

9th. Long walk in the evening; cold; this day a year ago we retreated from the Cross Roads. Fair weather; Lieut. Robinson and another naval officer arrived from Montreal; had been paroled to return in time from Plattsburg; they brought out very disastrous tidings, mentioned that Sir George Prevost had sent his army into winter quarters, instead of being at Sacketts Harbor as reported. The prisoners who were taken in the last sortie at Fort Erie, were paroled at Stockbridge, (a very fine village on the opposite side of Pittsfield) except Major Valette, who was allowed to remain at Lansingburgh. Major Burke, Thompson, and Keane, King's regiment, had permission to go back to Stockbridge, as some of their officers were there, they left at 10 o'clock; I accompanied Major Burke to the limits, parted from him with regret, as he was a very gentlemanly and good man—he lodged in the same room with me, so I became much attached to him; wrote Mathewson of the King's, desiring him to inform me if he knew or had heard anything about my family since my leaving the lines; nothing new; received the New York Examiner and Albany Gazette; dined with Lander, Gardner, and Thrower.

This is the second month I have passed in the village, during which period I have not exceeded the limits prescribed in my parole in the minutest article. Humphreys, the shoemaker, arrived from Albany; very happy to find there is a strong prospect of peace. Lord Hill's expedition to America detained in consequence of the dispatches sent to the British Government by the Plenipotentiaries.

Fine weather; Humphrey's, the bootmaker made his appearance again; nothing new or interesting; moping over Blackstone's commentaries two-thirds of my time; finished Homer's Iliad.

14th. The ninth levee over; a continuation of good weather; kite flying all the rage at present; most of our other games nearly fallen through; sent some time ago for Paul Clement, heard nothing yet; gave John Gould ten dollars when in Buffalo.

15th. Cold unpleasant day; let Warren have twelve dollars, which he is to repay in Canada. Visited Spilsberry and Humphreys; wrote Mahon, enclosed four dollars for cigars; no news; cold and raw weather. Rode out with Loring; passed the remainder of the day writing and reading; getting quite tired of Cheshire and its beautiful scenery. Received the paper, which confuted all the idle rumors who had heard of peace; am sorry to find there is not the most distant prospect of it; neither side appear inclined to make overtures; the war will be carried on with increased vigor. Heard there was a letter in the post office for me, at Ghent; cold, and nothing new. Wrote Major Melville