATION SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR CIVIL WAR MEMORIAL ASSESSMENT FORM

**Type of Memorial (check all applicable)**

Monument  with Sculpture  without Sculpture  with Cannon  standalone Cannon  
 Historical Marker  Plaque  Other ( flag pole, G.A.R. buildings, stained glass windows, etc.)

**Affiliation**

GAR  MOLLUS  SUVCW  WRC  ASUVCW  
 LGAR  DUVCW  Other

If known, record name and number of post, camp, corps, auxiliary, tent, circle or appropriate information of other groups:  
 City of Key West, Florida Gift by Edward B. Knight, veteran and successful realtor

**Original Dedication Date** 16 Feb 2016 Please consult any/all newspaper archives for a local paper's article that would have information on the *first* dedication ceremony and/or other facts of the memorial. Please submit a copy of your findings with full identification of the paper & date of publication. Thank you.

**Location**

The Memorial is *currently* located at:

Street/Road address or site location Veterans Memorial Park, Bayview Park, corner Eisenhower Dr & Truman Ave

GPS Coordinates \_\_\_\_\_

City/Village &/or Township Key West

County Monroe State Florida Zip Code 33040

The front of the Memorial faces:  North  South  East  West

**Government Body, Agency, or Individual Owner**

Name City of Key West

Dept./Div. \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address 1300 White Street

City Key West State Florida Zip Code 33040

Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_ Telephone (305 ) 809-3740 ext \_\_\_\_\_

Is Memorial on the National Register of Historic Places  Yes  No ID# if known \_\_\_\_\_

**For Monuments with/without sculpture:**

**Physical Details**

Material of Monument or base under a Sculpture or Cannon =  Stone  Concrete  Metal  Other

If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) concrete

Material of the Sculpture  Stone  Concrete  Metal  Other Is it hollow or solid? hollow

If known, name specific material (color of granite, marble, etc.) bronze



**Environmental Setting**

(The general vicinity and immediate locale surrounding a memorial can play a major role in its overall condition.)

**Type of Location**

Cemetery       Park       Plaza/Courtyard       "Town Square"       Post Office  
 School       Municipal Building       State Capitol       Courthouse       College Campus  
 Traffic Circle       Library      Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**General Vicinity**

Rural (low population, open land)       Suburban (residential, near city)       Town       Urban / Metropolitan

**Immediate Locale** (check as many as may apply)

Industrial       Commercial       Street/Roadside within 20 feet       Tree Covered (overhanging branches)  
 Protected from the elements (canopy or enclosure, indoors)       Protected from the public (fence or other barrier)

Any other significant environmental factor \_\_\_\_\_

[To detail the condition of a monument used the addendum form for *Monument's Condition*]

**Supplemental Background Information**

In addition to your on-site survey, any additional information you can provide on the described Memorial will be welcomed. Please label each account with its source (author, title, publisher, date, pages). Topics include any reference to the points listed on this questionnaire, plus any previous conservation treatments - or efforts to raise money for treatment.

Addendums attached to this electronic file are the *Monument's Condition* and the *Narrative* forms. Only the *Monument's Condition* form is required if you are requesting grant money using form CWM-62 *SUVCW Memorial Grant Application Form and Instructions*.

Thank you.

**Inspector Identification**

Date of On-site Survey 23 July 2020

Your Name Robert J Wolz

Address 6900 Maloney Ave# 7

City Key West

State FL

Zip Code 33040

Telephone [REDACTED]

Are you a member of the Allied Orders of the G.A.R.? If so, which one?

Ohio Dept Sons of Union Veterans of the Civil War

Please send this completed form to:

Walt Busch, PDC, Chair  
 1240 Konert Valley Dr.  
 Fenton, MO 63026  
 [REDACTED]

Thank you for your help, and attention to detail.

**SONS OF UNION VETERANS OF THE CIVIL WAR - CIVIL WAR MEMORIALS COMMITTEE.**



# 'Forgotten Soldier' Unveiling Remembers Key West's Black Union Soldiers

18 February 2016

**KEY WEST, Florida Keys** – A sculpture remembering the island's African-American soldiers who served in a Union regiment was unveiled and dedicated Tuesday.

Key West, southernmost city in the continental United States, was a Union outpost during America's Civil War.

Called "The Forgotten Soldier" and standing in Key West's Bayview Park, the large-scale bronze sculpture depicts a uniformed soldier holding a rifle, with one arm upraised. Its unveiling and dedication marked the 153rd anniversary of the date in 1863 when more than 120 African-American soldiers from Key West were instructed to report for duty.

"The unveiling of the sculpture is huge for the city because it tells a piece of the story of Key West's involvement in the Civil War that had previously not been told," said Key West City Commissioner Clayton Lopez, who spearheaded the ceremony.

The event included an appearance by Civil War re-enactors, comments from historians and local officials, choir and band performances and a cannon blast.

A Civil War reenactor gave a "roll call" of the recently rediscovered names of the African-Americans from Key West, who served in the 2nd South Carolina Volunteer Infantry. Attendees placed yellow carnations at the base of the sculpture as the soldiers' names were read.

"They were never recognized before – the fact that they came from a city that was in the far south but yet a Union outpost, and that they joined the Union army," said Lopez.

Key West was the only southern city to remain loyal to the Union throughout the Civil War and was headquarters for the Navy Gulf Blockading Squadron against Confederate shipping. According to historians, Col. James Montgomery of Kansas came to Key West in February 1863 to recruit after being authorized to raise a regiment of troops consisting entirely of free blacks and former refugee slaves.

"The Forgotten Soldier" sculpture, commissioned and donated by Key West businessman Ed Knight, stands among other veterans' memorials including one to Confederate soldiers and sailors.

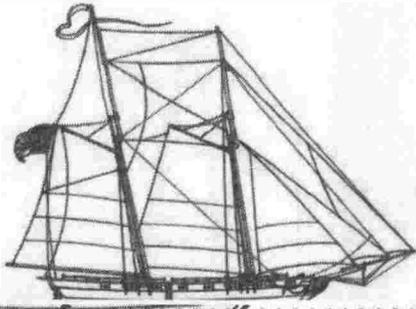
February is Black History Month in America and Canada.

More details on the Florida Keys & Key West are at [www.fla-keys.com](http://www.fla-keys.com) (<http://www.fla-keys.com>).

Social: Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/floridakeysandkeywest>) · Twitter (<https://twitter.com/thefloridakeys>) · Instagram (<http://instagram.com/thefloridakeys>) · Youtube (<https://www.youtube.com/user/FloridaKeysTV>) · Keys Voices (<http://keysvoices.com/>)

###

<< Back



USS SHARK

# Florida Keys Sea Heritage Journal

VOL. 23 NO. 4

SUMMER 2013

OFFICIAL QUARTERLY PUBLICATION OF THE KEY WEST MARITIME HISTORICAL SOCIETY

## Forgotten Soldiers

By Tom Hambricht

After the end of reconstruction in 1876, the former Confederate States began to rewrite the history and causes of the Civil War. Even though Key West had been the only Southern city to remain in the Union throughout the war and served as headquarters for the Navy Gulf Blocking Squadron and base for Army operations in Florida, the history of the war was revised by the former Confederacy's power structure and historians. Key West, as opposed to most of the South, for the last thirty years of the 1800s had a fierce two-party political system that played a major part in glorifying the Southern cause. Hispanics and Blacks former the power base for the Republican Party; Whites were Democrats. So both politics and racism were the driving forces in trying to change the part played by the Blacks during the war. After the Spanish-American War the Cuban population declined and the county was under control of the Democratic Party.

It is a common misapprehension that Key West remained in the Union by military force, yet, newspapers, letters and diaries of the time shows a completely different story. Most citizens of the Island were either pro-Union or neutral and only

Special Order

# ATTENTION!

## HEADQUARTERS, ISLAND OF KEY WEST, FLA.,

U. S. BARRACKS, FEB. 16th, 1863.

### SPECIAL ORDER, NO. 6:

In compliance with instructions received from Headquarters, Dept. of the South, every male person of African descent, between the ages of fifteen (15,) and fifty (50,) who have not already enrolled their slaves, are hereby ordered to report in person forthwith to Col. Montgomery, at the Court House, Key West, there to undergo a medical examination, preparatory to embarking for Hilton Head, S. C.

Col. Montgomery will enroll such as may in the opinion of the examining officer, be capable of bearing arms, and hold them in readiness to embark on the U. S. Steam Transport "Cosmopolitan", on her return from Tortugas.

By Command of

**JOS. S. MORGAN,**

Col. 90th Reg't, N. Y. Vols.  
Commanding Post.

**W. T. WOOLLEY,**  
1st Lieut. and Post Adjt.

*Colonel Joseph Morgan's Order Number 6 for all African males between 15 and 50 to report for military service. Photo credit: Monroe County Library.*

interested in making a living. Most came from New England or the Bahamas and did not own Slaves. Some of the leading citizens had purchased Slaves as an investment, in order to rent them to the Federal Government to work on Forts

Taylor and Jefferson. These slave-owners controlled the press and wrote the histories of the war. One result was that the 15 men who left Key West to join the Confederate military have been glorified as

(Continued on page 3)

SocietyNews  
by Tom Hambright



*A street in Key West (possibly Whitehead Street) taken in 1865, Photo credit: Monroe County Library.*

As part of the 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Civil War this issue has three articles about Key West during that event that changed this Country.

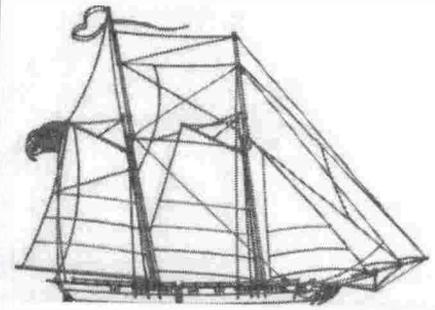
The first is the story of the forgotten 124 Africans recruited into the US Army in Key West. This is a story that I have been researching for a number of years. The first information found indicated 200 men had been recruited in Key West. This was a nearly impossible number out of a the total African population of 611 in 1860. We were able to obtain the list of men recruited here. From the population statistics it appears that almost every able-bodied African male in Key West not otherwise employed by the federal government or in the Navy was drafted into the Army. Future research is needed to determine the number of men who returned after the war to live in Key West. Since a number of the men drafted were young it is likely that some returned and had families here. We do see in the list certain family names that played an important part in Key West history.

The second account is by Lieut. Peter Eltinge who was shipwrecked on the Keys with his unit from New York and remained in Key West

long enough to write three letters to his family giving another view of the people and the island.

In the last story we find that the 47th Pennsylvania Volunteer Regiment was ordered back to Key West after a few weeks in Charleston. Henry J. Hornbeck's diary continues his account of life in Key West. The 47th arrived in Key West just in time for Col. Goode to rescind the order that locals who had relatives serving in the Confederate forces were to be sent to Charleston and placed behind the rebel lines. The arrival of the unit in Key West is an example of how well the Union Army was received by the local population and contradicts the notion that Key West was kept in the Union by force.

To show their appreciation for the kind treatment by the Pennsylvania Regiment the people of Key West raised funds to buy a gold sword for Colonel Tilghman Good. Some accounts report that a total of \$760 was raised for the sword, which was custom-made in New York and was presented to Colonel Tilghman Good on July 25, 1863 in front of the Regiment and the people of Key West by former Mayor Walter C. Maloney.



The Florida Keys Sea Heritage Journal is published quarterly. Subscription is available through membership. Copyright 2013 by the Key West Maritime Historical Society of the Florida Keys, Inc. The art on the masthead, the USS Shark, was drawn by Bill Muir.

Editor: Tom Hambright

Letters and articles are welcome. Please write to: Editor, Florida Keys Sea Heritage Journal, KWMHS, P.O. Box 695, Key West, FL 33041 or visit our web site [Keywestmaritime.org](http://Keywestmaritime.org).

Key West Maritime  
Historical Society  
Board of Directors

President: Corey Malcom  
Vice President: Bill Verge  
Secretary: Andrea Comstock  
Treasurer: Tom Hambright

George Craig  
J. Gregory Griffin  
Bill Grosscup  
Mary Haffenreffer  
John Jones  
Sheri Lohr  
Julie McEnroe  
Windy Tucker  
John Viele  
Robert J. Wolz

((Soldiers from page 1)  
heroes, and the ones buried in the Key West cemetery have special markers on their graves.

A review of the history of the 1860s does not support the view that citizens were held in the Union by force. No record of any protest or action against the Union has been found. In fact the protests recorded by historians did not happen. One of the most famous stories is how Caroline Lowe flew the Confederate Flag on the widows' walk of her house on the corner of Duval and Caroline Streets. A search of the Monroe County deed records reveals that the Lowes did not buy the house on Duval Street until 1870.

All the records show that the military and city worked together. No open opposition or sabotage has been found in any of the official records. In fact the citizens of Key West formed a Union Volunteer Corps to support the military on the Island. The corps had 166 members, including many of the leading citizens.

The one group that was written out of the history comprised the African men from Key West that served in the Army and Navy. We do have records of the five Africans who died in the Navy and were buried in the Battleship Maine Plot in the Key West Cemetery (see Sea Heritage Journal, Fall 2004). Gideon Wells, Secretary of the Navy, in a letter dated July 2, 1862 ordered Flag Officer James L. Larner, Commanding Key West, to enlist Contrabands to fill the Navy's need for men. "Contrabands" was the legal term for run-away-slaves who followed the military to freedom but, until the Emancipation Proclamation freed the Slaves on January 1, 1863, were still the legal property of their owners. Because of the way the Navy kept personnel records the other Blacks who joined

the service have not been found. Howard University has an ongoing project to find and record these veterans.

The one group whose records have been found comprises the men who served in the 2nd Regiment, South Carolina Volunteer Infantry. In January 1863, Col. James Montgomery of Kansas was authorized to raise a regiment of troops consisting entirely of free blacks and refugee former slaves, which were to serve under white officers. In February Colonel Montgomery arrived in Key West to recruit men for the Regiment.

Colonel Joseph S. Morgan of the 90th New York Regiment and Commanding Key West ordered all Africans between 15 and 50 not in the services to report for medical examination and, if capable of bearing arms, to embark on the U.S. Steamer Transport **Cosmopolitan** for transport to Hilton Head, South Carolina to serve in the 2nd South Carolina (see page 1).

Montgomery was given command of this Regiment and of other troops which he led in battle in South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. The most famous of his operations was the raid at Combahee Ferry, where 800 slaves were freed with the help of Harriett Tubman. Montgomery led a raid on the coastal town of Darien, Georgia. He also commanded a brigade in the Battle of Olustee, where Union forces were pushed from Florida.

The records of the Key West Volunteers show that eighteen member paid the ultimate price. Benjamin Brannon, James Leonard, Fredericks Shavers, Matthew Shavers, Joseph Thomas and Bristol Walker were Killed in Action. Richard Beasley, Warren Brooks, Adam Fainshaw, Reuben Freeman, Charles Gabriel, April Lewis, James Lewis, William

Lewis, Henry Parker, William Sanders, Benjamin Smith, David Taylor and William Williams died of non-combat causes. Henry Tolover, James Smith, William Riley and Amos Norris were wounded in action and survived.

Even though members of the Regiment were drafted into service, the records indicate that most members served with distinction, Thomas Darling and Allen Dean received the Bronze Medal for gallant and meritorious conduct during battle. Thirty-six men were promoted to higher rank, some with more than one promotion. On the negative side three men was charged for leave without authorization.

How many members of the unit returned to Key West after the War? Since many of these men were very young when they joined that by the end of the war, they were of age to return and start a family. We see some names in the veterans that became prominent in the Black Community in Key West. A search for veterans was not part of this study.

Records have not been found of a memorial or grave marker for any members of the unit in Key West.

Russell Duncan, Professor of American History and Social Sciences at the University of Copenhagen, Denmark, researched the Second Regiment at the National Archives and copied the members of the unit and personal information including were they were enrolled. He donated a copy of his research to the Monroe County Library. From this list 126 men were found as enrolled in Key West.

The members of the Second South Caroline Volunteers recruited in Key West were:

1. Domingo Adam, Co. A, 16, 5'7", black, b. KEY WEST, waiter, enrolled

(Continued on page 4)

(Soldiers from page 3)

Feb. 9, 1863, by JMM for 3 years; has been musician since enrollment.

2. George Addison, Co B, 41, 5'7", b. St Augustine, carpenter, enlisted Feb. 12, 63, by JMM at KEY WEST, appointed Corporal, April 20, 63, reduced by Marple, Jan. 2, 64, "for getting drunk."

3. John Addison, Co. B, 15, 5'6", mulatto, b. KEY WEST, servant, enrolled Feb. 11, 63, by JMM as drummer boy; he was Free before April 19, 61.

4. Masseline Albrus, Co. B, 28, 5'5", black, b. St Augustine, carpenter, enrolled at KEY WEST by JMM on Feb. 11, 63, appointed Corporal April 7, 63; promoted to Sergeant Aug. 1, 64.

5. George Alexander, Co B, 24, 5'8", mulatto, b. Macon, GA, servant, enrolled by JMM at KEY WEST, Feb. 12, 63.

6. Richard Allen, Corporal, Co B, 29, 5'10, mulatto, b. KEY WEST, servant, enroll Feb. 13,63 by JMM back pay due for Jan. & Feb. 64, \$6 per for March & April \$13 per month.

7. James Anderson, Co B, 44, 5'8", black, b SC, laborer enroll Feb. 12,63 by JMM at KEY WEST, discharged in Sept. for "lame."

8. Lymus Andrews, Co A, 43, 5'8", black, b. GA, laborer, enroll Feb. 12,63 by JMM in KEY WEST.

9. Stepney Austin, Co. A, 30, 5'6", black, b. SC, laborer, enroll by JMM at KEY WEST Feb. 10, 63.

10. Nicholas Bailey, Co A, 40, 5'5", black, b. SC, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM.

11. Tobias Baily, Co. A, 23, 5'5", black, b. Charleston, SC, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10,63 at KEY WEST by JMM.

12. Richard Beasley, Co. B,22,5'4", black, laborer, b. GA. enrolled KEY WEST, died in hospital of consumption Beaufort 22 Oct. 63.

13. Arthur Bennett, Co. A, 36, 5'6",black, b. Barnwell, SC, laborer,

enrolled Feb. 10,63 at KEY WEST by JMM.

14. John Bolton, Co. B, 35, 5'6", mulatto, b. St Helena, laborer; enrolled in KEY WEST Feb. 11, 63 by JMM.

15. Peter Boston, Co. A, 26, 5'7", black, b. FL, laborer, enrolled at KEY WEST Feb. 15, 63 by JMM; Free on or before 19 April 1861. Paid for Jan. & Feb. 1864 \$14.00, Full Pay due for Mar. & April 1864, due \$100 bounty.

16. Benjamin Brannan, Co. B, 19, 5'4", black, b. St Johns County, GA, waiter; enrolled at KEY WEST Feb. 19, 63; deserted March 1, 63 from Camp Saxton at Beaufort; retaken at Beaufort Apr 18, 63; drowned in Ashepoo River at the loss of the **Boston** May 26, 64; his mother was Celie (Cilly) Brown.

17. Simon P. Brisbon, Co. A, 25, 5'8", black, b. KEY WEST, laborer; enrolled Feb. 13,63 at KEY WEST by JMM; promoted to 1st Sergeant, Co A on March 1, 65

18. Warren Brooks, Co. A, 40, 5'8", dark mulatto, b. Washington GA; enrolled Feb. 11,63 as Corporal at KEY WEST by JMM; died in U.S. hospital in Jacksonville on 25 July 65 of inflamed lungs.

19. John Bulmer, Co. B, 29, 6'0", light mulatto, b. St Augustine, carpenter; enrolled at KEY WEST Feb. 11, 63 by JMM; free before April 19,61; promoted to Sergeant March 1,63; promoted to 1st Sergeant Co B, May 26,64; from enlistment till Aug. 31,63 he received \$10 per month then took no pay until April 30, 64.

20. Sandy Cary, Co. B, 18, 5'6", black, b. Dale County, Alabama, servant, enrolled Feb. 13, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM; sick in Beaufort Hospital July 8 & returned to regiment at Morris Island on Sept. 29.

21. William Augustus, Co. G, 16, 5'7", white complexion, b. KEY WEST, enrolled Feb. 11, 63 by JMM at KEY WEST as private; transferred Nov 1, 63 to Company G, as musician by JMM; he was free on or before April 19, 61 and got full pay for March

& April 64 with \$7 before that per month.

22. Andrew Cryer, Co. F, 19, 5'4", b. St Augustine, waiter; enrolled Feb. 15, 63 into Co. A at KEY WEST as Sergeant by JMM then transferred as Sergeant to Co. F but reduced in rank on Jan. 25, 64.

23. Thomas Darling [Dailey], Co. B, 34, 5'6", black, b. St Augustine, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 KEY WEST appointed Corporal, promoted to Sergeant Jan. 3, 64; received Bronze Medal from Gen Gilmore "for gallant & meritorious conduct" during siege at Morris Island.

24. Alfred Dean, Co. B, 19, 6'0", black, b. Mobile, Alabama, laborer; enrolled Feb. 12, 63 KEY WEST by JMM; promoted to Sergeant in Co. G June 5, 63 by order JMM.

25. Allen Dean, Co. B, 21, 5'10", black, b. Baldwin County (Mobile), Alabama, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 KEY WEST; won Bronze Medal from Gen Gilmore for conduct during siege of Morris Island.

26. Manuel Dean, Co. B, 28, 5'9", mulatto, b. Baldwin County, Alabama, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM; promoted to Corporal Nov. 1, 64.

27. Charles Delancey, Co. B, 16, light mulatto, gray eyes, light hair, servant, b. KEY WEST, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM, musician since enlistment in drum corps; free before April 61.

28. James A. Delancey, Co. B, 19, 5'8", mulatto, b. KEY WEST, laborer, enrolled Feb. 11, 63 at KEY WEST as Sergeant, reduced for absence from camp w/o leave by JMM July 25, 64.

29. John Delancey, Co. B, 21, 5'7", mulatto, laborer, b. KEY WEST, enrolled Feb. 9, 63 at KEY WEST as Corporal by JMM; promoted to Sergeant May 26, 64, free before April 61.

30. Raphael Dennis, Co. A, 30, 5'6", black, b. Tomaka FL, laborer; enrolled July 10, 63 at KEY WEST

by JMM; discharged March 12, 64 for chronic rheumatism and fractured ankle before enlistment.

31. Adam Fairshaw, Co. B, 28, 5'5", black, b. St Augustine, laborer; enrolled Feb. 12, 63 KEY WEST by JMM; died in Regimental Hospital Morris Island Sept. 24, 63 of dropsy.

32. Frank Franklin, Co. A, 23, 5'7", light mulatto, b. Pensacola, laborer; enrolled Feb. 19, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM, appointed Corporal March 29, 64; free before April 19, 61.

33. James Frazier, Co. A, 35, 5'7", black, b. Charleston, laborer; enrolled Feb. 13, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM.

34. Randal Frazier, Co. A, 45, 5'5", black, b. Charleston, laborer; enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM, detailed as nurse to Beaufort Hospital April 28, 63-Aug. 64, sick in Hospital since April, 63; discharged from Hospital June 65.

35. Samuel Frazier, Co. A, 25, 5'2", black, b. Charleston, laborer; enrolled Feb. 11, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM, cook in Regimental Hospital Oct. 1, 63-April 64, discharged 18 June 64 "He is very old"--Augustus A Hoit Capt. Co. B.

36. Reuben Freeman, Co. A, 24, 5'8", black, b. SC, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM, died Jan. 11, 66 of typhoid malaria.

37. Charles Gabriel, Co. F, 22, 5'9", black, b. KEY WEST, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM, appointed 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant, died of fever at Ft. Reed, FL Oct. 16, 65.

38. Samuel Gabriel, Co. A, 25, 5'6", black, b. St Augustine, laborer, enrolled Feb. 15, 63 KEY WEST by JMM.

39. Domingo Gardner, Co. B, 26, 5'6", black, b. Glynn County, GA, laborer; enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM.

40. George Garvin, Co. A, 45, 6'0", light mulatto, b. St. Augustine, carpenter, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM, appointed 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant Feb. 12, 63 and to Hospital Steward June 14, 63 by JMM.

41. Edmund Gilbert, Co. A, 24, 5'8",

mulatto, b. FL, laborer, enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM.

42. Booker Glover, Co. B, 38, 5'9", black, b. Tuscaloosa AL, laborer, enrolled Feb. 11, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM, sick in Beaufort Hospital July 8, 63 - Feb 28, 66 with chronic rheumatism prior to enlistment.

43. Jackson Green, Co. A, 25, 5'6", black, b. SC, laborer, enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM; promoted Corporal July 18, 64.

44. Peter Green, Co. B, 23, 5'7", black, b. SC, laborer; enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM.

45. David Haney, Co. A, 32, 5'5", dark mulatto, b. VA, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM.

46. Primus Harrison, Co. B, 35, 5'6", black, b. Tallahassee, laborer; enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST.

47. Barry Hart, Co. B, 39, 5'7", dark mulatto, b. Nassau, New Providence, carpenter; enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST; appointed 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant Mar. 3, 63; promoted to Sergeant Major May 26, 64 by Lt. Colonel Marple and transferred to non-commission staff by JMM on May 26; Jan. & Feb. 1864 he's "absent on furlough", His records say: "Free on or before April 16, 1861. Different of pay between \$10 & \$20 due as 1st Sergeant Co from Feb. 11 to Aug. 31 1863 & different between \$7 & \$20 due as 1st Sergeant Co. B from Sept 1 1863 to Feb. 29 1864 and full pay as 1st Sergeant Co. B due from March 1 to April 30 1864."

48. William Hart, Co. C, 28, 5'8", light mulatto, eyes light, hair light, b. KEY WEST, laborer; enrolled Feb. 11, 63 at KEY WEST, promoted to 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant Co. C, Mar. 11, 63, promoted to Quartermaster Sergeant 34 USCT Nov. 1, 64.

49. Charles Henry, Co. B, 23, 5'4", black, b. KEY WEST, laborer; enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM.

50. A James Houston, Co. B, 23, 5'5", black, b. Fernandina, laborer; enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM; deserted at Fernandina May 24, 64.

51. Israel Jenkins, Co. A, 45, 5'4", black, b. SC, laborer, enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST; sick in Beaufort Hospital Oct. 21, 63-April 64.

52. George Johnson, Co. A, 17, 5'5", mulatto, gray eyes, b. KEY WEST, laborer; enrolled Feb. 11, 63 at KEY WEST; promoted to Corporal Sept. 1, 64; free before 4 April 19, 61, from 27 April - May 18, 64 he was detailed to duty with the Christian Commission on Morris Island.

53. Alfred Jones, Co. G, 23, 5'7", dark, grey eyes, b. Cincinnati OH, tailor; enrolled Feb. 11, 63 at KEY WEST by JMM, appointed Corporal of Co. B; promoted to Sergeant Co. G June 5, 63; promoted 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant Sept. 8, 63, reduced in ranks Aug. 12, 64; promoted to Sergeant Sept. 1, 64; free on or before April 19, 61.

54. Daniel Jones, Co. B, 19, 5'6", mulatto, b. KEY WEST, laborer; enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST.

55. Joshua Jones, Co. A, 19, 5'7", mulatto, b. KEY WEST, laborer; enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST; free before 4 April 19, 1861.

56. John Lambert, Co. A, 30, 5'4", black, b. SC, laborer; enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST; sick in Beaufort Hospital June 26, 63 - April 64.

57. Ishmael Law, Co. A, 30, 5'5", black, b. SC, laborer, enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST.

58. Henry Leman, Co. B, 43, 5'7", black, b. NC, laborer; enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST, left behind at KEY WEST but reported to his Company at Jacksonville Mar. 17, 63.

59. James Leonard, Co. B, 23, 5'6", mulatto, b. KEY WEST, laborer; enrolled Feb. 13, 63 at KEY WEST; transferred for promotion to Sergeant Co. F, April 20, 63 wounded severely at James Island, July 16, 1863 (lived to  
(Continued on page 6)

(Soldiers from page 5)  
complete service in 65.

60. April Lewis, Co. B, 18, 5'5", black, b. KEY WEST, servant, enrolled Feb. 19, 63 at KEY WEST, died in Regimental Hospital Morris Island on Sept. 20, 63 of congestive fever.

61. James Lewis, Co. A, 29, 6'0", black, b. SC, laborer enrolled Feb. 13, 63 at KEY WEST, died of pneumonia on board US Transport Steamer **Groton** at Beaufort June 9, 64 and his wife took his personal effects.

62. John Lewis, Co. A, 36, 5'5", black, b. Jacksonville, laborer; enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST; discharged Mar. 12, 64 from Beaufort Hospital with chronic rheumatism previous to enlistment.

63. John Lewis, Co. G, 17, 5'3", black, b. KEY WEST, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST into Co. B but transferred to G on Nov. 1, 63 as musician.

64. Noah Lewis, Co. A, 34, 5'2", black, b. Pulaski GA, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST; promoted Sergeant Feb. 12, 63, free before 4 April 19, 61.

65. William Lewis, Co. B, 19, 5'6", black, b. KEY WEST, teamster, enrolled Feb. 19, 63 at KEY WEST, died in Morris Island Regimental Hospital, Nov. 12, 63 of fever.

66. Thomas Logan, Co. B, 25, 5'7", black, b. Richmond VA, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST; promoted Corporal Jan. 4, 64.

67. Tony Lowry, Co. B, 20, 5'4", dark mulatto, b. GA, servant, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST, hospital attendant Aug. 11, 64 to Dec. 65 at Jacksonville.

68. James Makens, Co. B, 28, 5'4", light mulatto, b. Tallahassee, servant, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST, appointed Corporal Aug. 20, 63.

69. David Mathews, Co. A, 20, 5'6", black, b. KEY WEST, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST.

70. John Mathews, Co. A, 18, 5'8", black, b. KEY WEST, laborer, enrolled

Feb. 9, 63.

71. Samuel Matthews, Co. B, 19, 5'3", black, b. KEY WEST, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63.

72. Dennis McGee, Co. A, 37, 5'5", dark, b. Augusta, GA, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST, sick & nurse in Beaufort Hospital April 28, 63 - Aug. 65.

73. Fulton McGuire, Co. G, 23, 5'11", black, grey eyes, b. St. Augustine, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST; transferred to Co. G, as Sergeant June 5, 63 by order of JMM.

74. Benjamin Mirant, Co. B, 30, 5'2", light mulatto, b. Sumpter County, SC, barber, enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST, discharged July 5, 63 for a "kind of fits many times while in the discharge of his duty he falls down in convulsions and remains insensible for some time" Lt Charles H. Barnes.

75. Benjamin Murray, Co. B, 21, 5'4", black, b. KEY WEST, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST.

76. Jonas Murray, Co. B, 16, 5'4", black, b. KEY WEST, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST.

77. David Nelson, Co. B, 28, 5'8", black, b. Charleston, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST; appointed Corporal April 7, 63.

78. Manuel Nelson, Co. B, 26, 5'7", mulatto, b. GA, laborer, enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST; appointed Corporal Jan. 3, 64, reduced May 1, 65.

79. Oliver Newton, Co. A, 21, 5'4", dark mulatto, b. Pensacola, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST.

80. Amos Norris, Co. B, 40, 5'8", black, b. Washington, DC, teamster, enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST, wounded in action Johns Island July 9, 64, flesh wound.

81. Jeremiah Parish, Co. A, 23, 5'5", black, b. Monticello, GA, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST as Corporal.

82. Henry Parker, Co. A, 25, 5'7", black, b. GA, laborer, enrolled Feb.

15, 63 at KEY WEST, died of lung hemorrhage April 27, 63 in Beaufort Hospital.

83. Limus Parker, Co. B, 39, 5'7", black, b. Dorchester District SC, laborer; enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST.

84. John Pcram, Co. A, 38, 5'5", black b. Alabama, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST.

85. Francis Post, Co. B, 16, 5'8", mulatto, b. KEY WEST, servant, enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST.

86. William Riley, Co. B, 36, 5'10", black, b. Beaufort, laborer, enrolled Feb. 13, 63 at KEY WEST, appointed Corporal Aug. 20, 63; wounded in leg by shell fragment at Ft. Wagner Sept. 30, 63; sick in Beaufort Hospital until Oct. 20, 63 when he returned to duty.

87. James Roberts, Co. A, 17, 5'8", mulatto, b. KEY WEST, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST as Sergeant, promoted 1<sup>st</sup> Sergeant July 18, 64, free on or before 4 April 19, 61.

88. Samuel Rogers, Co. A, 15, 5'0", black, b. KEY WEST, laborer, enrolled Feb. 11, 63 at KEY WEST.

89. William Sanders, Co. A, 22, 5'2", black, b. St Augustine, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST, appointed Corporal Mar. 8, 64, drowned in Ashepoo River May 26, 64, personal effects given his brother George Johnson of Co. A.

90. Clinton Shavers, Co. A, 35, 5'7", black, b. Halifax, County, VA, carpenter; enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST, appointed Corporal Aug. 12, 63, sick in Beaufort Hospital Feb. 8, 64, discharged May 29, 65 of chronic rheumatism following malaria, married to Margaret Shavers of KEY WEST.

91. Frank Shavers, Co. A, 29, enrolled Feb. 9, 63 at KEY WEST.

92. Frederick Shavers, Co. A, 20, 5'7", dark mulatto; b. Milton, YA, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST; killed in action on board steamer **Boston** in Ashepoo River on May 26, 64, personal effects given

to his brother Henry Shavers, Tybee Island, GA.

93. Henry Shavers, Co. A, 25, 5'6", dark mulatto, b. VA, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST, appointed Corporal Mar. 8, 64.

94. Matthew Shavers, Co. A, 29, 5'8", mulatto, b. VA, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST, sick in Beaufort Hospital from severe wounds June 26, 63 till death of chronic diarrhea, married.

95. Mathews Shavers, Co. D, 35, 5'9", brown, b. Milton, VA, laborer, enrolled Feb. 9, 63 at KEY WEST into Co. A, transferred to Co. D and promoted to Sergeant and Color Bearer Nov 16, 63, free before April 19, 61.

96. Peter Shavers, Co. A, 22, 5'4", mulatto, b. VA, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST.

97. York Shavers, Co. A, 25, 5'6", mulatto, b. VA, laborer, enrolled Feb. 9, 63 at KEY WEST.

98. Solomon Singleton, Co. B, 31, 5'3", black, b. Charleston, laborer; enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST.

99. Benjamin Smith, Co. A, 44, 5'5", black, b. SC, mason, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST, died in Beaufort Hospital Aug. 18, 63 of congestive fever.

100. James Smith, Co. A, 35, 5'5", black, b. SC, laborer, enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST, deserted Beaufort Aug. 31, 64.

101. Frank Solina, Co. A, 24, 5'7", light mulatto, b. St. Augustine, laborer, enrolled Feb. 11, 63 at KEY WEST as Sergeant appointed Commissary Sergeant July 1, 63 by JMM a position he held until Feb 66; married with family in KEY WEST; 2Lt J. B. Welch wrote to request leave for him and called him "one of the most faithful soldiers in the Regiment." Leave was approved for 30 days to go to KEY WEST.

102. Joseph Stevens, Co. B, 23, 5'6", mulatto, b. St. Augustine, carpenter, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST; appointed Sergeant Mar.

3, 63; reduced July 24, 64 for awol; promoted Corporal Nov. 1, 64; served as regimental clerk in Aug 65, free before April 19, 61.

103. Augustus Swicover, Co. B, 26, 5'10", mulatto, b. Savannah, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST; discharged Mar. 12, 64 for chronic rheumatism prior to enlistment, not entitled to pension.

104. David Taylor, Co. E, 36, 5'9", dark, b. St. Marys, GA, porter, enrolled Feb. 9, 63 at KEY WEST; died in Beaufort Hospital July 7, 64 of dropsy, buried in Beaufort Cemetery, married to Maria Taylor of KEY WEST, sent her his silver watch.

105. David Thomas, Co. A, 21, 5'6", black b. KEY WEST, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST.

106. John Thomas, Co. A, 18, 5'6", black, b. KEY WEST, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST.

107. Joseph Thomas, Co. A, 23, 5'8", black, b. KEY WEST, laborer, enrolled Feb. 17, 63 at KEY WEST, killed in action during retreat from Johns Island, SC July 9, 64.

108. Henry Tolover, Co. B, 34, 6'0", dark mulatto, b. Washington, DC, laborer; enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST, wounded in action at Salt Boiler Creek of North Edisto River July 3, 64.

109. John Tyson, Co. B, 39, 5'6", black, b. NC, laborer, enrolled Feb. 2, 63 at KEY WEST.

110. Henry Vickers, Co. B, 24, 5'6", dark mulatto, b. Pulaski, GA, laborer; enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST, appointed Corporal April 7, 63; promoted to Sergeant Aug 1, 64.

111. Sergeant Bristol Walker, Co. A, 50, 5'5", black, b. SC, butcher, enrolled Feb. 19, 63 at KEY WEST, killed in battle at Jacksonville Mar. 11, 63.

112. Milton Walker, Co. B, 40, mulatto, b. Louisville KY, servant, enrolled Feb. 19, 63 at KEY WEST.

113. Peter Walker, Co. B, 18, 5'7", dark mulatto, b. Charleston, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST.

114. Benjamin Washington, Co. B, 18, 5'2", black, b. KEY WEST, servant, enrolled Feb. 11, 63 at KEY WEST.

115. George Washington, Co. A, 24, 5'4", black, b. St. Augustine, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST.

116. George Washington, Co. A, 26, 5'5", mulatto, b. VA, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST.

117. Samuel Welters, Co. A, 21, 5'6", black, b. St. Augustine, laborer, enrolled Feb. 9, 63 at KEY WEST; promoted to Sergeant Co. H June 1, 64 and trans to Co. A, free on or before 19 April 61.

118. Benjamin Williams, Co. B, 28, 5'8", black, b. Dural County FL, engineer, enrolled Feb. 6, 63 at KEY WEST, appointed Sergeant Mar. 3, 63; reduced Mar. 3, 64 for physical inability to perform duties, free before April 61.

119. Charles Williams, Co. A, 16, 5'6", light, b. St. Augustine, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST.

120. Hector Williams, Co. B, 33, 5'8", black, b. Screven County, GA, laborer, enrolled Feb. 15, 63 at KEY WEST.

121. Isaac Williams, Co. A, 16, enrolled April 25, 63 at KEY WEST.

122. James Williams, Co. B, 20, 5'10", mulatto, b. St. Augustine, laborer, enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST.

123. Loop Williams, Co. A, 35, 5'8", dark mulatto, b. KEY WEST, laborer; enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST.

124. William Williams, Co. A, 23, 5'9", light, b. St. Augustine FL, drayman, enrolled Feb. 13, 63 at KEY WEST; appointed Sergeant June 15, 63; drowned in Ashpoo River May 27, 64.

125. Charles Williams, Co. A, 18, 5'2", mulatto, b. St. Augustine, laborer, enrolled Feb. 10, 63 at KEY WEST, promoted Corporal July 18, 64.

126. Morris Worthy, Co. B, 25, 5'3", black, b. KEY WEST, laborer; enrolled Feb. 12, 63 at KEY WEST.

# Peter Eltinge's Letters

*Peter Eltinge was a second lieutenant in 1862 in the 156th New York Volunteer Infantry, a regiment recruited from Richmond County (Staten Island) and Ulster County, New York. His ship wrecked on Carysfort Reef and his unit was safely landed at Key West. The following are the three letters, from Eltinge Collection at Duke University, he wrote his family from Key West.*

Gulf of Mexico

On Board Barque or Man of War  
**Gemsbok**

Dec. 11th 1862

My Dear Father,

I suppose you will be surprised when looking at the heading of this letter to see that we have left our transport and are now sailing in the Gulf of Mexico bound for Key West on board a Government Man of War. Well I suppose I may as well mention it immediately as to wait. Yesterday morning as we had just run past Carysfort light on the Southern coast of Florida and not more than two miles from the light our pilot run the vessel on to one of the Florida Reefs called the Carysfort Reef. Here we were at 6 o'clock in the morning with an extraordinary calm sea for this place and so near a lighthouse fast on a reef. I was in bed when the vessel struck but was soon awakened by the tramp of men running in the greatest confusion about the deck. Now the question arose what is to be done. There were at the time two Schooners and this Barque about six miles in our rear. The Barque was guarding the schooners which were loaded with coal and belonged to Commodore Wilkes fleet. She immediately sent a small boat to

inquire what was our distress & on finding what the matter was bent back and reported to the Capt. who immediately went to work to getting the Barque out of the Reef's (between which, she was anchored for safety from the sea). He almost despaired getting near us at all once or twice but finally succeeded at about, 4 o'clock in the afternoon coming to within about of a mile of our vessel. During the forenoon a lighter one of the Florida wreckers came to our relief and the Capt. said he could carry about a hundred men with their knapsacks over to the Barque at a time. So the Colonel ordered Company A. together with the Major and Adjutant to go aboard the Lighter and with her to the Barque. We started and after getting about 3 miles from the vessel we discovered that her hold was getting full of water so we manned the pump which soon broke, however, leaving us with nothing but pails. We put back to the vessel and after arriving there safely and getting a new pump and waiting for new orders we again started with about 15 men for the Barque. It was now about 1 p.m. and by the time we got aboard it was 4 p.m. We kept transporting men from the transport to the Barque and by nighttime got aboard about 400 men. The rest had to remain on board till this morning and it was with anxious hearts that we passed last night fearing that there might come up a blow and if so all might probably be lost. But morning came and we were all safe. We got our men all aboard today by 11 o'clock and set sail about 12 o'clock for Key West towed by the mail steamer **Blackstone** which met us last night bound for New York. We have had a very narrow escape indeed and have

been exposed to all the dangers of shipwreck without losing a single life. There is not probably one case out of 500 that ever got away safely after running on a Florida Reef as it generally happens with a very rough sea. This was done in open light with the lighthouse still in sight and the sea exceedingly calm. It is entirely incomprehensible to all on board how we came on the reef. Much blame is attached to the pilot and some to the Capt. Some think that it was a premeditated affair and done to make money. The Government having agreed to pay for the vessel if lost. A great quantity of our stores were very foolishly thrown overboard by the captain's orders. We lost nearly all our tent poles, and some tents, great quantities of crackers, pork, beef, rice, sugar, molasses etc. have been lost. This was caused by the excitement of the captain, he not knowing what he was doing. We are now sailing along finely within about 50 miles of Key West where we expect to land in the morning. How we will get to Ship Island from there I am unable to tell. The Capt. of this man of war is Edmund Connelly and we are very much indebted to him, his officers and crew for the friendly treatment we have received at their hands. They are very obliging indeed and make a good many sacrifices to make us comfortable. We passed some resolutions today tendering to him our thanks, etc., which we intend to send to New York to be published in the daily papers. Our Regiment has been blessed with bad luck from the commencement. Every time we have moved we have had bad luck. We have to take the floor in the cabin for a bed now but we get along first rate. Our men are nearly

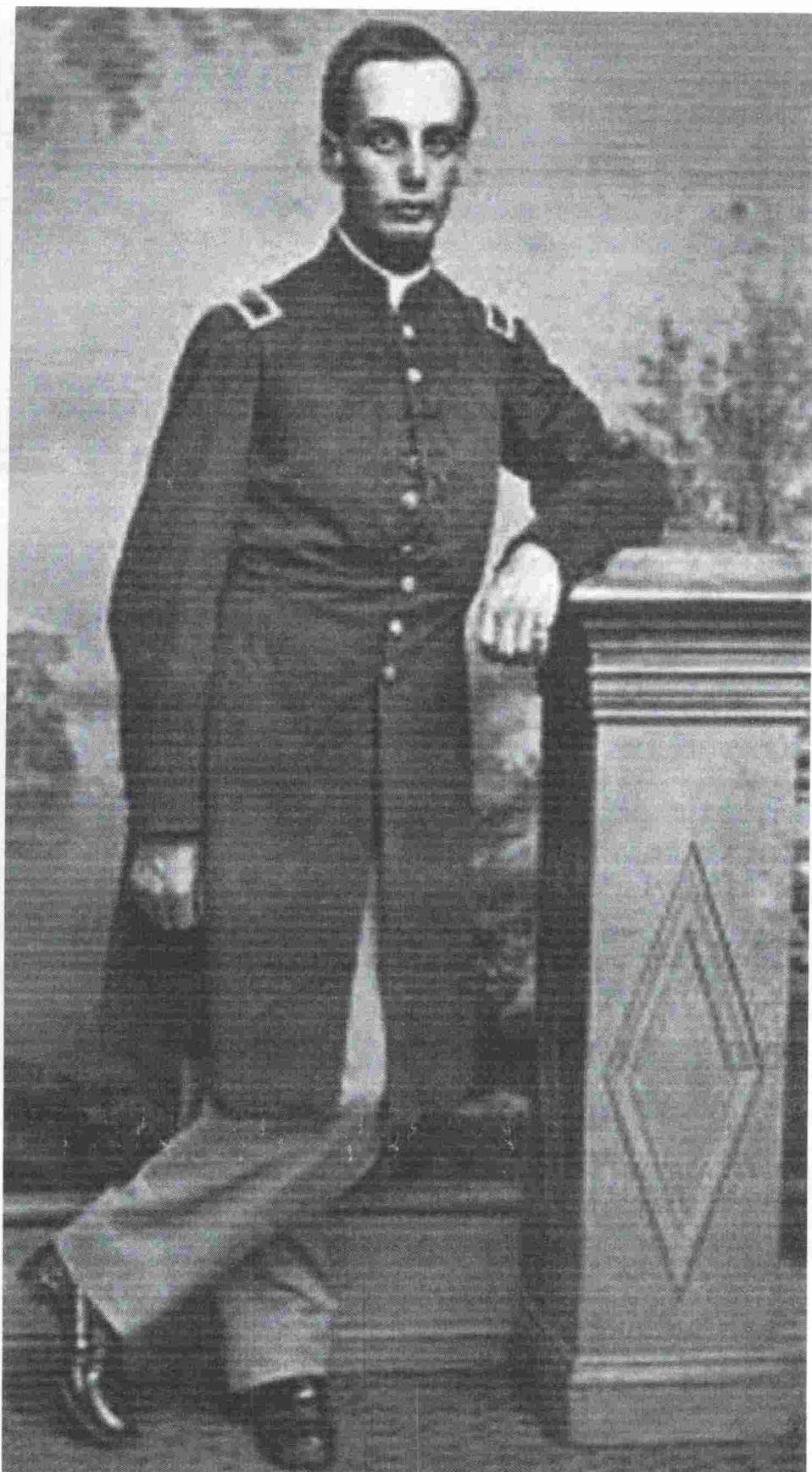
all in good health & think they have very narrowly escaped death. My health is good & I have no reason to complain of my condition. We were all very cool in the midst of great danger and everything passed off well. Connely says that if a blow had come up & a sea while we were on board the vessel would not have lasted two hours. I will now have to close. I would like you to answer immediately on the receipt of this and send me about 25 dollars. Direct to me, Company A. 156th Regiment N. Y. S. V. Washington or elsewhere with Gen. Bank's expedition. Give my love to Mother and all the family. Write immediately.

You're affectionate Son  
Peter Eltinge

P. S. You will please manage that note of mine as best you can. I will be able to send considerable money home when they pay me off

Light House Barracks  
Key West December 13th/62  
My Dear Father,

I now again, having a few leisure moments, will endeavor to write you a few lines. Our regiment is now quartered on Key West Island. We arrived here last Friday morning after being at sea 9 days. Six companies are quartered in the fort, two in Key West court house and two in the Light House Barracks. The 90th regiment of New York is also quartered in these barracks. They have been stationed here about a year and have had command of the Island. Last summer during the yellow fever season they lost over a hundred men by yellow fever. There was a report around that we were to be stationed here and they to go on with the expedition in our stead but this was entirely unfounded. We lost a great many of our guns and equipment by the wreck. We lost 30 guns from our Company,



*Peter Eltinge. Photo credit: Monroe County Library.*

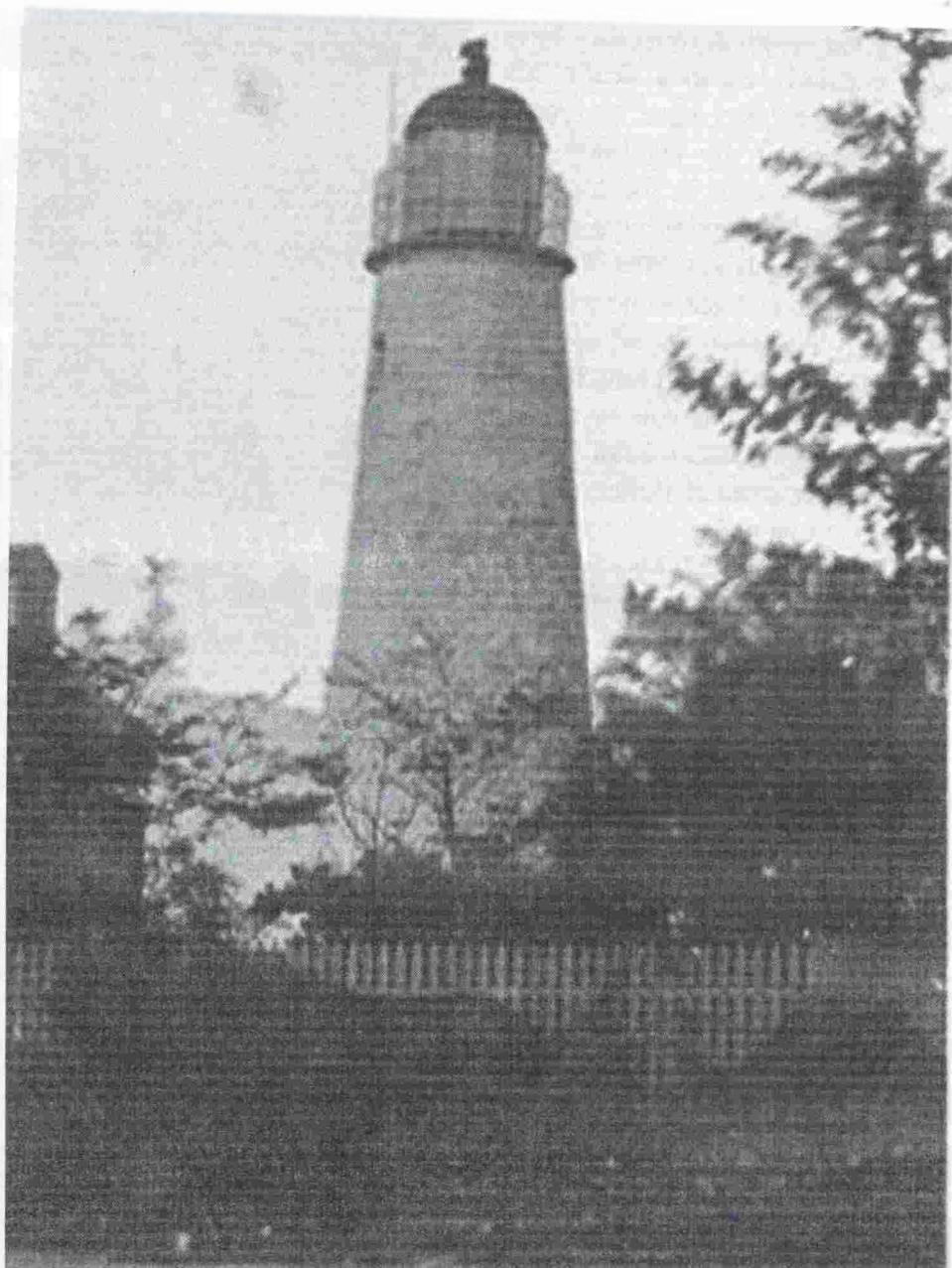
a lot of knapsacks & haversacks and other equipment. We are to get these things furnished to us today from the government quartermaster

stationed here. Key West is quite a pleasant little Island of about 4,000 inhabitants. The soil is very

(Continued on page 10)

*(Eltinge from page 9)*

sandy and light it being very rocky immediately under the surface. It is now under martial law and has been for the past year. No liquor is allowed to be sold here although it is occasionally smuggled in. Half of the inhabitants I should judge were blacks. Very few women appear to be here, about two thirds of the inhabitants are males. There are four churches here, Catholic, Baptist, Methodist and Episcopal; Our Chaplain preached twice yesterday in the Baptist church. I heard him last evening and liked him very well indeed. Considerable fruit is grown here such as lemons, limes sapodillas, coconuts & citrons. The inhabitants here have a very unhealthy appearance. Their countenances are very shallow and their complexions dark. They say this is their coldest season, and you will see ladies in the streets with furs on while we are very uncomfortable and run about in our shirt sleeves. It has been very unsettled weather since we have been here. It has rained about every three hours, not amounting to anything more than squalls however. There are quite a number of rebels here but they keep very quiet on account of so many troops being here. Almost within a stone's throw of the Barracks lives an old darkey by the name of old Sandy who is said to be the richest man on the Island. He owns about 20 acres of land & cultivates nearly the whole of it. He raises about 3 or 4,000 pounds of grapes and all kinds of fruit which the Island produces. Some of the officers thought of boarding there, but when they discerned that they charged 50 cents a meal they thought they better quit. Board is very high here. You can't get anywhere for less than a dollar a day. I met two meals out and take one with the men. In this way I get



The Key West Lighthouse C 1865. Photo credit: Monroe County Library.

along by paying a reasonable price. When we will leave the Island I do not know. I think we will leave here sometime this week however. The sooner we leave the better I will like it as I am not much pleased with this place. I suppose while we are here in this uncomfortable climate you are probably riding about in sleighs. By the time you receive this you will have eaten your Christmas dinner. I will think of you very often on that day and would like very well to be home and eat with you. How is old Bill getting along. Do you take good care of him? I want to see him alive

when I return if it is three years. I don't know when we will get paid off. Probably about the first of January. I send you with the same mail with this letter a Key West paper which contains a little account of our wreck. It is for more of a novelty than anything else that I send it as it doesn't contain much news. I must now close. My health is good. Give my love to all the family. How is Eddie, Louise and the rest of the little ones. Don't forget to send me some money.

Yours in love P. E.

Tell the girls to write often  
Head Quarters Mountain Legion  
156th Regt. N. Y. S. V. Lighthouse  
Barracks

December 20th 1862

My Dear Sister,

It is now Saturday afternoon about 3 o'clock & I not having much to do will try and collect my thoughts and write you a letter. Well we are still on the small Island of Key West & have got settled down once more and begin now to get along quite comfortably. We have plenty to do & have no time to get home-sick or anything of that kind. We have to drill our men about three hours every morning and then we have a battalion drill of about three hours every afternoon. Our regiment is beginning to get in pretty good order and strict discipline is being instituted. We officers that is Capt. Griggs and myself and orderly Quick have a mess together now in our room and we live quite nicely and very comfortably. We bought a mess kettle in New York containing 4 Plates, knives and forks, cups and in fact a complete outfit for four persons. It is a very fine affair indeed and of great service. By cooking in this way we can live very cheaply indeed. You would be amused to see us sit down to our little meal apparently well satisfied, today for dinner we had, beef steak good bread and butter and I believe that is all. We are going to have boiled rice, coffee and fresh bread for supper. Our arrangement for sleeping is not like yours. We sleep on the floor with our overcoat for a pillow and a government blanket under and over us. My gown is very nice for me now. I wear it every night and also my cap. Whenever I put it on I think of home & of the gentle hands that made it. I suppose you now have good sleighing in your State. I think

you must have had a snow storm their lately as it has been quite cold and windy here for the past two or three days. It is very comfortable however without overcoats and no one thinks of having fire. Next week is Christmas. Then for the good dinners, etc. I would like very well to be at home to eat a Christmas dinner with you but this cannot be granted me. Where I will be by that time I cannot tell. I think we will leave here quite soon but when I cannot tell. I would like to stay here a month or so as it is a very good place to drill our men. The general opinion now is that we will go to Ship Island and join Banks there. He, I think, will go to Mobile the first place and take it. If he does we will probably have some fighting to do. The Col. gave a little address to the men the other day in which he said that he thought our regiment would soon be called into active service. From this I think he is going either to Mobile or Charleston. I would like very well to be stationed at Mobile during the winter and help some other regiments hold it. I have just this moment heard that our Lieutenant Colonel, Capt. Even and Capt. Donaldson have just arrived. I presume it is correct as Captain Neaffie brought the news to our quarters. I am very glad of this as our Major is a perfect brute & has had most too much chance to show his authority while the Lieutenant Colonel has been away. Things will move along a little better now I hope than they have done for some time past. Have you had many sewing societies yet and how are they conducted? Do you have as dull times as you had last winter or are they more lively and sociable? When has Mary heard from George? Is he still on the Mississippi or has he been assigned to some other department? When do you expect to go to Washington? I

think probably you will have gone before you receive this. I wrote to Gert about a week ago & gave her a account of our voyage, shipwreck and everything. Our old boat the **Sanford** has all gone to pieces with the wind since we left her. She is now a complete wreck. Peter A. is still detached from his company and is acting as commissary, Capt. Griggs has been sick for two or three days & I have had the whole charge of the company. This makes it pretty hard for me. Peter A. has nothing to do with the company at all. Have you heard from Mary Smith lately and if so what did she say about me. I suppose she doesn't think much of me for not calling on her while I was in Kingston. How are all the girls flourishing? Are all the Maggies well.

Are there any more signs of anybody getting married very soon. Give all the girls my respects when they inquire after me. Tell them I was well & feeling fine when you last heard from me. Tell Father we have not been paid off yet and don't know when we shall probably soon after the first of January. I wish they would pay us now as I want some money. Still I have to wait I suppose patiently till the day arrives. Father I suppose is busy now, Nate being away. How do you manage to get about now yours brother as you used to call him being away. I don't know as I have much more to write now, as this is rather a poor place for news. The paper has been published today. There is an article in it about our regiment. I will get a copy and send it to you by the same mail with this letter. The New Era of Key West will be a paper of some interest to the New Paltz people.

Your Affectionate Brother  
Peter Eltinge

P. S. Give my love to Father Mother & all the family. Write very soon.

# Henry J. Hornbeck's Diary

*Henry J. Hornbeck was from Allentown, Pennsylvania, where he enlisted in the 47th Pennsylvania Volunteers Regiment at the age of 18. After 16 days in Charleston, South Carolina the regiment was ordered back to Key West. His diary for February and March 1863*

February 23rd, Monday. Received this morning marching orders for Key West, Fla. again. Endorsed the letters of Uncle Ebenezer & Sister Mary on the back, to that effect. Packed up things this afternoon. After Supper Weiss Mennig & myself visited Chas. Gross at present in the Hospital here, he being very sick, and then returned to Camp. The band went to town this evening & serenaded General Hunter. Ascertained that we were the body guard of General Hunter, but the U.S. Inspector General ordered the Post at Key West to be garrisoned by the most efficient Regiment in the Department of the South, and of course we were ordered there. Retired at 10 o'clock. Very cold tonight.

February 24, Tuesday. Struck tents this morning early, and everything taken to the wharf. Had the pleasure of seeing General Hunter this morning. Finished loading the vessel & troops on board by 4 o'clock. Left wharf at that time, the band playing. Fine weather. The "donkey" belonging to Co. E. & which had made a few trips with us died on board this evening & was thrown overboard. (I forgot to mention that we embarked upon the **Cosmopolitan** again Captain Crocker) having good quarters this time, being with the Hospital Steward. Retired at 8 o'clock.

Wednesday February 25, at sea. Rose at day break. Sailing along fine, today, running along the Florida Coast. At 4 o'clock ran out further to sea. A good many of the boys are sea sick today. Weather fine. Retired at 7 p.m.

Thursday February 26, at sea. Rose early this morning. Running very near coast all day. Today being Wm. Ginkinger's birthday, I took dinner with him at the table. Had a splendid dinner consisting of roast duck & the etc. Lighthouse in sight at 3 p.m. Passed Cape Florida Lighthouse at 4 p.m. At 9 p.m. passed Carysfort Lighthouse. Retired at 9:30. Sea rough.

Friday February 27, at sea. Very rough all last night, fine weather to day proceeding slowly passed a lighthouse at 7:30 a.m. At noon Key West Lighthouse in sight. Steamer **Illinois** passed close by us at noon. Arrived at the wharf at Key West at about 1 o'clock, the band playing "Bully for Us" it took everybody by surprise especially on account of the citizens having been ordered off the island by Colonel Morgan of the 90th New York Regiment. We just arrived in time to countermand so insane and persecuting an order. The citizens were overjoyed & the American Flag was hoisted from almost every house one place in particular had 14 Flags hoisted and the Spanish Consul raised the flags of all Nations across the street, with the American Flag in the center. Some families had everything packed up & were to leave in the steamer **City of Bath** this afternoon. I saw some of the inhabitants actually cry for joy, our arrival was indeed opportune. I am again detailed and remain here, whilst my Company G with Company E go to Tortugas, joining the other

Companies that remained there. Companies B, C, A & I are in Fort Taylor. Company E raised a great muss to night. They procured some liquor at some place, and carousing & fighting was kept up all night on the wharf, no serious damage done. I stay with Mr. McGrath at present until we get settled down right. Very warm. Retired at 9 p.m.

Saturday February 28th, Nothing to do today Companies G & E left early this morning for Tortugas. Colonel Good accompanying them. Very warm all day. Took a stroll about the city, and then went to McGrath's with Ginkinger, Weiss & Mennig. He kindly informed us to stay with him as long as we please & for which we shall ever feel grateful retired at 9.

Sunday March 1st. Rose early this morning & went to U. S. Barracks and had a good bath although in salt water, on the beach. Today very warm again. In the evening Mr. McGrath, Ginkinger & myself attended Catholic Church and heard a very able sermon. At the close, he announced a meeting to take place next day, to offer up thanks for their deliverance from the persecuting order which was happily countermanded by our arrival. Retired at 10 o'clock.

Monday March 2nd. Rose as usual. Nothing of importance today. Took a walk in the evening. Retired at 9 p.m.

Tuesday March 3rd. Rose as usual, Nothing of importance. Mennig, Weiss & myself took a ride about the City this evening, then took the carriage to Colonel's headquarters. Returned by 8 o'clock. Retired at 9. Cool this evening.

Wednesday March 4th. Today Lt. Heebner takes charge of the post

commissary. Assisted this morning at the accounts of his predecessor Lt. Locke 90th N.Y. Volunteers. Heard that my friend John Lawall of Company I was detailed as Post Hospital Steward, very glad to hear the same, a good appointment. Today the new Congress convenes at Washington and hereafter better & more satisfactory news are expected. Attended Catholic Church this evening. Retired at 9 p.m. Weather warm. Cool at night.

Thursday March 5th. Rose as usual. This morning took a walk to the beach, found a few shells. The steam tug arrived this afternoon from Havana having a large mail. Received a letter from Brother Molton & a paper from Uncle Newhard. Nothing of importance otherwise. Took a walk in the evening. Retired at 9 p.m. Weather fine.

Friday March 6th. Rose as usual. Started our mess today. The ship **Underwriter** commenced loading subsistence stores this morning. The gunboat **Colorado** lying at Navy wharf coaling. The latter is a splendid vessel. Wrote two letters this morning, one to Brother Molton & the other to Brother John. After Supper took a walk about the city then retired.

Saturday March 7th. Rose as usual. Loading subsistence stores all day. Nothing of importance today. This afternoon an English prize steamer called the **Peter Hough** arrived in port having been captured by the **Vanderbilt**. She is reported to be laden with war implements. The prize steamer **Adela** went north at 4 p.m. taking a mail. In the evening our band serenaded several citizens. Retired at 9 p.m.

Sunday March 8th. Rose as usual. After breakfast Mennig, Weiss & myself went to Fort Taylor, remained there until after dinner. Weiss & myself then went to



Colonel T.H. Good. Photo credit: Monroe County Library.

Headquarters and witnessed Dress Parade, then returned to town. After supper Weiss, Ginkinger & myself attended the Catholic Church after which retired. Weather warm.

Monday March 9th. Rose as usual, assisted today in keeping tally in the loading of the ship **Underwriter** with subsistence stores. In the evening our Band played on the balcony at the Russell House. Our mess was today regularly commenced, consisting of the following, Will Ginkinger, Commissary Sergeant; Jacob Beck, Quartermaster Sergeant; Will J. Weiss, Luther Mennig, two butchers and myself having an Irish woman (Mrs. Boyle) as cook. Took a walk in the evening. Retired at 9 p.m.

Tuesday March 10th. Rose as usual. The Naval Transport **Union** arrived in port today for coal. Otherwise nothing of importance. Very warm. Retired at 9.

Wednesday March 11th. Rose. Wrote a letter this morning to Uncle Tilghman, as the steamer **Union** takes a mail north today. Assisted in commissary this afternoon. Took a sea bath after supper. Retired at 9 p.m. Weather very warm.

Thursday March 12th. After breakfast assisted in keeping tally of Commissary Stores transferred from Fort Taylor to warehouse near the wharf. After supper Weiss & myself went to Headquarters. Witnessed the burning of an old house near the Salt Works which produced great excitement in town. Spent remainder of evening at McGrath's. Very windy this evening & cool.

Friday March 13th. Rose as usual. This morning assisted again by tallying. At noon the steamer **McClellan** arrived from New York, with newspapers dating to the 5th inst. No news of any account. A

(Continued on page 14)

(Hornbeck from page 13)

small mail for our Regiment. Took a walk to headquarters after supper with Mennig & Weiss. Retired at 9 p.m.

Saturday March 14th. After breakfast went to work on Regimental papers. In the evening went to the Billiard Saloon and witnessed a game, then went to quarters. Retired at 9 p.m.

Sunday March 15th. This morning the steamer **Mississippi** arrived here from New Orleans, having on board a number of discharged soldiers. At the wharf most part of the day fishing &c. In the evening attended Catholic Church. After which went to McGrath's. Retired about 10. Very warm all day.

Monday March 16. Worked at the Regimental papers today. The gunboat **Sonoma** arrived this morning bringing a brig which she captured. The steamer **Mississippi** left for the north at noon. Henry Trexler went with her, he having been along with the Regiment for some time. After supper Mennig & myself played a game of billiards. Tonight Mennig & myself slept in our bunks which we made back of McGrath's house. Very warm all day.

Tuesday March 17<sup>th</sup>. Busy at Regimental papers today. Nothing of importance. After supper put up my mosquito bar in my bunk. Played a few games with cards. Retired at 9 p.m.

Wednesday March 18th. Nothing of importance today. Very warm all day. Passed the evening in our room. Retired at 9:30 p.m. Slight shower tonight.

Thursday March 19th. This morning the schooner **Nonpareil** returned from Havana with a mail. Not much for our Regiment. Received minus nothing. News not very good. After supper took a walk

# ATTENTION!

## HEADQUARTERS, ISLAND OF KEY WEST, FLA.,

U. S. BARRACKS, Feb. 17th, 1863.

### GENERAL ORDER, NO. 10

In accordance with instructions received from Head Quarters, Dept. of the South, the families of all persons (white,) residing within the limits of this Command, who have husbands, brothers, or sons in Rebel employment, will hold themselves in readiness to embark on board of the first available Transport, for Hilton Head, S. C., with a view of being placed within the rebel lines.

The heads of such families will report in person to these Head Quarters without delay. Due notice will be given as to the Transport and time of sailing.

By Command of

**JOS. S. MORGAN,**

Major, 30th Reg't, N. Y. Vols.

Commanding Post.

**W. T. WOOLLEY,**  
1st Lieut. and Post Adjt.

NEW BRAY JOB PRINTING OFFICE, PRINT.

*Colonel Morgan's General Order 10 requiring everyone with a husband, brother, or son in the Rebel employment to report for transport to South Carolina. Photo credit: Monroe County Library.*

then returned to our room. Passed the evening in games. Retired at 9 p.m.

Friday March 20th. The steamer **George Peabody** arrived from New York early this morning and brought a mail but nothing for us. Worked at Regimental papers this morning wrote a letter to Reub. Leisenring. In the evening took a walk. Retired about 10 p.m.

Saturday March 21st. Assisted today in commissary issuing rations etc. Copied articles for Colonel Patterson, mayor of this city, Notarial records &c. In the evening took a walk, and then returned to our room. Retired about 10 p.m. Weather very warm.

Sunday March 22th. Rose at 6 a.m. After breakfast, washed &

dressed in commissary warehouse after which spent most of the morning at McGrath's. After dinner took a nap in commissary

#### EDUCATION PROGRAM SPONSORS \$100 OR MORE

LINDA & LAWRENCE ABEL  
TOM & KITTY CLEMENTS  
BETTY L. DESBIENS  
BUD DRETTMANN  
JOHN & BEATRICE DUKE  
SHIRLEY FREEMAN & HARVEY SERVER  
CELESTIE ERICKSON  
DR. ELIAS GERTH  
MARY HAFFENREFFER  
TOM & LYNDA HAMBRIGHT  
HARRIGAN FOUNDATIONS, INC.  
JOHN H. JONES  
LAURA LYNNE KENNEDY  
EDWARD B. KNIGHT  
TOM KNOWLES  
TOM & BARBARA MARMION  
DR. WILLIAM R. PLOSS  
LARRY & GRETCHEN RACHLIN  
JUAN L. RIERA  
JUDITH & JAMES ROBERTS  
SOUTHERNMOST HOTEL IN THE USA  
ED SWIFT  
KIMBERLY & GARY WALWER  
ROBERT J. WOLZ

storehouse until 3 p.m. then went to McGrath's. Read the remainder of afternoon a book entitled Christmas Stories. Very warm all day, Persons dressing in white suits. It is quite a sight to see the sailors in a body all dressed alike in white garments. They look very good. It is reported that the **Alabama** or **290** was captured off Charleston. The news is almost too good to be true. Spent the evening at McGrath's, Mac & myself playing a game of cheques. About 5 o'clock this afternoon the fast & powerful steamer & gunboat **Vanderbilt** arrived in port. Retired at 9 p.m.

Monday March 23<sup>rd</sup>. Rose as usual, busy most of the day at Regimental Papers. Late in the afternoon engaged in fishing off the wharf. Mennig & myself took lunch at Gallagher's about 4 o'clock. After supper took a walk about the city then went to McGrath's, paid a visit John Lawall, Stewards at General Hospital heard splendid singing this evening by a party of Naval Officers, out serenading. Retired at 10 p.m.

Tuesday March 24<sup>th</sup>. Rose as usual. Busy at Regimental papers today. This morning Colonel Good, Lt. Heebner & the band went to Tortugas. Frank Good arrived from Tortugas last night and stays with us. Wrote two letters, one to Sister Mary & the other to Cousin Sallie Newhard. After supper took a short walk about city. Went with Wm. Weiss part of way to Fort Taylor. Heard splendid music by a couple of Spaniards. They play the guitar to perfection. Frank Good occupies my bed to night. I sleep at McGrath's. Retired at 9 P.M.

Wednesday March 25<sup>th</sup>. Worked at Regimental papers in the morning. Wrote a letter to Uncle Ebenezer this afternoon. Very windy, slight rain.

Thursday March 26<sup>th</sup>. Busy

at papers all day. The steamer **Cricassion** arrived from the north today having a mail. Received a letter from Albert Kern and two papers from Uncle Ebenezer. Took a walk in the evening. Very warm.

Friday March 27<sup>th</sup>. Nothing of any account. Visited U.S. Barracks after supper, to have coat & trousers altered & made by Albert Newhard of our Regiment. Visited John Lawall in Hospital as steward. Weather cool tonight.

Saturday March 20<sup>th</sup>. Nothing of any account to day. About 1 o'clock tonight was roused up by the cry of fire. A house & barn burnt down in the heart of the city. Assisted as much as possible in quelling the flames. Subsided by 4 o'clock. It is almost a miracle that the whole City did not bum down, having no engine in this place, and all the water was passed in buckets. Had it not been for the soldiers & sailors everything would have been destroyed. Went to bed again at 4 o'clock.

Sunday March 29<sup>th</sup>. Went to commissary after breakfast & dressed up. Schooner **Union** returned from Havana, having a lot of oranges. In the afternoon went to U.S. Barracks. Went to Fort Taylor at 4 p.m. Witnessed Dress Parade. After supper took a walk about city. Retired at 9 p.m.

Monday March 30<sup>th</sup>. Worked at papers in morning. Heard that Corporal Jesse Rimmel of Company B died last night, to be buried this afternoon at 5 p.m. Died of consumption brought on by fever, attended his funeral from General Hospital, two companies as escort Companies B & I. Chaplain Bass of 90th New York Volunteers officiating, our Chaplain being in Tortugas. Weather very warm. Retired at 11 p.m. Sitting up tonight on McGrath's front porch, fine breeze. Heard a few Spaniards serenading.

## BUSINESS MEMBERS

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY  
GENEALOGY CENTER  
900 LIBRARY PLAZA  
FORT WAYNE, IN 46802 260-421-1223

COASTAL SAILING ADVENTURE, INC.  
2855 JOLLY ROGER DRIVE  
LITTLE TORCH KEY, FL 33042-0839 295-8844

CONCH TOUR TRAINS, INC.  
601 DUVAL ST.  
KEY WEST, FL 33040 294-4142

DR. FRED COVAN  
1901 FOGARTY AVE SUITE 2  
KEY WEST, FL 33040 305-294-7522

DEWOLF AND WOOD  
ANTIQUARIANS ON THE GREEN  
P.O. BOX 425  
ALFRED, MAINE 04002 207-490-5572

FRIENDS OF ISLAMORADA AREA STATE PARKS  
P.O. BOX 236  
ISLAMORADA, FL 33036

DR. ELIAS GERIH  
2505 FLAGLER AVE.  
KEY WEST, FL 33040 305-295-6790

HISTORIC FLORIDA KEYS FOUNDATION  
510 GREENE STREET  
KEY WEST, FL 33040

HISTORICAL PRESERVATION  
SOCIETY OF THE UPPER KEYS, INC.  
P.O. BOX 2200  
KEY LARGO, FL 33037

KEY WEST ENGINE SERVICE, INC.  
P.O. BOX 2521  
KEY WEST, FL 33045

KEY WEST TENNIS  
1305 REYNOLDS STREET  
KEY WEST, FL 33040 561-445-7805

KEY WEST WOOD WORKS  
6810 FRONT STREET STOCK ISLAND  
KEY WEST, FL 33040 296-1811

MEL FISHER MARITIME HERITAGE SOCIETY  
200 GREENE ST  
KEY WEST, FL 33040 294-2633

OLD TOWN TROLLEY  
6631 MALONEY AVENUE  
KEY WEST, FL 33040 296-6688

PREMIERE RACING, INC.  
67B FRONT STREET  
MARBLEHEAD, MA 01945 781-639-9545

PIGION KEY FOUNDATION  
P.O. BOX 500130  
MARATHON, FL 33050

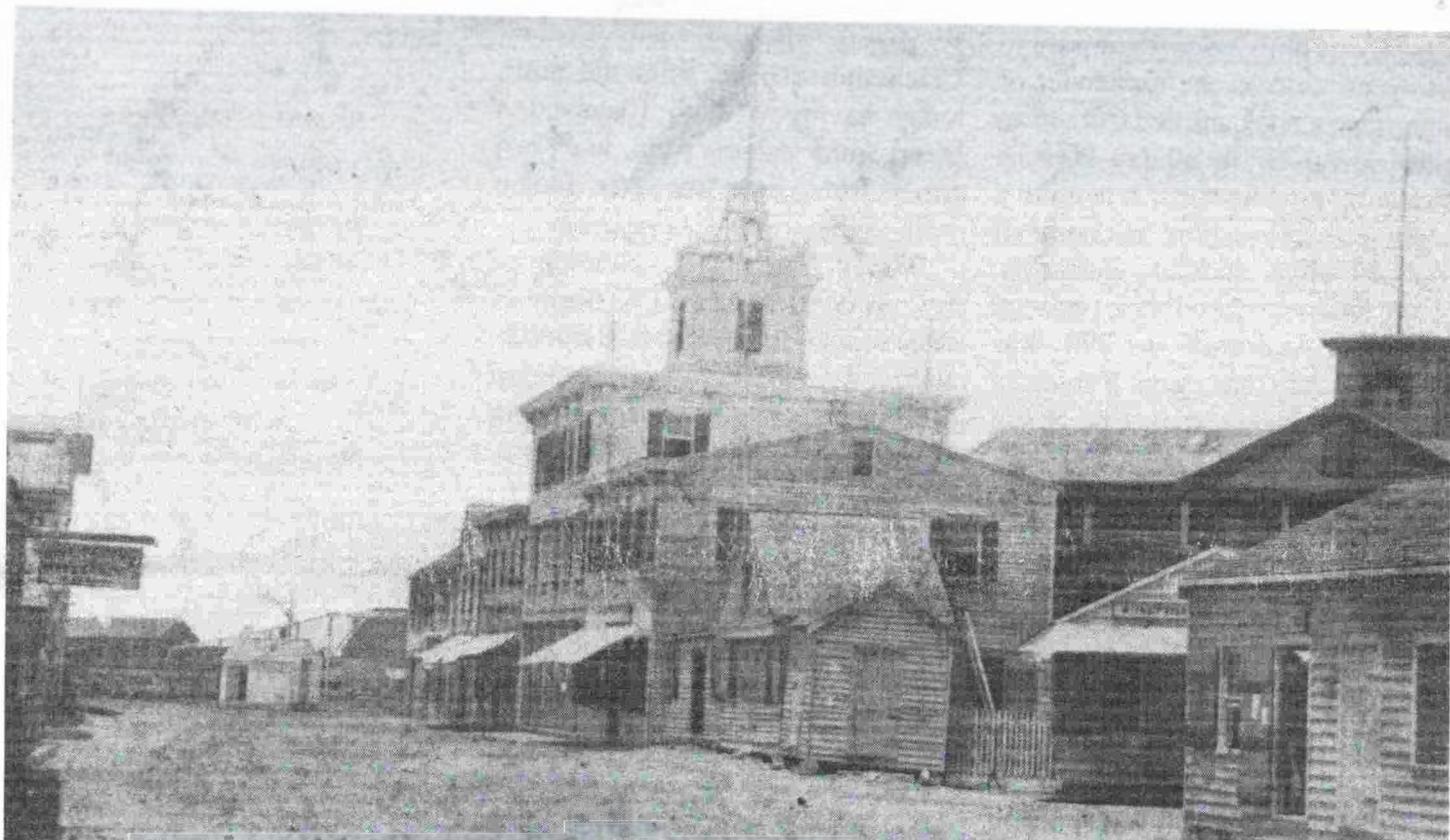
RIERA TOURS  
P.O. BOX 522026  
MIAMI, FL 33152 305-446-2712  
JUANR37@GMAIL.COM

A.R. SAVAGE & SONS, INC.  
701 HARBOUR POST DRIVE  
TAMPA, FL 33602 813-247-4550

SEASTORY PRESS  
305 WHITEHEAD STREET #1  
KEY WEST, FL 33040 296-5762  
SHERI@SEASTORYPRESS.COM

SOUTHERNMOST HOTEL IN THE USA  
1319 DUVAL STREET  
KEY WEST, FL 33040 296-6577

ST. LOUIS AUTOMATIC SPRINKLER CO.  
3928 CLAYTON AVE.  
ST. LOUIS, MO 63110 314-533-7710



*Front Street looking from Fitzpatrick Street to Duval Street in 1865. Photo credit: Monroe County Library.*

Key West Maritime Historical Society  
P.O. Box 695  
Key West, FL 33041

NONPROFIT ORO.  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
KEY WEST, FL  
PERMIT NO. 30