

RUMORS ARE ALL TOO NUMEROUS

MOST OF THEM HAVE REFERENCE TO MUSTERING OUT.

There Has Been a Decided Change of Sentiment Within the Last Few Weeks and Many of the Men Are Now Anxious to Be Discharged from the Service of the Government—There is a Possibility that the Thirteenth Will Go to Camp Meade.

Special to the Scranton Tribune.

Camp Alger, Dunn Loring, Va., Aug. 25.—It would require a mind with a myriad phases to it to reflect the rumors which at times gain credence here, and to fully appreciate the changes of feeling which from hour to hour take place in the hearts of the men. It is almost cruelty to those who are camped here to keep them in suspense much longer, and it is to be hoped that the war department and the board of officers who will be appointed to muster the men out will see the justice of settling this question definitely. At present everything is in doubt and there is no possible means of arriving at the truth.

The work of mustering out will undoubtedly be begun before long. The mustering out officers have not yet been selected by General Gobin. There are only a few officers of the regular army present, Majors Wright, Strong and Butler and Captain Brooks, and of course under the orders and instructions received from Adjutant General H. C. Corbin these will have the preference. As there are six officers asked for this will necessitate the selection of two volunteer officers, which selection is to be made with the greatest care and circumspection. Capable men will be chosen, and General Gobin is now, very likely, exercising his wits in making a mental checklist of those who are to help him in the performance of this important duty. In speaking of this matter yesterday General Gobin emphasized the fact that in those regiments to be mustered out every man must be strictly accounted for. He listed the diseases from which they suffered, and the causes of their illness must be accurately recorded; and all men who are absent either on leave or as practical deserters without leave, are to have their names returned in the proper way. This is to be carried out fully so as to leave no chance in the future for unjust, undeserved pension claims against the government.

SENTIMENT CHANGED.

There is no doubt now that the war is practically over and talk of being mustered out has spread throughout the camp, that the general sentiment of the men are changing. At first, even after the signing of the protocol, and down to the very day when the papers announced that the work of mustering out several of the regiments would be begun soon, not a word of complaint was heard, or an expression tending to show any dislike on the part of the men to go home; but it is different now. No sooner was there a prospect of getting home than the desire to get away became stronger and stronger. The men felt that they had been cooped up here long enough, and they now see nothing better before them. The First Connecticut took a vote on the question yesterday, and with a surprisingly large vote expressed themselves as being in favor of a discharge. The Third Virginia is of the same mind, and so is the Eighth Pennsylvania. It must be said that the same is decidedly true of the Thirteenth. The men are in a quandary. They prided themselves on their superiority to every other regiment in the old National guard, and still they have been condemned to these camp grounds for months. There is nothing before them now to arouse their ambitions; they are listless, dissipated, and as many of them see no cause for which they should continue to make further sacrifices, they are emphatically—the great majority of them—in favor of going home.

There is still a strong suspicion that Camp Alger will yet be abandoned for Camp Meade, at Middletown. The Second division continues by degrees to get away from Thoroughfare Gap, and will soon be in Pennsylvania. General Graham is of the opinion that Middletown is a good place for a camp, and believes that it can easily accommodate the entire corps. This is shown by the following telegram, which was sent by him yesterday to H. C. Corbin, adjutant general of the Army of the United States:

Headquarters Camp Meade, Pa., Aug. 24, 1898. Adjutant General United States Army, Washington, D. C.: The fact that there is a sufficiency of water here for 25,000 was developed today by the completion of the last well, giving a total supply of about 136,000 gallons in twenty-four hours. This water is expected, will increase under air pressure. The camp sites are sufficient in area for the whole corps, and are ideal in character. I believe that the corps will be most judiciously located here. I will order First Division to move as soon as the Second has arrived. Graham, Major General.

Interest in the projected removal from here to Middletown is lost, either on account of other more important speculation, or else because the men do not care one way or the other. This doubt is breaking their spirit, and between home and Cuba, the North Pole and the torrid zone, it makes but little difference to them.

FLAG RAISING IN B STREET.

Last night a beautiful and patriotic ceremony was carried out in B street by the "Doney club" of the company. The occasion was the raising of the national colors on a large pole which was gotten and made ready in the afternoon. This pole, which is twenty-five feet high, is erected between the headquarters of the "Doney club" and "Misery castle," the habitation of Private Charles Hamilton, the well-known attaché of the Academy of Music.

At 7 o'clock in the evening the drum corps gathered near the pole, and, in the presence of a large delegation from the "Star Spangled Banner" when the cord was pulled and a beautiful new flag was flung to the evening breeze. A salute with blank cartridges was fired, and three cheers were given. "Doney" Thomas then stood on a box and delivered a stirring speech, worthy of the occasion. There was a good deal of enthusiasm manifested. The roll of the members of the club was then called, and the following gentlemen with names more descriptively picturesque than elegant, and far exceeding any catalogue of names taken from the family tree of the most poetically inclined tribe of Rapahoes, re-

sponded: President, "Doney" Thomas; vice president, "Buff" Mallot; secretary, "Hard Tack" Burkhauser; treasurer, "Pop" Gaines; sergeant-at-arms, "Black Jack" Hughes; pilot, "Commodore" Quinn; right skirmisher, "Commodore" Sweeney; left skirmisher, "Rheumatism" Atkinson; privates, "Dutch" Adler, "Elder" Berry, "Long George" Bradbury, "Dude" Armstrong, "Heer Most" Blunk, "Stump" Conway, "Skinny" Coakley, "Woolly" Crimmins, "Cobby" Flannery, "Goose Foot" Gurnell, "Ham Bone" Hamilton, "Goldy" Jones, "Dusty Roads" Keller, "Stubby" Mitchell, "Artificial" Myers, "Squid" Mannick, "Hard Luck" McCracken, "Irish Giant" O'Malley, "Spike" O'Hara, "Old Man" Powell, "Fancy Boy" Beavers, "Chum" McLaughlin, "Senator" Roscoe, "Wash" Tubbs, "Bill Nye" Watkins, "Tack" Zeldner, "Spider" Dawson, "Sagaw" Sohns, "Bismarck" Schroeder, "Scrapper" Sprague, "Sleepy" Biesecker, "Hokey" Boyce, "Fakir" Mills, "Ski" Perkins, "Breezy" Reese, "Sisal" Finnerty, "Moon Face" Gerrity, "Glimpy" My Lane, "Jonah" Beggs, "Softy" Seville, "Roman Nose" Kellow and Carey "the Turk." As the names were being called aloud the merriment grew.

PARKE'S APPOINTMENT.

As major surgeon at the division hospital to succeed Major Devine is causing general rejoicing in the camp of the Thirteenth. The appointment meets with their hearty approval. The arrival of a corps of sisters of charity at the hospital is also glad news to the boys, especially to those unfortunate who are confined to the sick wards. They look upon the arrival of these women and first-class nurses not only as a change, but as a positive blessing. They have been assigned to duty. The hospital train which has been expected here for some time, left here this morning and brought to Philadelphia whatever patients were strong enough to be removed. Most of the Thirteenth patients were taken as they all are doing well. They will be distributed among the different hospitals. The train left soon after noon. Captain Smith, of E, is officer of the day. Lieutenant Benjamin, of H, lieutenant officer of the guard; Charles Zeldner, of B, sergeant of the guard; Arthur Mills, of H, John Hitchcock, of D, and William Davis, of F, corporals; orderly, Thomas McLaughlin, of B.

CAMP GOSSIP.

Major Stillwell, of the First battalion, is away on a short leave of absence. Private Charles Koehler, of F, has been called home on account of the sickness of his child. Captain Robling, of C; Gillman, of D; Fellows, of F; and McCausland, of G, are in Washington today. Corporal Lathrop and Regimental Clerk Decker, of A, are mourning the loss of all their tent mates.

The members of Company B had a chicken pot pie the other day, and since then they "Don't feel very well, thank you." Corporal Edward Koons, who has been indisposed for a few days, is attending to duty again. Corporal Fred Petry, of A, will celebrate his birthday tomorrow and intends to give the boys a good time. Private Karl Wyman, who is a patient in the regimental hospital for a few days, is now able to attend to duty.

Professor (Larry) Ketrick has written a letter to his friends Corporal Cleary, of D. He is invited to send the key, as so far it cannot be deciphered. It is midway between Coptic and Irish short hand. In the absence of Color Sergeant Reed, Sergeant McCullough, of D, carried the colors at dress parade last night. First Sergeant Dailey, of A, is able to attend to duty again. He was confined to the regimental dispensary for two days. Color Guard Charles Sprandel, of D, is slightly indisposed. Private John Wiernan, of D, gratefully acknowledges the receipt of a box of Clark and Snover tobacco, the gift of his friends in the Colliery Engineers' composing room.

Lieutenant Henry Varcoe, of E, returned to camp last night after an absence of ten days, which time he spent with his parents in Honesdale. Private Frank Heasted, of E, had to be relieved from guard duty last night. He was taken down suddenly with an attack of cramps. He is nearly well now. First Sergeant Roche, of G, who was indisposed for a few days, returned to duty from the regimental hospital this morning.

The members of Company A are on their mettle. They are kicking on their fare. Private Merrick, of A, was today discharged from the guard house. He was lodged there yesterday on account of the trouble in the company street. The court martial adjudged that he was simply defending himself. Private Peyton Harding, of D, is enjoying sweet repose on a feather pillow, the gift of his cousin, Miss Grace Harding, of Washington.

Company F's second nine beat the regimental team yesterday in a game of base ball. The score was 18 to 4 in favor of F's representatives. Company C was on Division fatigue this morning. Private Thomas Casey, of D, is in the Division hospital, and is quite ill. Privates Clark and Burns, of H, are in Washington today. Private Lebring, of G, received a telegram from home today announcing the illness of his mother. He expects a furlough this afternoon. Lieutenant J. C. Harrington, of G, goes home today on a leave of absence for a week. Private Floyd Hazleton, of F, has returned from home. He left here on a furlough some time ago, and while home became ill. His furlough was then extended. The boys of his company were glad to welcome him back. Chaplain Stahl left for Princeton, N. J., last evening to visit his home. He will be away ten days. An assortment of No. 3 trousers was received this afternoon. The fat men of the regiment will be glad. The two hundred-pounders have been wearing the garments of 115-pounders for some time. Richard J. Bourke.

ECHOES OF THE WAR.

The Medico-Chirurgical hospital train from Philadelphia left Camp Alger at noon, bearing one hundred and twenty-five convalescent soldiers. There were not enough Pennsylvania patients to fill the train and some men were taken from other state organizations. Private George Purucker, company G, 65th New York, died today of typhoid fever. His body will be interred at Arlington with military honors to-morrow.

Thoroughfare, Va., Aug. 25.—The greatest delight is evidenced by the official announcement that they are to be mustered out. The other regiments at Thoroughfare are fully as anxious for their service to end and petitions are in circulation everywhere. Major Price's battalion, the Third of the Sixth Pennsylvania, left camp for Middletown, Pa., at 11 o'clock and the first and second battalions left later in the day. The Seventh Illinois will go tomorrow. Private George Mayes who was pronounced cured of measles at the morning and other arrangements made to receive his patients when they are brought here from Camp Alger. A committee of trustees of the Harriburg hospital waited on Colonel Girard, chief medical officer of the corps, today and made his disposal thirty cots in that institution.

Camp Meade, Middletown, Pa., Aug. 25.—The Ped Cross hospital to be established in camp will be located near the Second division hospital and will be an auxiliary to that institution. A site was selected today for the First division and tents will be pitched in the morning and other arrangements made to receive his patients when they are brought here from Camp Alger. A committee of trustees of the Harriburg hospital waited on Colonel Girard, chief medical officer of the corps, today and made his disposal thirty cots in that institution.

Camp Meade, Middletown, Pa., Aug. 25.—Major General Graham received a telegram this morning from Secretary of War Alger stating that President McKinley would pay an informal visit Saturday to Camp Meade. The general promptly directed Chief Engineer Lusk to arrange for a marching review of the troops in honor of the president. There are upwards of 12,000 men in camp and by Saturday the number will be increased by half. Within forty-eight hours the entire Second division will be moved from Thoroughfare Gap. The movement of the troops from Camp Alger will be the Eighth, Twelfth and Thirteenth Pennsylvania regiments are located, will begin tomorrow. The president will probably come to Camp Meade by special train and go from here to Camp Wilcox, N. Y. Members of the regimental staff, the diplomatic corps and some personal friends will come with him.

Prosecution Sure That They Have the Guilty Party. Dover, Del., Aug. 25.—Attorney General White tonight sent to San Francisco requisition papers for Mrs. Botkin, who is under arrest there charged with poisoning Mrs. Dunning and Mrs. Dunning by means of candy sent through the mail. The affidavit to secure the papers was sworn to by ex-Congressman Pennington, the father of the two poisoned women, and the papers charge Mrs. Botkin with the murder in the first degree. Before leaving here for Georgetown tonight Attorney General White said: "We have the murderers and we have evidence that no defense can shatter. The only thing we fear is Mrs. Botkin's skill as a lawyer. She is a woman of the wrapper of the candy package and that of the anonymous letters sent to Mrs. Dunning has been positively identified by Mr. Dunning as similar to the handwriting of Mrs. Botkin. It is stated here that Detective Wittall and a woman police matron will go west to bring Mrs. Botkin here. The California witnesses will not be summoned to Delaware until the trial is called, but their affidavits will be taken at San Francisco. The trial will probably be called in October.

WILL FACE MRS. BOTKIN. Several San Francisco Citizens Will Furnish Evidence. San Francisco, Aug. 25.—Nothing new developed in the Botkin case today. The accused woman spent a fairly good night in the city prison and has firmly refused to be interviewed. The post office authorities are anxiously awaiting the appearance of a letter addressed to Mrs. Botkin, supposedly from Delaware. A clerk in the local post office believes he can identify the box which contained the candy when it arrived here on Sunday. The clerk says he received a box answering the description of the candy box from a woman with an English accent about three weeks ago and that it was mailed an first class matter. He will be taken before Mrs. Botkin. The Stockton man who says he sold a box of bon bons to a woman answering Mrs. Botkin's description several weeks ago will be brought to this city to face Mrs. Botkin.

Lancaster Christian Endeavorers. Lancaster, Pa., Aug. 25.—The ninth annual convention of the Lancaster county Christian Endeavor union was held in this city today and this evening. Over 50 delegates were in attendance.

Pennsylvania Pensions. Washington, Aug. 25.—These Pennsylvania pensions have been issued: Original—Lewis Creter, dead; Wilkes-Barre, 85 to \$4.

BASE BALL. NATIONAL LEAGUE. Philadelphia, 13; Louisville, 5 (first game); Louisville, 8; Philadelphia, 1 (second game). Pittsburgh, 5; Brooklyn, 1. Cleveland, 1; New York, 0. St. Louis, 10; Washington, 8. Chicago, 5; Boston, 2. Baltimore, 14; Cincinnati, 1.

EASTERN LEAGUE. Toronto, 6; Montreal, 1. Springfield, 4; Ottawa, 3. Buffalo, 5; Wilkes-Barre, 5.

ATLANTIC LEAGUE. Lancaster, 2; Reading, 2. Allentown, 2; Newark, 1. Hartford, 6; Norfolk, 6.

AMATEUR BASE BALL. The Crescents were defeated yesterday by the strong Honesdale team at Honesdale by the score of 8 to 1. The feature of the game was Bray's pitching, allowing but four hits up till the ninth inning when Honesdale received four more, making a total of 8. Score by innings: R.H.E. Crescents 0 0 0 1 0 0 0 - 1 5 8 Honesdale 1 0 0 0 0 0 0 - 8 2 Batteries—Crescents, Bray and Cummings; Honesdale—Matthewson and Killeit.

HAVE ARRIVED AT PORTO RICO

TRANSPORT CHESTER IN HARBOR OF PONCE.

Has on Board the First Regiment of Volunteer Engineers—The Voyage from New York Was Pleasant and Without Special Incident—One of the Privates Made an Attack Upon Private Liney, of Avoca, and Was Placed Under Arrest—Trip Was Without Special Incident.

Special Correspondence to Tribune.

On board the Transport Chester, Ponce, Porto Rico, U. S. A., Aug. 15, 1:35 p. m.—The First Regiment of Volunteer engineers has just arrived in the harbor of Ponce, which as you know has been in the hands of the Americans for some time. We are receiving a royal salute as I write this but can not give you any details now as the mail to be forwarded to the states is being gathered up. We sighted land at day break and a small steamer which came within about two miles of us but we soon left it behind. She ran up the British flag and saluted. Have been running along in sight of a mountainous country, but so far away that nothing can be distinguished. As company clerk I have been too busy to gain any information about the land we passed. Aug. 10, noon.—78 miles out of New York.—The Chester weighed anchor about 1 a. m., while the soldier boys were asleep in their hammocks below decks. Few of them knew they were about to arrive and when they were aroused about two miles out of sight of land there was great rejoicing. The regiment had been on water in sight of land without having the privilege of going ashore since Friday afternoon last, which had become very monotonous. The weather this morning is fine, just enough hazy clouds to keep the sun hidden most of the time. There is just enough breeze to make one comfortable, and the ocean is as calm as one of our small lakes on a windy day. Our old "tub," as the boys call her is making fair time, and after the overhauling she got the day and night before we started has a more presentable appearance.

QUARTERS RENOVATED. The quarters of the men have been thoroughly renovated and whitewashed and those of the second and third battalions, which are below decks, have been made as comfortable as possible. The men are allowed to sleep upon deck at night, and have the privilege of the promenade deck more than the first battalion. Arrangements are being made for a fire drill, and all precautionary measures have been taken for the safety of the men. They are all in good health and spirits. There are only six prisoners in the guard house, and most of them for trivial offences. Sergeant Liney, who came from Avoca, had some trouble with a private who had a bad temper and was very likely to cause one of our men to get six months or a year in some prison or fort.

The man, who is a New Yorker, objected to what he called the officious manner of Sergeant Liney, and one word more and he would have struck the private. The private struck the non-com, in the face a couple of good ones, which is a very serious offense in the United States service. It is needless to say that the sympathies of the boys are with the private, and the captain of the private, whose name is Russell, tried to smuggle a nip to his prisoner friend and got caught himself. He was in charge of the guard only a few minutes when he deliberately jumped overboard. A rope was thrown to him and he was hauled back. He still remains in the guard house, but he will probably be released before leaving the harbor.

BAND ORGANIZED.

Since boarding the boat, a band of fifteen pieces has been organized, led by Private Carteno, of New York. They hold forth near the saloon cabin and at times during the day play national airs in a very creditable manner. The first Regiment band will no doubt be starting through the country on its return to the States. Just now a concert solo is being played, the band joining in the chorus, which if well advertised as a burlesque might draw. The boat is sliding along steadily at thirteen knots an hour. Nothing but local post office business can identify the box which contained the candy when it arrived here on Sunday. The clerk says he received a box answering the description of the candy box from a woman with an English accent about three weeks ago and that it was mailed an first class matter. He will be taken before Mrs. Botkin. The Stockton man who says he sold a box of bon bons to a woman answering Mrs. Botkin's description several weeks ago will be brought to this city to face Mrs. Botkin.

FOOD AND WATER SCARCE. Aug. 12.—During last night it rained quite hard, ship rolled more than before; rain is shining and it is rather warm. A good breeze makes it comfortable. The clothing of the men begins to look dirty. The brown canvas suits cannot be told from a miner's suits. The mules which are on the saloon deck both aft and forward have died decidedly unpleasant. They are crowded so close together that they cannot lie down. Restrictions have been placed upon the water and food. In consequence we do not get enough to satisfy our hunger. The engines on board have been distilling water from the sea, and that is what we are drinking now. It is warm and brackish. We get three pails, holding three gallons each, one pail at a time per day for a company of 50 men. For coffee one time each day, twenty-one gallons per company. For a meal twenty-four cans of tomatoes with baked, forty-eight one-pound cans of hard beans, or ten two-pound cans of corned beef, are allowed. All these are served cold as taken from the can. Everybody is sick of the food being served and are longing to get ashore where probably we will fare better. The officers who have the staterooms and occupy the dining saloon, have waiters and cooks, and almost any kind of food they order, which, of course, is paid for by themselves. Once in a while a soldier can buy a pretty good meal from the steward of the vessel, or from one of the cooks, but the cost is rather high considering what you get.

VOYAGE UNEVENTFUL. Aug. 14.—Rain fell steadily and hard yesterday morning from 2 o'clock until 10, then the sun came out and with the exception of high waves, which we are getting use to, it was very pleasant on deck. The voyage has been uneventful, the men have behaved like gentlemen, and put up with short rations almost without murmurs that could be heard. Unless something happens that is worth recording I will close with giving the report of the captain of the ship posted each day at noon, from which the reader can figure that almost a direct course from New York to Porto Rico has been taken:

Table with columns: Date, Lat., Lon., Distance, 18 miles. August 10, 35-15, 72-17, 286. August 11, 34-15, 72-22, 286. August 12, 30-04, 70-12, 287. August 13, 25-33, 69-09, 278. August 14, 21-37, 67-59, 245. A. E. Verhis.

KNIGHTS OF PYTHIAS CAMP. The Indianapolis Outing Is Nearing Its End. Indianapolis, Aug. 25.—The Knights of Pythias biennial encampment is nearing its end. This afternoon the Uniform Rank companies began to break camp. About 1,500 people witnessed the drills this forenoon. The parade of the Knights of Khorassan took place tonight and was witnessed by thousands of people. The soldiers' monument was again brilliantly illuminated and Washington street was ablaze with light. About 2,000 Knights of Khorassan marched paraded in Arabic costumes. Tonight Lafayette lodge, Uniform Rank, exemplified ritualistic work before the supreme lodge. Lafayette lodge is the oldest uniformed lodge in the country.

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Connolly and Wallace 127 and 129 WASHINGTON AVENUE.

IMPORTANT TOWEL SALE

In Progress at CONNOLLY & WALLACE'S. Choosing blindfolded among these Towels would be safe certainly; but to wide open eyes there's a delightful satisfaction in picking from the varied styles of goodness in this vast gathering. We have placed them on a separate counter in rear of store and marked them this way:

- At 10c—Our Unbleached Turkish Bath Towels, are the best values we ever offered. At 12 1/2c—Bleached Bath Towels, extra large and very absorbant. At 20c—Large Turkish Towel, all white, excellent value. The Linen Frictional Towels in (3) three sizes, (3) three qualities, 50c, 75c, \$1.00. At 10c—Extra heavy Huck, full hemmed. At 12 1/2c—Four Great Specials, heavy Huck, fringed, excellent quality. Oat Meal Towels, fringed, extra heavy. Barnsley Crash Towel in plain hem, colored border. Damask Fringed Towels, open work ends, all white. At 15c—Hem Stitched Huck, with open work ends. At 19c—Hem Stitched Huck, with open work ends. At 20c—Large Hem Stitched Huck, with plain hem. At 25c—Hemmed Huck, with open work hemmed stitched Huck, with border Fringed Damask. At 40c—Beautiful Quality Fringed Damask, and hem stitched Huck, extra heavy. At 50c—Excellent value, Fringed Damask, with open work border. At 50c—Hem Stitched Damask, with open work ends. At 50c—Drawn Work Damask, fringed.

Connolly & Wallace, 127 and 129 Washington Avenue.

THE DICKSON M'F'G CO., Scranton and Wilkes-Barre, Pa. Manufacturers of LOCOMOTIVES, STATIONARY ENGINES Boilers, Hoisting and Pumping Machinery. General Office, Scranton, Pa.

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