

Winter Encampment Latta Plantation, Huntersville, NC

Submitted to Col. Patrick Kelly, Commander 88th NYSI

88th NY, Co. B. Arrived in Huntersville, NC, evening of Jan. 1861. Camp was established near the home of John Sample on Latta Plantation. NC is still part of the Union. Our Camp is 30 miles from the SC border. Unrest is present from the local population. We will camp here and prepare the men, in drill and preparation for a long campaign to come. Some feel that when War comes it will be short. But I feel that the resolve of the people here in NC, will make it a conflict that will not be put down with one swift battle or defeat of the rebellious population. The NC militia is building winter quarters for their men. It appears that they will be training and drilling the men as we are in preparation for a campaign.

We camped here for two nights. The men were drilled in manual of arms, stacking arms and marching. We worked hard on different battle formations and firing drills. We broke camp on Sunday afternoon and began the long March back to Washington City.

Reverently Submitted,

Your Obedient Servant,

1st Sgt. Madden

CO. B, 88th NYSI

2nd Reg., Irish Brigade.