

CHS MS 65847
Winship, William L.
*letters written to his mother during service
in the Civil War, fragments of a diary & 2 discharge papers*

Diary fragment (April 8)[1863]

- 8 *Frank Dart came drilled an hour before ?J Paradi?*
- 9 *Got up at 4 and struck tents started for Barshear City at ½ past 9 – it is 12 miles from Bayou Beouf. Saw Arthur Blake he looks first rate*
- 10 *Had orders to leave everything but Overcoats and Rubber Blankets*
- 11 *Had orders to march at 2 P.M. went on board St. Marys lay out in the stream all night. boat very Sunday crowded did not have room to lie down*
- 12 *started at 6 o'clock in company with 8 other boats*
- 13 *landed at Irish Bend in Grand Lake at ½ past 11 and marched 2 miles through the woods and halted 8 of us were sent back after Rations when we got back found the regt had gone on 2 miles further. Found them in corn field. Round on the right we found the rebels in the woods fired 3 or 4 times at them. When they opened on us with their Battery all their shell went over us and did us no harm. We would fire and lie down as fast as we could. 1 or 2 regts of Rebs came out on our right and we were ordered to fall back. the bullets flew round us like Hail stones. 5 of our company were wounded none killed. there was 88 killed and wounded in the regt. Helped carry one the wounded to the Hospital. Gun Boat D[missing fragment page] blew up. Rebbels [sic] Retreated.*
- 15 *Started in pursuit of the rebbels [sic] at 6 o'clock marched 21 miles camped near Sugar House. Sugar plenty all the way*
- 16 *Started again at 6. Reached Newtown at ½ past 3. Caught a Turkey on the way had a stew made of Geese Turkeys and Chickens for supper. The B??s here burnt 3000 bales Cotton and robbed ? or 4 hundred hogsheads of Rum and sugar.*