

DIARIES OF AARON JONES FLETCHER AND EDWIN TAFT

Narrator: Few of the Acton soldiers had traveled very much. In their diaries they recorded sights and experiences that impressed them. Aaron Jones Fletcher kept a diary during his assignment on Ship Island, Louisiana.

Aaron Jones Fletcher:

May 16th, 1862

Morning drill two hours; fired the big guns. Went up to the woods and saw two large alligators."

June 25th, 1862

Went up the river about 4 miles to an orange grove and got some green oranges. "

Narrator: Edwin Taft recounted his company's journey from Boston to New Orleans.

Edwin Taft:

New York City, Sept 13th, 1862:

"I and the rest of the Boys went to the Bowery theatre last night and we had a splendid play it lasted until two this morning. I have been out on the street this forenoon, Broadway I mean, and it is nothing but one mass of moving beings going to and fro. I stood at the corner of Franklin & Broadway and I counted over thirty omnibuses that passed by me in less than five minutes. You can see a dozen of them at any time within as many rods of each other. But I say Deliver me from a life in York City".

Pensacola Bay, Sept 25th, 1862

"I saw a lot of porpoises yesterday and some flying fish."

Louisiana, Thanksgiving Day, 1862

I think of home often today and of the many good times I have had on going home on Thanksgiving Day. I wonder if they miss me ...I had bread & coffee for breakfast, soup for dinner and I expect bread & tea for supper. So goes my Thanksgiving & where shall be the next one?"