The Evans house was a double-pen log structure located on the corner of Guyler and Nashville Streets in Ringgold. Before the war, the widow Evans took in boarders and a woman from Edinburgh, Scotland, who also offered her service to the Confederacy as a nurse. On August 31, 1862, she arrived at Ringgold. In her diary entry for September 1, Kate wrote: “We have changed our boarding house and are now stopping with a very nice lady by the name of Evans, who keeps an excellent table; has and abundance of milk, butter, and eggs; and only charges $1 per day.”

On September 8th, Kate Cumming again mentioned the widow Evans in her diary. “We are much pleased with our kind hostess, Mrs. Evans. Some few days ago one of her sons, a Methodist preacher, came to see her. We had a good prayer meeting while he was here.”

Kate worked with the wounded from the Battle of Chickamauga. “We traveled over some of the roughest roads I ever was on,” she stated. “I thought, if this was the war our wounded had to come, they must indeed suffer; and, sure enough, we met what seemed to me hundreds of wagons, with their loads, going to Ringgold. We also saw many wounded men wending their way on foot, looking wearied enough. We stopped and spoke to them; all were cheerful.”

Like several Ringgold citizens, Mrs. Evans left her boarding house to hide in the woods when the Federal army invaded. When she returned after the Battle of Ringgold Gap, she found Ringgold under Federal occupation. This situation continued for the rest of the war.