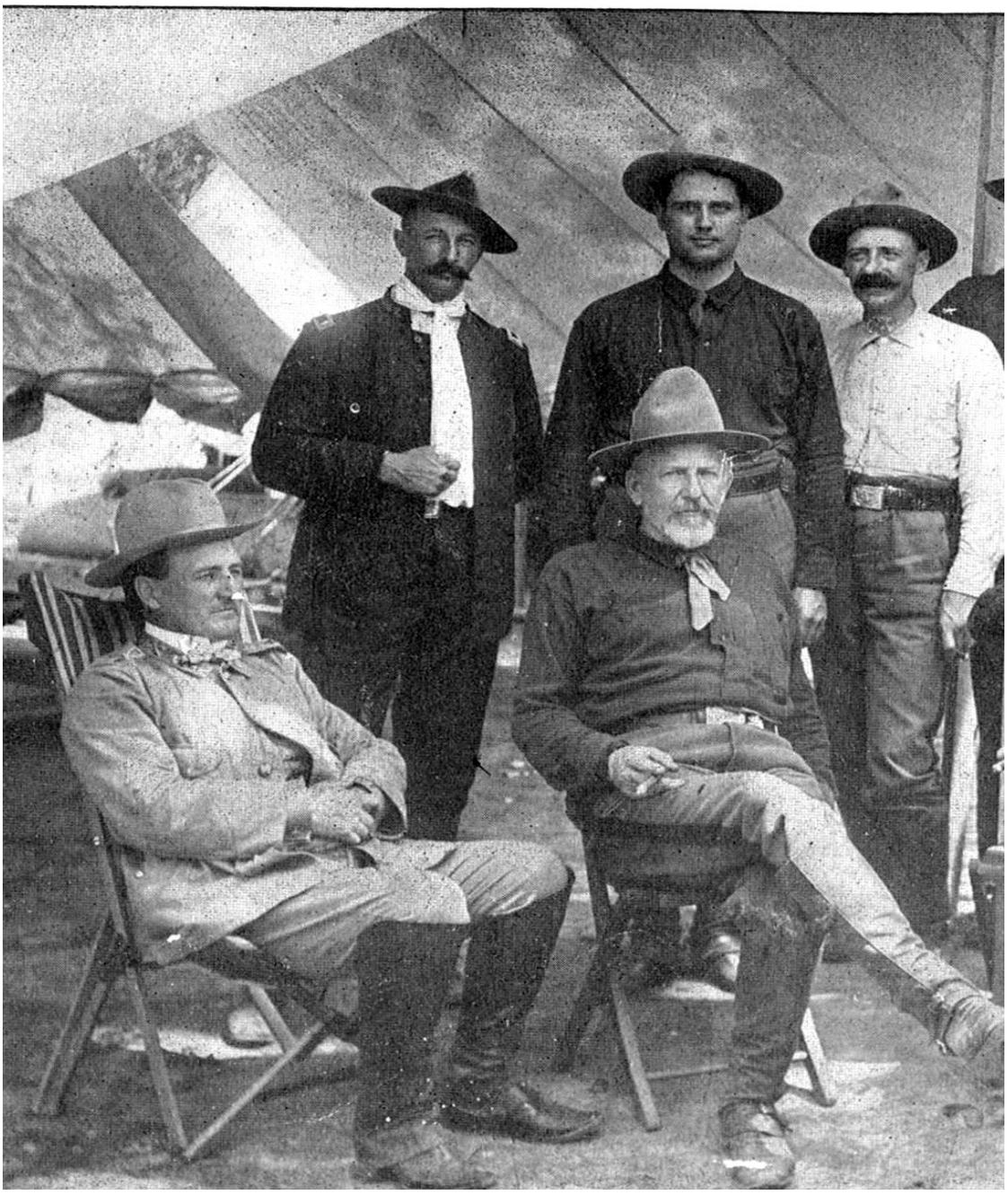
CAMP THOMAS



CHICKAMAUGA-CHATTANOOGA NATIONAL MILITARY PARK
DURING THE SPANISH-AMERICAN WAR

E. Raymond Evans

Camp Thomas

Chickamauga-Chattanooga National Military Park
During the Spanish American War

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2008



City of Chickamauga
And
Walker County Georgia

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PREFACE AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This book is the story of Camp Thomas. It is not intended to be another book on the Spanish American War. For readers who are primarily interested in the war, I would recommend the publications listed in the bibliography or the excellent Spanish American War Centennial Website at http://www.spanamwar.com/.

My interest in Camp Thomas began more than thirty years ago when I worked with Dr. Jeffrey L. Brown, with the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Institute of Archaeology on the Highway 27 relocation project at Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park. We began this summer long research project with great expectations for finding great quantities of cultural material from the American Civil War. At the end of the summer, however, we found that all the Civil War material that we had recovered could be held in one hand, while we had found large quantities of material from the Camp Thomas occupation during the Spanish American War. By far, most of the items recovered were small patent medicine bottles. It was then that I learned that during the war more people died from disease at Camp Thomas than were killed in the fighting in Cuba, Puerto Rico, and the Philippines.

More recently, I have done extensive work dealing with the Chickamauga campaign under contract with local and county governments. The major accomplishment of this activity was the development of the Chickamauga Campaign Heritage Trail featuring a number of interpretative signs. A few months ago, John Culpepper, City Manager of the town of Chickamauga, and Commissioner Bebe Heiskell of Walker County discussed with me the possibility of creating several similar interpretative signs dealing with the significance of the Lytle community on the west side of the Military Park during the Spanish American War. While doing the necessary research to accomplish this matter, I was surprised at the vast quantity of primary source material that is available dealing with Camp Thomas.

I then discussed the possibility of doing a book length treatment of Camp Thomas that would be a valuable addition to similar projects promoting historic tourism in the local area. They responded with interest, and Commissioner Heiskell agreed to provide funding for the project. The present study was, therefore, made possible by support from the City of Chickamauga and the Walker County Commission. Special thanks are due to John Culpepper and Commissioner Bebe Heiskell of Walker County.

The book on Camp Thomas was made possible through the earlier work of numerous researchers and the assistance of many individuals, and I would like to take this time to acknowledge their help and express my thanks for all that they did.

In all aspects of the study, R. Bruce Wilkey, who also provided the necessary photography and computer abilities, assisted me. From the time that the project was first conceived, I received strong support and encouragement from the personnel at the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park. The work would have been much more difficult had it not been for the years of intense research conducted by Jim Ogden,

Park Service Historian, on all aspects of the grounds of the Chickamauga Chattanooga National Military Park. Mr. Ogden was also very helpful in finding many of the important photographs used in the book, including some that were taken by Engineer Betts, himself.

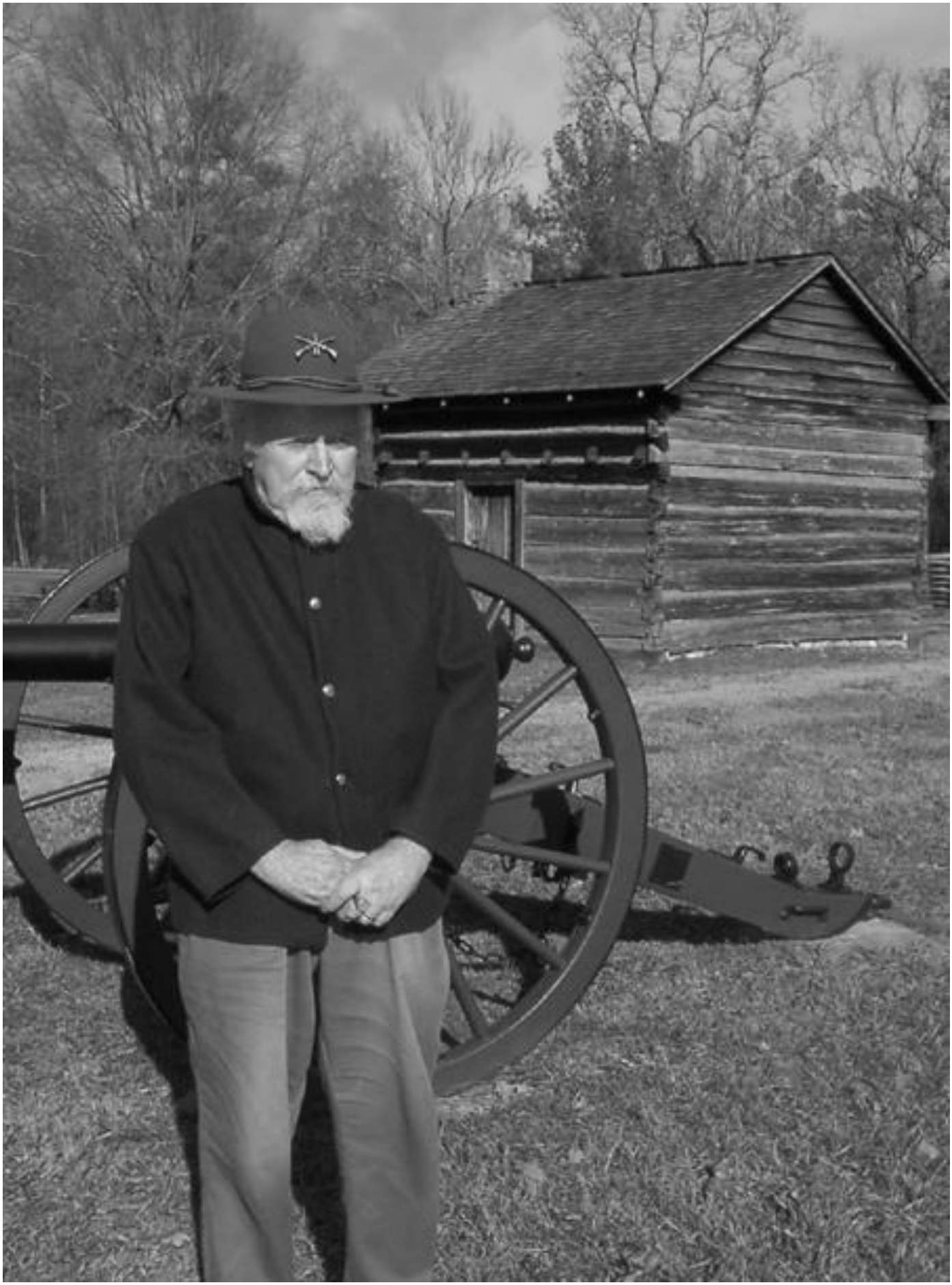
The archival research was largely conducted in the archives of the Chattanooga African American Museum, the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park archives, the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga Library, the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library, and the Chattanooga National Cemetery. My thanks to the personnel and staff at all these facilities. My major source of material was taken from the complete microfilm collections of the *Chattanooga Times* available at the Chattanooga-Hamilton County Bicentennial Library. The library staff spent hours and hours making copies of these records for me, as well as finding additional material from their special collections. My second major source was the Spanish American War Centennial Website. Several printed sources, to be cited in the text, were also helpful. Also very helpful was Chapter VI, Military Use of the Park, of Chickamauga and Chattanooga Administrative History, http://www.nps.gov/archive/chch/adhi/adhi6.htm.

The format of the book was largely dictated by the sources. The main chapters, preceded by an introduction to put the situation in historical context, and followed by an afterward, cover the months of April through September and give, for the most part, a day to day account of what was taking place at Camp Thomas.

I also want to express my thanks to a number of other individuals who provided encouragement and helped with the project in various ways. These include Melvin Wimpey, Bobbie Perra, Gladys Wooten, Larry Wheeler, and Freddie and Regina Parris.

The combined efforts of all these people, as well as numerous others, who helped in small ways, made the study a success. As project director, however, any errors of fact or omission are, of course, my own. Hopefully they are few. This work is not intended to be the final word on the subject. Rather, it has been my purpose to establish a comprehensive database that can stimulate additional research and provide a framework for additional information as further work is done or new facts come to light.

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Introduction

Cuba was the first large landmass to be occupied by Europeans, with Spanish control that dated back to Christopher Columbus. The island became the center of Spain's first western colonization move in the sixteenth century. The sugar rich island came to be called "the Pearl of the Antilles." Following the American Revolution, this island, located only ninety miles away from the North American mainland, was frequently a subject of interest in the United States.

In 1823, when John Quincy Adams, was Secretary of State, he said: "The apple severed from the tree must fall to the ground. Cuba severed from Spain, and incapable of self-support, can gravitate only toward the North American Union (United States), which by the same law of nature cannot cast her off from its bosom." The United States had a long history of attempting to acquire Cuba with it rich sugar fields and the natural Caribbean port at Havana. In 1848, following the Mexican War, President James K. Polk offered Spain $100 million for Cuba, an offer that was quickly and curtly rejected. Six years later the American ministers to France, Spain and England joined in writing a confidential memorandum to Washington (known as the Ostend Manifesto) urging President Franklin Pierce to either purchase Cuba or forcefully wrest control of the island from Spain. American mercenaries, then called "filibusters," took part in the periodic attempts at revolution against Spain in Cuba. Having lost most of its New World possessions, except for Cuba and Puerto Rico, Spain seemed determined to hold on to these islands.

Following the American Civil War, between 1868 and 1878, there was a ten-year period of revolutionary action against Spain. U.S. sympathies lay with the Cuban insurgents, particularly in the South where mercenary actions — military expeditions by private adventurers — were encouraged and supported by the American citizenry. Leaders in the revolt like Jose Marti often operated on U. S. soil as they plotted the overthrow of Spanish rule. In 1873 the Spanish captured the Cuban ship *Virginius*, a vessel of the Filibusters. It was fraudulently flying the American flag as it ferried arms to the Cuban insurgents. Captain Joseph Fry and 52 of his crew and passengers, largely mercenaries, were executed. Among the dead were several American and British citizens.

In other times, such an incident might have led to immediate war, and this was the first thought of President Ulysses S. Grant. A few years later, Fred Grant, the son of the president, stated: "My father planned, in '73, in the midst of the *Virginius* excitement, a raid into the heart of Spain. The plan was to land 50,000 veterans of the Civil War on the shore of Biscay, to send them under Sheridan to take the Spanish Capitol, and to immediately reinforce them with another 100,000 men." Civil War hero Daniel Edgar Sickles, now the U. S. Minister to Spain, was infuriated and might have rendered any hope for negotiations futile. Fortunately for the Spaniards, however, Secretary of State Hamilton Fish took negotiations out of Sickles' hand, settling the matter peaceably with Spain, which paid an $80,000 indemnity to the families of those Americans executed.

When the Ten Years War ended in 1878, the Cuban bid for independence had been crushed and Spain continued to tenuously hold its Caribbean asset. The sad loss could not, however, diminish the desire the Cuban patriots held for independence. Within 20 years it rose again, with a renewed fervor. Meanwhile attitudes in the United States were becoming more and more imperialistic and the American people were taking a new view of their nation in the affairs of a world that advances in technology had made much smaller. Even as rebellion broke out anew in Cuba in 1895, the United States was taking a more active role in events in the western hemisphere. While intervening in a dispute between Venezuela and Great Britain, Secretary of State Richard Olney echoed the growing American sentiment: “The United States is practically sovereign upon this continent, and its fiat is law upon subjects to which it confines its interposition.”

In April 1895 the bid for independence in Cuba was renewed in earnest. Patriots, willing to expend every energy and even their own lives to oust the Spanish, began arming themselves and conducting bloody campaigns against their oppressors. In response, the Spanish government sent General Valeriano Weyler y Nicolau to pacify the island in 1896. General Weyler responded by identifying districts that posed the greatest trouble to maintaining control over Cuba, then herded the civilian populations in those districts to detention camps near military headquarters. It was a policy he called reconcentrado. As a result of this action, more than 100,000 Cubans starved or died of disease before General Weyler was recalled in October, 1897.

In 1895 William Randolph Hearst acquired the New York Journal and immediately launched a circulation war against the other giant of newspaper publishing, Joseph Pulitzer's New York World. To compete for readers, the two newspapers stooped to heavy coverage of scandal and sex-related content beneath glaring headlines designed to capture attention. This form of journalism came to be called the Yellow Press. The heavy-handed tactics of General Weyler in Cuba made for sensational reporting in the media of the yellow press. He became known as the "Butcher", and sensational stories of his brutality ran under blazing headlines that read: "Spanish Cannibalism", "Inhuman Torture", and worse. In the traditions of David and Goliath, Cuban patriots were portrayed as heroically defending their homeland against a brutal and aggressive enemy with no conscience. The truth of the news didn't matter as much as the ability of a headline to capture attention..."Amazon Warriors Fight for Rebels"...or the potential of a story to incite the emotions of the reader for more.

The Spanish recall of General Weyler on October 31, 1897 might have otherwise robbed the media of the prime subject of their inflammatory stories were it not for the continued unrest in Cuba. Building on stories already written and widely known, and with a battery of reporters and artists. Two years earlier a 25-year old author inspired a nation by reliving the sacrifice and glory of Civil War service with the release of his second novel, *The Red Badge of Courage*. Now Stephen Crane joined the battery of writers chronicling the valiant struggle for freedom in Cuba. Even with the absence of Weyler, tensions mounted and Spain was portrayed as a poor ruler about to leap from the frying pan into the fire of Cuba. Hearst sent the famous Western artist Frederick Remington to Cuba to sketch Cuban insurgents fighting for their independence from

Spain. After several months, Remington had found little to draw and wired New York, "Everything quiet, no trouble here. There will be no war. I wish to return."

Hearst reportedly responded to Remington's appraisal of the situation in Cuba and his request to come home with the following: You furnish the pictures and I'll furnish the war."

Richard Harding Davis, a noted writer, compiled a story about a U. S. ship being stopped by Spanish authorities because Cuban female insurgent was on board. The woman was taken to a closed cabin and searched by a matron. Hearst ran the story as an American women being strip searched, Remington dutifully sketched a provocative picture of a naked women being systematically searched by thee male Spaniards. Neither the story nor the illustration were based on fact, and Davis strongly protested. Nevertheless, this drawing went far to incite American outrage against Spain.

Meanwhile the American consul in Havana, Fitzhugh Lee, was becoming increasingly concerned for the safety of American citizens in Cuba. (A Confederate general in the Civil War and nephew of Robert E. Lee, "Fitz" Lee is often confused by historians of these events with Fitzhugh Henry Lee, the son of Robert E. Lee and also a Confederate general.) On January 1, 1898 Spain demonstrated its desire to avoid war in the Caribbean when it instituted a limited political autonomy in Cuba. It was too little, too late for the ardent revolutionaries who would settle for nothing less than full independence. Meanwhile, the Spanish government had supporters of its own in Cuba, an opposing force of citizens who had supported General Weyler and who now opposed the limited autonomy afforded the island's inhabitants. On January 12th these Spanish loyalists rioted, prompting new concerns for the safety of American citizens in Cuba. Five days later Consul Lee requested the President to dispatch an American vessel in a show of American presence in the region of increasingly violent civil unrest. On January 24th, after clearing such a visit with the reluctant and nervous government in Madrid, the second class battleship U.S.S. Maine was dispatched from Key West, Florida. The impressive American battleship arrived in Havana the following day.

In the weeks that followed Consul Lee reported to Washington that the presence of the Maine had a calming effect on the unrest in Cuba. He requested that the Navy prepare to send another battleship to Havana when it came time to relieve the Maine. It almost appeared that the situation in Cuba might settle down. Spain didn't want war...its aging fleet would be no match for the might of the United States Navy. President McKinley had repeatedly called for negotiations, and in this new year at the close of the century, Spain had provided a limited political autonomy to the people of Cuba. Then came the first attack.

One might say that the first attack of the Spanish-American War was not made with bullets, but with words. Back in Washington, D.C. the Spanish Minister Enrique de Lome wrote a letter to a Spanish editor who was traveling in the United States. The communication was stolen by a Cuban official in the Havana Post office and passed on to the New York Journal, which printed it on February 9th. In that letter the Spanish

Minister expressed his adverse personal reaction to the U.S. President's message to Congress in December of the previous year. The undiplomatic diplomat stated in his letter that President McKinley was "weak and a bidder for admiration of the crowd...(that he was) a would-be politician who tries to leave a door open behind himself while keeping on good terms with the jingoes of his party."

In fact, President McKinley had been one of the cooler heads in government where the subject of war with Spain was becoming increasingly hawkish. An American public already incensed by the yellow press, was becoming more and more ardent in their calls for American intervention in Cuba. Now the citizenry saw the attack by a Spanish diplomat on the US President as the ultimate proof of Spain's disrespect and arrogance towards the United States and events in neighboring Cuba. De Lome's resignation, and even a reluctant apology from Spain, could not assuage the anger of the American people or the sensational reporting on the incident in the media.

President McKinley could have selected no finer ship from the US Naval fleet to display the colors in Havana than the vessel he dispatched from Key West on January 25th. The U.S.S. Maine was an impressive battleship, at 319 feet long and displacing 6,682 tons it was the largest ship ever to enter the harbor at Havana. Though only a second class battleship, the nine-year old vessel was among the most impressive of the U.S. Naval fleet. One of our country's first steel warships, the Maine was unique in the fleet due the fact that it had been totally designed and built by Americans. It was the largest ship ever actually constructed in a U.S. Navy yard. Painted the bright white of a peace-time US Naval Vessel, the impressive battleship boasted four of the huge 10-inch breech-loading rifles in additional to its smaller battery armaments.

Upon arrival in Havana on Tuesday, January 25th, the U.S.S. Maine anchored at Buoy #4, a space reserved for war ships. Despite this, the potential for the unrest in Cuba to turn violent, and the Maine's impressive array of military power, the mission was a peaceful one. By Tuesday, February 15th the Maine had been at anchor for three weeks without incident. Though Lieutenant Catlin, commander of the Marine detachment, dutifully kept his men at a high state of alert, the crew of the Maine's biggest problem became boredom. And then the Maine exploded.

"I was enclosing my letter in its envelope when the explosion came," Captain Sigsbee later testified. "It was a bursting, rending, and crashing roar of immense volume, largely metallic in character. It was followed by heavy, ominous metallic sounds. There was a trembling and lurching motion of the vessel, a list to port. The electric lights went out. Then there was intense blackness and smoke. "The situation could not be mistaken. The Maine was blown up and sinking. For a moment the instinct of self-preservation took charge of me, but this was immediately dominated by the habit of command."

The U.S.S. Maine was beyond hope, almost severed at the bow, and sinking badly. Reluctantly, Captain Sigsbee ordered the few survivors on the decks to abandon ship. As the waters of the harbor continued to reach out to claim the body of the American battleship, Sigsbee directed its evacuation. When no one else was left alive, the

Captain was the last to depart. By the time gigs from the nearby City of Washington and Alfonso XII could be dispatched to the scene of the disaster, little of the Maine remained above water. Through the darkness of the night the small boats searched the debris-covered waters of the harbor for survivors, Captain Sigsbee standing in one of them calling into the blackness: "If there is anyone living on board, for God's sake say so!" His desperate cries met only silence.

In the hours after the explosion aboard the Maine, the small gigs from the American passenger steamer and the Spanish warship Alphonso XII had given good account of themselves in braving the darkness, fires and secondary explosions of the sinking American battleship in search of survivors. Having witnessed this first-hand, Captain Sigsbee was reluctant to immediately blame the Spanish. In his first telegram to Washington he reported details of the event, then closed with the observation that "Public opinion should be suspended until further report." There would indeed be further reports, both officially and unofficially. Two days after the explosion the Navy created the "Sampson Board", an official inquiry into the cause of the disaster.

On February 21 the Naval Court of Inquiry began their 4-week investigation in Havana. Simultaneously, the Spanish began their own inquiry into the matter. It would not be an easy process. Back in the United States there were few questions about what had caused the Maine to suddenly explode in the darkness of night, killing 260 American men. Two days after the incident the headline in the New Your World read: "MAINE EXPLOSION CAUSED BY BOMB OR TORPEDO?" The New York Journal was more specific: "THE DESTRUCTION OF THE WAR SHIP MAINE WAS THE WORK OF AN ENEMY." Artists created renditions showing how Spanish saboteurs had fastened an underwater mine to the hull of the Maine, then detonated it from shore. Randolph Hearst offered a $50,000 reward for "Conviction of the Criminals" and announced that "Naval Officers (were) Unanimous That the Ship Was Destroyed on Purpose".

On March 6th the Spanish government requested the recall of U.S. Cuban Consul Fitzhugh Lee. In the United States citizens gathered solemnly at Capitol Hill and outside the White House to mourn the loss of 260 lives. Tensions continued to mount while the Navy conducted its official inquiry. In a Broadway bar in New York City a patron lifted his glass and said, "Gentlemen, remember the Maine!" A reporter from the Journal happened to be in the bar and wrote about the incident. When it was published America had a new slogan..."Remember The Main". Spaniards were burned in effigy in cities and town across America and soon the slogan became a war cry: "Remember the Maine, and To Hell with Spain!" To be sure there were cooler heads, even as the tensions mounted. Amid the cries of the firebrands and the war-hawks, U.S. Speaker of the House Thomas B. Reed said, "A war will make a large market for gravestones." Popular author Samuel Clemmens (Mark Twain) continued to speak out against any possible war, urging the United States not to become embroiled in the affairs of distant nations.

Ten days after the explosion, Under Secretary of the Navy Theodore Roosevelt cabled Commodore George Dewey with the U.S. Pacific fleet in Hong Kong. "Keep in full coal," the communiqué stated. "In the event of declaration of war with Spain, your

duty will be to see that the Spanish squadron does not leave the Asiatic coast and then offensive operations in Philippine Islands." Itching for a fight and convinced of the truth of his earlier remarks about the glory of war to the Naval War College, Roosevelt went so far as to refer to President McKinley as a "milquetoast". McKinley, who had served in the Civil War and participated at the tragic battle at Antietam in the earliest days of that war, told one visitor to the White House: "I have been through one war; I have seen the dead piled up; and I do not want to see another."

But the makings of war could not be avoided. As a matter of preparedness, President McKinley requested a $50 million dollar war fund. On March 8th the U.S. Congress stunned Spanish observers when it unanimously approved the request. In San Francisco on the western coast, the battleship Oregon was dispatched for the Caribbean. On March 14 the Spanish fleet under Admiral Cervera began steaming for the Cape Verde Islands. Throughout the period the yellow journalism of competing newspapers inflamed the public with more and more stories. (During the period the New York Journal printed an unprecedented 8 pages each day related to the U.S.S. Maine disaster.)

Late in March the Spanish concluded its official inquiry and delivered the findings to the U.S. government on March 25. On the same day the Spanish government informed Washington that their investigators had determined the Maine had been destroyed by "internal combustion", the President announced the results of his recently received Sampson Inquiry. When he announced to the American public that the Naval Board of Inquiry had determined that the Maine was destroyed "by an external explosion (presumably a mine)", the war cries hit a feverish pitch.

Two days later President McKinley sent these findings to Spain. He also issued Spain his final terms: (1) Declare an armistice, (2) End the re-concentration policy in Cuba initiated by General Weyler, and (3) Begin the process of granting Cuba independence. The public excitement for war continued to grow. On the first day of April, l898, the *Chattanooga Times* proclaimed in large headlines: THE DEMANDS OF THE UNITED STATES ARE REJECTED! SPAIN WILL NOT MAKE FURTHER CONCESSIONS. The United States will Give Spain Just 24 Hours Longer! The Matters Rapidly Coming to a Crisis, and That Crisis Looks Like WAR! On the same day, the U. S. House of Representatives authorized 22.6 million dollars for naval vessels.

On April 3, public enthusiasm for the coming war was sweeping the country. The New York *World* reported that the noted showman “Buffalo Bill” had declared that thirty thousand Indian fighters could clear the Spaniards out of Cuba in sixty days. Frank James, brother of the better known Confederate soldier and bank robber, Jesse James, volunteered to lead a company of cowboys to liberate Cuba. It was reported that six hundred Sioux Indians were ready to go to war in Cuba. William Randolph Hearst’s Journal proposed a regiment of American athletes who “would over awe any Spanish regiment by their mere appearance. They would scorn Krag-Jorgensen and Mauser bullets.” (O’Toole 1984: 165.)

Chapter I: APRIL

On April 5, the *Chattanooga Times* announced, on page one, that "Chickamauga will soon be camping ground for United States Regulars." The article explained that the regular army's 25th Infantry Regiment was being gathered from assorted military posts in Montana and preparing for transfer to the nearby Chickamauga National Military Park.

As the country's first military park, Chickamauga was thought from the start to be an excellent training ground for both the regular army and state militia units. As relations worsened with Spain and the inevitability of war became apparent, the use of the Chickamauga battlefield part of the military park came under consideration. Not only could Chickamauga offer an expansive concentration and training point for troops, the location was ideal in that it lay adjacent to railroad linkage to all parts of the country, especially the Gulf and South Atlantic coasts. General Miles was quoted as saying that "Chickamauga is an excellent place for the concentration of a large body of troops and it is believed that that location has been seriously considered by Secretary [of War] Alger as a point for the preliminary gathering of troops in case of war.

The regular U. S. Army, at this time, totaled little more than 26,000 men and 2,000 officers. And the mass of experienced combat troops were garrisoned at numerous forts throughout the west. It was no surprise, under the circumstances, that among the first units ordered to Cuba were the four black regiments. They were selected primarily on the basis of recent experience and their record on the Plains, but there was also the judgment of the War Department that blacks were immune to the diseases of the tropics and capable of more activity in high, humid temperatures. This erroneous thinking resulted in a concerted effort to recruit blacks for the formation of more "immune" troops. Whatever the motives for mobilizing black regulars, the soldiers themselves welcomed the opportunity to demonstrate their "soldierly qualities" and win respect for their race

The Pope, hoping to preserve the peace, attempted to intervene in the dispute between the U. S. and Spain. He pleaded with President McKinley to refrain from a declaration of war while his negotiations were on going. McKinley responded by telegram on April 6 that while he was extremely sensible of the imitative taken by the pontiff, it was impossible for him to overcome the prejudice, even though it might be unjustified, that was entertained by a majority of the American people against the Vatican's intervention in political affairs.

Also on April 6, the ambassadors of Britain, France, Austria-Hungary, Germany, Italy, and Russia called on President McKinley at the White House with a note signed by all of them. In a formal meeting, the note was read to the President by the British ambassador. Written in diplomatic language, the note contained a "pressing appeal to the feelings of humanity and moderation of the president and the American people in their existing differences of Spain." It expressed the hope "that further negotiations will lead to an agreement which, while securing the maintenance of peace, will afford all necessary guaranties for the reestablishment of order in Cuba." The British ambassador concluded by saying "We hope for humanity's sake you will not go to war."

"We hope," McKinley replied, "if we do, you will understand it is for humanity's sake." (O'Toole 1984: 167.)

All interest in the local area, however, centered on the hopes for a military presence at Chickamauga Park. On April 7, the *Chattanooga Times* printed an article headed "Chickamauga! The National Park Officially Recognized by the War Department." The article stated: "Engineer Betts of the park commission received a telegram yesterday morning from Gen. Boynton at Washington, D. C. stating that the Twenty-fifth Infantry, Col. Burt commanding, would arrive in this city next week (Monday or Tuesday) from Fort Keog, Mont., and go into camp at Chickamauga Park… The Twenty-fifth Infantry is made up of detachments from Keog, Fort Missoula and Fort Miles and is a full regiment of 600 regulars. This regiment has 320,000 pounds of baggage and it will require twenty-five cars, fifteen for the soldiers, and ten for their baggage to transport the solders from the west to this city… Postmaster Sharp, chairman of the military post committee, stated that the encampment of the Twenty-fifth Infantry would lead to the establishment of a permanent garrison there. This order he said, was the work of Gen. Boynton, who is a good friend of this city, and who brought the fact of the availability of the park, as a military headquarters, to the War Department."

Atlanta, however, was also aware of the economic benefits of having a large military base nearby, and pushed the War Department to make Fort McPherson, located about six miles from Atlanta, the major regional military facility for the coming war. They slyly pointed out that there was not enough drinking water at Chickamauga. This was reported by the *Chattanooga Times* and strongly objected to by the same reporter. "The above dispatch was written in Atlanta, inspired no doubt by the selfish desire of that city to secure everything in sight," he wrote. "All the talk about lack of water at Chickamauga is pure nonsense. Two armies of 100,000 thirty-five years ago found the water of Chickamauga ample and since that time additional facilities are at hand. The Chattanooga Water Works has mains within two miles of the park and can extend mains to it in seventy-two hours, if necessary and supply 50,000 men from that source alone."

The following day, Engineer Betts made a strong response to the Atlanta claims. "During the dedication [of the park]," he stated, there were 40,000 people, to say nothing of a battery of artillery and a regiment of soldiers at Chickamauga park on one day. In addition to this the LaFayette road, running through the park, was lined with vehicles on both sides of the road. By consulting *The Times* of that date, you will find that the dedication occurred at the height of a remarkable drought such as had rarely been seen in this locality, yet for all that, we furnished the crowd at the park with ice water all during the dedication. The water was drawn from the eleven wells, which the commission had drilled in the park a short time before the dedication. The Atlanta people don't know what they are talking about in this matter, and I want to tell you something about our water supply out there. Chickamauga Park is on a stone foundation and water can be had wherever a well is sunk. These eleven wells are from 100 to 150 feet deep and equipped with the latest double action pumps. They are located conveniently as follows: Four wells at regular distances on the LaFayette Road, each supplied with a trough. Then

there is a well at headquarters, one at the rostrum and another at the Brotherton house, a well at the Kelly place; and also at Alexander bridge, the Snodgrass house and the Vittetoe place. These are all cased wells and no surface water gets into them. They are drilled in solid rock, tapping live springs and furnishing an abundance of good water. In addition to these wells there are six bold springs on the reservation, each covered over and provided with a pump for watering horses…"

Betts further stated that plans were underway to drill four additional wells on the park. He also mentioned activities in preparation for the arrival of the 25th Infantry. "The park force at present," he pointed out, "consists of 150 men, fifty teams and wagons, monument trucks, etc., all of which will be placed at the disposal of the troops in the work of unloading their baggage and stores and transporting them to the camp." Mr. Betts also set part of the force at work cutting a supply of wood to be used by the soldiers during their sojourn at the park.

"The Twenty-fifth regiment from Fort Keogh, Mont., which will arrive at Chickamauga Park about Monday or Tuesday, is composed of Negro soldiers, officered by white men," the paper concluded. "In speaking of this matter yesterday, Maj. Kingman sand that colored troops had proven very efficient in the cold climate of Montana, where they have done good service against the Indians. The Twenty-fifth infantry, and in fact, all other troops that will be ordered into camp at the Park, will come here provided with a complete quartermaster's outfit and a corps of cooks and scullions. The quartermaster's stores will arrive along with the baggage and will be set up in the Park wherever the troops camp. As these stores run out from time to time (and they will not come provided with very much) supplies will be purchased by the quartermaster from local merchants, thus turning a good deal of Uncle Sam's money loose in this city."

On Saturday, April 9, the anticipated arrival time of the 25th Infantry Regiment was pushed up to Thursday of the following week, rather than Monday or Tuesday. "The Chickamauga Park authorities have been notified," the *Chattanooga Times* stated, "that the Twenty-fifth Infantry will leave Fort Missoula tomorrow, and will arrive at Chickamauga Park on Thursday. It is stated that these soldiers are sent here first because they will be the first to be sent to Cuba in case of war. Other troops are getting ready to come to the Park at a moments notice, and it is stated on good authority, that if war is declared Chickamauga Park will be the mobilizing point. The government has plenty of room at the park, fine grounds for camping, excellent water, high and healthy locations and the best of railroad facilities for moving large bodies of men speedily… The Chattanooga, Rome, and Southern Railroad Company put a large force of men at work at Chickamauga Park yesterday grading and building additional side tracks, platforms and sheds for the accommodation of troops and trains."

"At the time when the press of the country was urging a declaration of war, and when Minister Woodford, at Madrid, was exhausting all the arts of peace, in order that the United States might get prepared for war," Edward A. Johnson, historian of the 25th Infantry Regiment, later wrote, "the men of the 25th Infantry were sitting around red-hot stoves, in their comfortable quarters in Montana, discussing the doings of Congress,

impatient for a move against Spain. After great excitement and what we looked upon as a long delay, a telegraphic order came. Not for us to leave for the Department of the South, but to go to that lonely sun-parched sandy island Dry Tortugas. In the face of the fact that the order was for us to go to that isolated spot, where rebel prisoners were carried and turned lose during the war of the rebellion, being left there without guard, there being absolutely no means of escape, and where it would have been necessary for our safety to have kept Sampson's fleet in sight, the men received the news with gladness and cheered as the order was read to them. The destination was changed to Key West, Florida, then to Chickamauga Park, Georgia. It seemed that the war department did not know what to do with the soldiers at first. Early Sunday morning, April 10, 1898, Easter Sunday, amidst tears of lovers and others endeared by long acquaintance and kindness, and the enthusiastic cheers of friends and well-wishers, the start was made for Cuba. It is a fact worthy of note that Easter services in all the churches in Missoula, Montana, a town of over ten thousand inhabitants, was postponed the morning of the departure of the 25th Infantry, and the whole town turned out to bid us farewell. Never before were soldiers more encouraged to go to war than we. Being the first regiment to move, from the west, the papers had informed the people of our route. At every station there was a throng of people who cheered as we passed. Everywhere the Stars and Stripes could be seen. Everybody had caught the war fever."

On April 11, former Confederate General A. P. Stewart, now Park Superintendent at Chickamauga, published a call in the *Chattanooga Times* for men to volunteer for service in the National Reserve. He included a convenient enrollment blank with the ad. "The work of preparation at the Chickamauga National park," the paper stated, "for the reception of the United States troops ordered, and to be ordered to the rendezvous there to be ready for duty in case of war with Spain goes bravely on, despite the efforts of the Atlanta newspapers to divert the attention of the war department from the park to the red hills adjoining that city." It was also announced that General H. V. Boynton was coming from Washington to superintend the work of preparation at the park and "see that nothing is omitted."

The question of whether Chickamauga or Atlanta would get the troops was settled on April 12. "The following Associated Press telegram," reported the *Chattanooga Times*, "settles the question about which Atlanta has been having so many 'conniption' fits as to the mobilization of troops at Chickamauga Park. Atlanta will still remain the headquarters of the department of the Gulf, but Chattanooga will be the rendezvous of the moving troops from the west; and in as much as nearly all of the regulars are in the west Chattanooga seems to have gotten the best of it. The telegram says:

"Orders have been received from Washington placing the Chickamauga camping ground under the jurisdiction of Gen. John R. Brooks, of the Department of the Lakes. Preparations are being made to receive the troops when they arrive at the rendezvous. Forage and other supplies have been contracted for from Chicago. The Twenty-fifth Infantry, a colored regiment, will probably be the first on the ground."

Local businessmen lost no time in acting to take advantage of the situation. "Every grain, wood, and hay dealer in the city," the reporter continued, "have submitted bids for furnishing the troops at Chickamauga Park with supplies. The bids, some forty or fifty in number, were sent in to Quartermaster Lee at Chicago yesterday, and, for the information of those parties who have submitted bids, the contract will be awarded on Friday, April 14, 1898, on which date the Twenty-fifth infantry, under Col. Andrew S. Burt, will arrive in this city. The party who receives the contract must then be prepared to furnish whatever portion of the supplies as may be required at that time."

"Gen. H. V. Boynton, Chairman of the National Chickamauga Park Commission, arrived yesterday at 5:45 o'clock from Washington D. C. and is at the Reid House," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on April 13. "Gen. Boynton was met at the depot by Engineer Betts, with whom he spent several hours in conversation relative to park matters. Gen. Boynton was seen later by a *Times* reporter. Concerning the Park and military matters in general, he said:

"I will be here until the latter part of next week. The Park Commission, as you doubtless know, is under the war department, and my object in coming here is to look over the park with Mr. Betts and see what we can do to make it available in every sense of the word as a place for the concentration of a large body of troops. As to the number of troops that will come to the park I am unable to state. The Twenty-fifth infantry is under orders to move to Chickamauga Park, and are on the way, and the troops throughout the west, are under orders to move either to the Park or Atlanta, on an hour's notice, but as the case now stands, they are all, with the exception of the Twenty-fifth, awaiting the solution of the Cuban question by congress, and until that body takes steps, either for war or peace, it is impossible to state anything definite as to the troops to be encamped at the Park.

"The Twenty-fifth infantry, according to the war department schedule, is due here Thursday morning. This regiment is a very fine body of men, and their drilling is something remarkable. The soldiers are colored, commanded by white officers, and they have a splendid record, having seen some of the hardest Indian fighting in the west. The commander, Col. Andrew Burt, is a very fine gentleman and a first class officer. He served on Gen. Rosecrans' staff during the war, and at the battles of Chickamauga and Missionary Ridge. He is therefore very well acquainted with this section, and knows the topography of the park like a book. The Twenty-fifth infantry will, in all probability, go into camp on the Dyer field, in Chickamauga Park, and will put in their time drilling and maneuvering. I do not know how long they will be stationed at the Park.

"I have not seen Gen. Miles recently, but the general opinion at Washington, both in the war department and congress, is that the government owns no tract equal to Chickamauga Park as a rendezvous and point of concentration for troops. It is moreover regarded by the war department as a strategic point of the highest order; a place where troops can be concentrated and quickly dispatched to all fortifications along the southern Atlantic and eastern Gulf coasts. In fact Chickamauga Park is destined to become the great maneuvering ground for the United States Army, as well as for state troops. It has

advantages not to be found elsewhere. Chickamauga Park is, moreover, a healthy locality, and the encampment of troops from New Orleans and Atlanta at that point last summer brought this matter to the attention of the war department quite prominently.

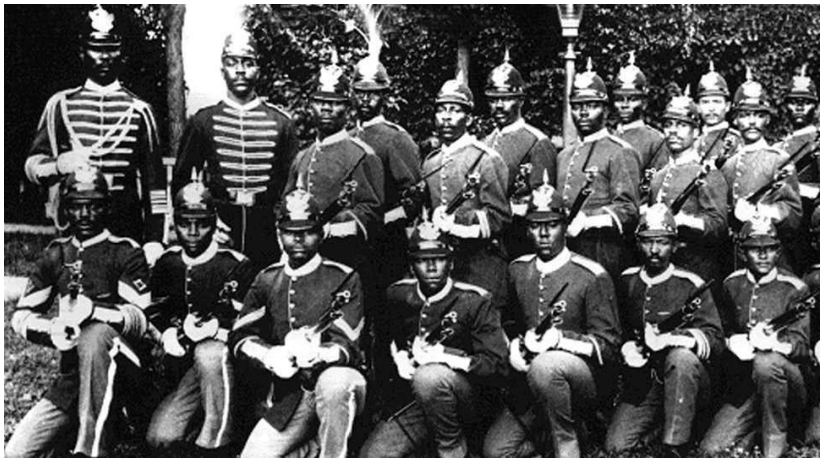
"There is room, ample room at that, for an army of 50,000 men at the park. What I mean by room is that the area is sufficient for military evolutions of every description. In the event of hostilities, or war, I feel pretty certain that the government would assemble a very large army at the Park. Their idea in so doing would be, of course, to use the Park as a field of instruction and preparation. The idea in stationing the Twenty-fifth infantry regiment at the Part, rather than sending them to the Dry Tortugas, is to keep them in a healthy locality as long as possible, and thus avoid sickness breaking out in the ranks."

The reporter concluded with an update on the bidding activities, and commented on improvements to the water supply at the Park. "Engineer Betts was the recipient yesterday of an immense number of bids from nearly every merchant in the city for furnishing almost anything and everything from beef to a day's labor. Mr. Betts sent the entire batch off to Quartermaster Lee in Chicago. Mr. Betts was also visited by several dozen Negroes, who were anxious to secure various and sundry jobs at the Park when the soldiers arrive, such as 'totin' in wood and water, etc.' The well digging at the park is going on at a lively rate, and the four additional wells will be finished by Friday. Pumps for these wells are already on the ground."

On Thursday, April 14, the *Chattanooga Times* published an Associated Press telegram that stated: "Complete arrangements have been made for the immediate mobilization of practically the entire military force of the government at the Chickamauga National Park at the first signs of trouble. It is expected, in case of necessity, a call will be issued for about 40,000 troops, preferably from the National Guard of the different states and territories." Several new developments at the park were announced. Mr. Betts men had cut 200 cords of wood and stacked them around Dyer field for the use of the expected 25th Infantry Regiment. The Western Union Telegraph Company opened an office at Battlefield Station on the line of the Chattanooga, Rome and Southern Railroad. The Park Commission office in the Custom house received a number of telegrams, written in code, for Colonel Burt, commander of the 25th Infantry Regiment. The men of the 25th Infantry Regiment had been cheered by thousands of people as the passed through Chicago on the day before. When questioned by reporters, Colonel Burt said: "I am absolutely without any news whatever. I am simply pushing through to Chickamauga Park as fast as the railroads will take me there."

"The Twenty-fifth Infantry Regiment will arrive here today," the *Chattanooga Times* reporter wrote, "about noon, possibly by 2 o'clock… It was learned that two companies of the Twenty-fifth Infantry — 130, 6 officers — have been ordered, upon arrival here, to proceed immediately to Key West. The remaining 459 men and 9 officers, including Col. Burt, will remain at Chickamauga Park."

"The history of Chickamauga Park," a feature article in the *Chattanooga Times* stated on April 15, "as the great military rendezvous of the United States began yesterday with the arrival of the Twenty-fifth infantry regiment, United States regulars… Long before the first section arrived, a crowd of at least 500 or 600 people congregated in the depot shed to witness the arrival of the troops… When the first section, containing Col. Burt, and staff, and Companies G, F, and H, pulled into the shed, the crowd started cheering at the top of their voices and continued so for several minutes. The largest portion of the throng present were Negroes. As soon as the train came to a stop, the regimental band of twenty pieces struck up 'The Star Spangled Banner,' which had the effect of increasing the enthusiasm of the crowd.



25th Infantry Regimental Band.

"The second section contained Companies A, C, D, and E. A few hours before the first section arrived, J.H. Peebles received a telegram from Col. Burt, requesting him to provide dinner for himself and the twenty-three white officers and seventy gallons of coffee for the soldiers, and as soon as they arrived, Col. Burt and his staff took dinner in the Union depot, while the colored soldiers were served with coffee in large buckets in the cars.

"Gen Boynton went to Stevenson, Ala., at 1:15 p.m. yesterday, boarded the first section and came to the city with Col. Burt. On the way, Col. Burt decided not to proceed at once to Chickamauga Park, owing to the inclement weather and to the fact that they would arrive there at nightfall and experience much inconvenience and discomfort in pitching camp in the darkness and rain. Col. Burt decided, therefore, to have the regiment remain in their cars for the night. As soon as the two companies (G and A) for Key West had transferred to the Southern train, which was in readiness on the siding, the entire three sections pulled out of the depot and on to what is known as the "barracks" track, near the Chattanooga Gas Light Companies plant, and will leave that point at 8:20 this morning for Chickamauga Park."

The reporter also provided some descriptive material about the regiment. "The Twenty-fifth regiment, here now, is a fine body of colored soldiers, who have seen some hard Indian fighting in the west. The regiment has a band of twenty pieces, a hospital corps of five men, with a Red Cross ambulance, but no physician, and it is likely that a

physician will be secured at this point. The chaplain of the regiment, Rev. Steward, is a colored man of the Methodist faith…

"Col. Burt is about 49 years old, about five feet five inches tall, with gray hair and moustache. He is a very pleasant and courteous gentleman, especially to newspaper men. Col. Burt is not a West Pointer. He rose from the ranks, a thing of which he is very proud. Col. Burt is a native of Ohio, and in 1861 responded to the first call for volunteers, enlisting in the 6th Ohio as a private. He is a natural born military man, and rose rapidly from soldier to sergeant, and then on up the line until at the Battle of Chickamauga he had attained the rank of major. He was promoted from lieutenant-colonel to colonel in 1892, at which time he took command of the Twenty-fifth regiment. Col. Burt has no family…

"Second Lieut. Howard French, of Company A, is a former resident of this city, and the son of Dr. W. W. French, of this city. Lieut. French came in on the second section, but before he arrived, Dr. French paid Lieut. Col. Daggett a call and requested that his son be allowed leave to visit his mother on Missionary Ridge, who was unable to come to the depot on account of ill health. Lieut. Col. Daggett very kindly gave Lieut. French leave of absence until the train left, and thus he was enabled to make a flying trip to see his mother, returning a few minutes before the Key West special pulled out of the shed. Lieut. French was met at the depot by a number of his friends, whom he had not seen for some time…

"Sergt. William McBriar, colored, is the Medal of Honor man of the Twenty-fifth infantry. He was given the Medal of Honor on account of a special act of bravery during the Apache campaign in Arizona. During an engagement he rescued a comrade in danger of loosing his scalp under a heavy fire from the Indians. Sergt. Smith, colored, is the oldest man in the service, having enlisted in 1863 in the 10th Cavalry, and was afterward transferred to the Twenty-fifth infantry, in which regiment he has served for twenty-eight years. He has been in a number of Indian campaigns, and served under Gen. Miles when the latter was a colonel. Smith is a pensioner and is about 55 years old. Some of the colored soldiers are from this city. Will Gardner, a member of the band, and Sandy Gardner and Green Badgett of Company B, are of this city

"The behavior of the large crowd at the Union depot yesterday, as well as the soldiers, was, on the whole, very good, and no fights or accidents occurred. When the first section arrived the crowd at the southern end of the shed made a rush for the box cars on the siding, and by so doing came near being run over by the engine. The depot was crowded with colored women of all sizes and ages to welcome the soldiers. The Twenty-fifth infantry is regarded as an exceptionally fine body of men. All of them are crack shots and there is a great deal of rivalry between the Twenty-fifth infantry and the Ninth cavalry, another very fine regiment. The soldiers think a great deal of Col. Burt, who in turn sees to it that they are well treated."

The reporter was also pleased to report the first military contracts coming to Chattanooga. "The contract with supplying these people with 6,652 pounds of oats,

9,000 pounds of hay, and 2,500 pounds of straw was awarded yesterday by Quartermaster Lee of Chicago to T. L. Peak of this city, and he has been ordered to deliver the supply today. H. J. Heinz & Co. delivered a large quantity of canned beans to the park yesterday and will send more out today."

In an effort to block some of the anti-war sentiment voiced by the Anti-Imperialism Society, the U. S. Congress, on April 16, 1898 issued a formal resolution that the U. S. had no plans for the annexation of Cuba. At the same time, the war department took steps to begin a total mobilization of the country's armed forces. This was reported with obvious satisfaction by the *Chattanooga Times*, noting that "six regiments of cavalry [are] ordered to proceed to the National Park at once," and "6,000 regular soldiers to be here in a few days."

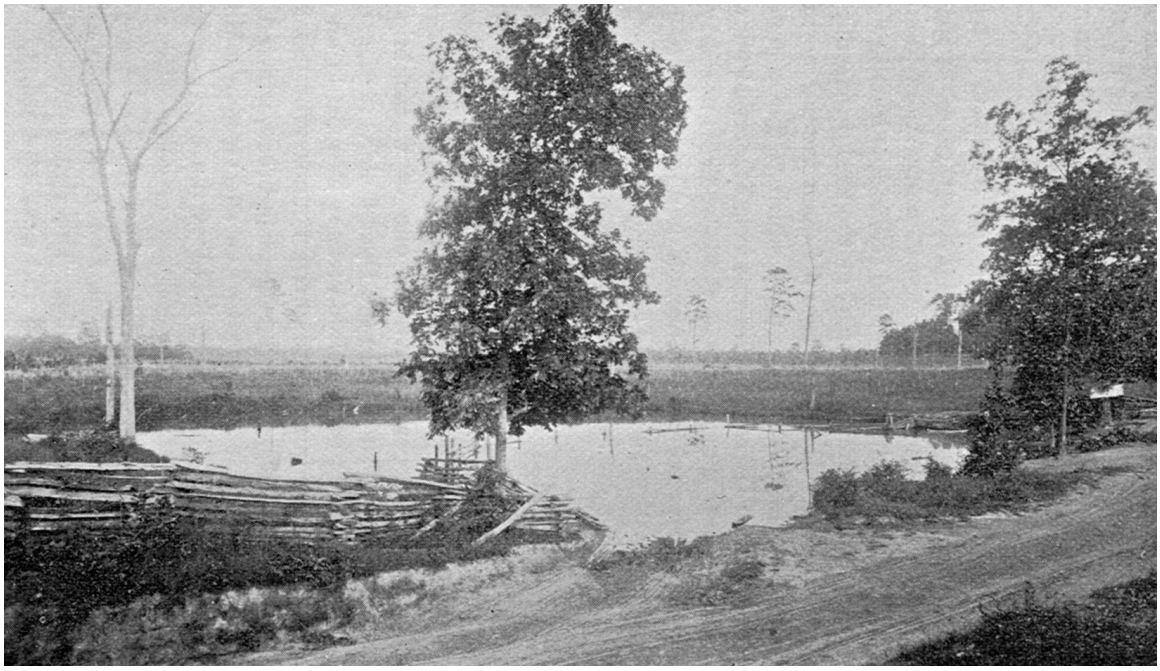


The big news in the local area, however, was the settlement of the Twenty-fifth Infantry Regiment into camp at Chickamauga on a portion of the park that was being called "Camp Boynton." The *Times* reporter described their activities in detail:

"The Twenty-fifth infantry regiment, after spending the night in their cars on the 'barracks siding,' left yesterday morning at 8:20 for Camp Boynton, arriving at a point on the line of the Chattanooga, Rome, and Southern road about a quarter of a mile south of Battlefield Station at 9 o'clock. As soon as the trains came to a halt Col. Burt gave orders as to the unloading and pitching camp. Camp Boynton was pitched in the Widow Glenn field, and Col. Burt's tent and headquarters were erected at the edge of the woods on the eastern side of the field. Headquarters were not established in any house, as at first stated, on account of the distance from camp.

"The whole of yesterday was taken up in unloading the trains and pitching the tents. The work of unloading the trains was finished in the afternoon at 5:15 o'clock, but the work of transporting the wagons, supplies, etc., from the siding will not be completed until today. Guard mounting will be the order of today, and tomorrow the officers and soldiers will take a much-needed rest. On Monday the drilling and maneuvering will begin. All of the officers, as well as the soldiers are in excellent health.

"The tent occupied by Col. Burt is one of the latest improved make. During the Civil War soldiers and officers had reason to complain about the color of their tents, which let in the hot glare of the sun, and offered little or no protection from the heat. Within the past year or two, however, the quartermaster's department has provided the army with new buff-colored tents that are a positive protection against the sun's rays and afford a cool, dark shelter. Col. Burt's tent is of this variety, although the other tents, some fifty in all, are of the old-fashioned pattern and color of army tents.



Bloody Pond, located on the west side of the park.

"When the army arrived at Camp Boynton yesterday morning they found the entire park force in readiness to assist them. President Wilburn and H. C. Knox, traveling passenger agents of the Chattanooga, Rome and Southern, and Gen. Boynton were also on the ground and showed Col. Burt and his command every courtesy. Gen. Boynton put the park carpenters at work building a telegraph station and doing other work as was necessary.

"Col. Andrew S. Burt was seen yesterday at his headquarters by a *Times* reporter, to whom he showed a great deal of courtesy. He stated that he was very well pleased with the location, as a camp, and that he felt under special obligations to Gen. Boynton, who had done everything in his power to make the transfer to the park easy. Gen.

Boynton and Col. Burt, by the way, are lifetime friends, they having been boys together in Cincinnati, Col. Burt's old home. An error was made yesterday in stating that Col. Burt had no family. It should have read that his family was not with him, having remained in Chicago, with the exception of his son, Lieut. R. J. Burt. Col. Burt's tent was erected and the interior furnishings put in shape by 3 o'clock, at which time the colonel retired for a two hours nap, the first good rest he had had, in fact, since leaving Montana. Col. Burt, as well as the other officers, received a great many visitors from the city yesterday. The officers, far from being distant, are very cordial and enjoy having people visit them. Most of those who visited Camp Boynton came out in buggies and on horseback, although a good many went out and returned by rail… The soldiers were recruited from the southern states, a large portion being from Tennessee. Capt. Ord was in the recruiting office at Nashville for a number of years, which is the home of many of the soldiers. Both officers and soldiers like the location, which is on a bit of table-land, well drained in wet weather. The Twenty-fifth was formerly commanded by Col. Andrews, Col. Burt taking command six years ago.

"Quartermaster Line was a very busy man all day yesterday, arranging the various mess tents, receiving and storing supplies, and issuing rations. He was quite overrun for a time by grocers, grocers' agents and people who had something to sell. He, however, will not purchase any food supplies for a time yet, as the regiment is provisioned for thirty days. L. L. Peak delivered 6,000 pounds of oats, 9,000 pounds of hay, and 2,500 pounds of straw at Camp Boynton, which was stored in one of the quartermaster's tents.



The Mule Corral.

"The unloading of the mules and horses was an interesting site to many of the visitors. They were stabled in the rear of headquarters, and enjoyed a good day's rest after their long journey. The scene at camp was a very animated one. Soldiers were busy chopping wood for the camp-fires, while others were engaged in carrying water from

Cave Spring, a short distance from camp. Each soldier is provided with two good army blankets, towels, toilet articles, etc. The officers are provided with camp cots and bedding. A large number of soldiers busied themselves yesterday gathering sage grass, which abounds in the Dyer and Widow Glenn fields, and which they used for bedding, spreading their blankets over it. The regiment is divided into several messes, each having its own cook. The small army stoves are either without or within the tents, as suits the convenience and taste of the soldiers. The fare is very good. A *Times* reporter watched the men of Company E yesterday while the cooks were issuing rations. The soldiers stood line, each with a tin plate, cup, knife and fork. The cooks were sitting at different stoves, and as each soldier passed his plate it was filled with beans, then he passed it on to another cook, who ladled out corned beef or Irish stew. Passing along further, the soldier received a half loaf of bread and had his tin cup filled with coffee. Thus served each soldier sought a convenient seat on a wood pile or in front of his tent, and disposed of his meal.



Alexander's Bridge at the park.

"Headquarters at Camp Boynton consists of Col. Burt's tent and those of the quartermaster and chaplain, as well as the Postal Telegraph office and several other tents used for storage. The officers are provided with good folding camp chairs, and by order of Gen. Boynton a large number of wooden benches used during the dedication were hauled to the camp yesterday and placed in front of the tents. Each tent has a ditch dug around it for drainage. The Twenty-fifth is well provided with tools, and many of the soldiers were engaged all day yesterday in digging these ditches about their tents. Some of the soldiers are great athletes, and one fellow distinguished himself yesterday afternoon by running down and catching a rabbit.

"The soldiers are well provided with guitars, mandolins and other musical instruments, and the regiment boasts a mandolin glee club of eight members. The regiment also has a number of mascots, pets and curiosities worthy of mention. A great many of the officers own fine dogs, greyhounds, sitters, retrievers, etc., and Company E has a real live and full grown coyote, or prairie wolf, caught when young and perfectly tame. The officers of Company E state that their mascot left them at one time in Montana, and remained away for several months, but returned. His wolfship was provided with a dry goods box for a kennel and tied to the rear of the camp of Company E yesterday, where he attracted the attention of visitors, many of whom had never before seen a coyote. Private Sims, of Company F, is also the possessor of a skull and horns, or antlers, of a male Rock Mountain sheep, or big horn, which he shot in the Bear Paw Mountains, Montana.

"The tents of the various companies are arranged in rows, leaving a sort of street between and running in a straight line from headquarters. The magazine rifles are stacked in front of the tents, along with chests, knapsacks, haversacks, canteens, bugles, etc. Each company is provided with about 200 rounds of cartridges to the man. The colors are at headquarters.

"Col. Burt is very proud of the fact that his regiment was the first to be sent to the front, and is very much elated to think that his command is held in such high esteem by the war department. Col. Burt says that if anyone does not think his men are good fighters all they would have to do is look at their past record and give them a chance at the Spaniards. Lieut. Reynolds J. Burt, of Company B is a son of Col. Burt, had has a brilliant future before him as a military man, inheriting as he does all of his father's bravery, coolness, and good military judgment."

The reporter was pleased to report that Fort McPherson, near Atlanta, was being stripped of men and equipment. The infantry was being sent to Tybee Island, near Savannah. All ammunition was to be shipped out, and the cavalry was being transferred to Chickamauga. He stated that once these orders were carried out there would be "but one officer and two men left at Fort McPherson."

"Hundreds of People Visit the Tenting Ground at the Park Yesterday," the Sunday, April 17 issue of the *Chattanooga Times* proclaimed. "The Twenty-fifth infantry regiment," the article continued, "officers and soldiers, settled themselves comfortably in camp yesterday. Inspections and dress parade was the order for yesterday morning, and guard mounting for the rest of the day. The remainder of the baggage wagons and equipment were hauled from the siding into camp yesterday morning. Today the regiment will enjoy a day of solid rest and entertain visitors, and on Monday morning bright and early the drilling and maneuvering will begin and continue as long as the regiment remains at the park. Several of the officers and a dozen or more soldiers visited the city yesterday, coming and going on their bicycles…. The Twenty-fifth Infantry, in addition to having a good band, and a mandolin glee club, also has a very excellent bicycle corps. Although it is not generally known, nearly every infantry regiment in the

American army these days has a corps of cyclists. Bicycles are used by the orderlies and for quick messenger service.

"The arrival of troops at the Park has proven a veritable bonanza to the livery men. On Saturday two of the best stables in this city were almost out of vehicles and the throng that is certain to visit the park today will make a heavy run on the stables… Visitors to the park have formed some faint idea of the rigors of a Montana winter by gazing upon the fur hats and caps, gloves and buffalo overcoats which some of the soldiers of the Twenty-fifth brought with them. Of course the soldiers will find on use for such clothing in this climate and it is only a few of them who are thus provided.



Black soldier wearing a buffalo skin coat.

"During the Civil War, a large number of people living in and about the park and Rossville engaged in hauling supplies, foraging, etc. for both armies during the entire Chickamauga campaign. These same men have remained at the park, and their sons, little fellows who helped their fathers during the Chickamauga campaign by holding the team, 'scotching' the wheels and toting water, are now grown men and at the present, following in the footsteps of their fathers by working as teamsters and freighters for the Twenty-fifth infantry. A *Times* reporter has heard several of these teamsters state that Camp Boynton reminded them of what they had seen during the Civil War.

"In fact, everything about Chickamauga Park seems a sort of reminder of the scenes of 1863. Col. Burt is not a little pleased, as well as affected, by the similarity between then and now, and the prophetic instincts of the native population are awakened and stimulated by the war like appearance of the park." The papers closed by reminding the reader that many more units were on their way to the Park. General Brooke was also coming from Chicago to assume overall command.

"Several thousand people from this city," the *Times* reported on Monday, May 18, "from this city, Rome, Summerville, Dalton, and Lafayette, Ga. Visited Chickamauga Park yesterday on horseback, bicycles and in rigs… The visitors spread themselves out over the park, taking in the sights and paying their respects to Col. Burt and his staff. The Twenty-fifth infantry took a good, substantial day's rest yesterday in order to be the better prepared for the heavy drilling and maneuvering of this week, which begins at daylight this morning. The principal feature of yesterday's events at camp Boynton was an exciting game of base ball played by two nines of soldiers picked from different companies according to their qualifications. A large number of farmers, with their

families, drove in from the surrounding country in buggies and farm wagons to take a look at the soldiers in camp."

"We were a curiosity," Edward A. Johnson later wrote. "Thousands of people, both white and colored, from Chattanooga, Tenn., visited us daily. Many of them had never seen a colored soldier. The behavior of the men was such that even the most prejudiced could find no fault… All along the route from Missoula, Montana, with the exception of one or two places in Georgia, we had been received most cordially. But in Georgia, outside of the Park, it mattered not if we were soldiers of the United States, and going to fight for the honor of our country and the freedom of an oppressed and starving people, we were "niggers," as they called us, and treated us with contempt. There was no enthusiasm, nor Stars and Stripes, in Georgia. That is the kind of 'united country' we saw in the South."

The May 18 issue of the Chattanooga *Times* provided lengthy updates on numerous regiments that were on their way to Chickamauga from all parts of the country. There was much anticipation about the expected soon arrival of the famous 6th Cavalry Regiment. "The Sixth cavalry regiment," the reporter wrote, "which will be at the park this week, is the crack cavalry regiment of the American army, and Troop A is the crack troop of the finest body of cavalry in North America. When they arrive at the park, people of this city who visit their camp while they are maneuvering will witness a free show such as New Yorkers had to pay $2 to see in Madison Square Garden last month. Their drill is little short of wonderful, Troop A is from Fort Myer Washington, D. C. and the riding of these troopers is far superior to anything in Buffalo Bill's show. Even the Cossack cavalry of the Russian army hardly compares with this troop. Last month Troop A held a riding tournament in Madison Square Garden. Gothamites paid $2 to see what they considered the finest equestrian show of the age, abut Chattanooga people will attend the same performance at the Park this week and not pay a cent to look on."

The reporter also reminded the readers that General Brooke would soon be arriving in Chattanooga. Also soon to arrive was Chief Quartermaster Lee, and his coming would provide strong economic incentives to the area. "Chief Quartermaster Lee, of the Department of the Lakes, will arrive in this city tomorrow evening and will remain at Chickamauga Park as long as the army stays there. Immediately upon his arrival, Quartermaster Lee will invite bids for large quantities of meat, vegetables, bread stuffs, grain and forage with which to supply the cavalry, artillery, and infantry regiments at Chickamauga Park. Commercial men who have anticipated the coming of Quartermaster Lee are beginning to flock to this city with a view of securing contracts for outside houses, but it goes without saying that local merchants will be able to hold their own when it comes to a struggle of this sort."

On April 19, 1898, at Chickamauga Park, the soldiers were ready to begin the drills and weapons practice that were so necessary to their profession. "The colored troops at Camp Boynton," the reporter for the *Chattanooga Times* wrote, "at an early hour yesterday morning began the business of drilling, maneuvering, etc., which will be kept up as long as they stay in the park. The work of yesterday morning consisted of skirmish drill and calisthenics. The average state militiaman has very little idea of the value of topography for drilling and maneuvering, in as much as the militia evolutions for the most part are performed in the halls or on asphalt paved streets. The regular soldier, however, has a keen appreciation of topography when it comes to a matter of drill, and the heavy open timber of Chickamauga Park affords an excellent field for skirmish drill.



25th Infantry Regiment in formation.

"On the treeless plains around Fort Missoula the Twenty-fifth infantry had an excellent field for open and close movements, but a very poor location for skirmish drill, which was principally carried out in arroyos (stretches of prairie heavily and deeply gullied). The park, however, contains both cleared and wooded land, as well as level and hilly stretches, so that every evolution known to military practice can be carried on with success.

'The skirmish drill by companies yesterday morning was highly interesting to visitors, who, with a little effort of the imagination, could persuade themselves that a battle was about to begin, by witnessing 400 men prowling about in the woods, armed to the teeth, and springing all sorts of surprises on each other. Military calisthenics consists of a drill in which the magazine guns are used instead of Indian clubs. It is very attractive and in some extent resembles a zouave drill."

The men were armed with the Model 1896 Krag-Jorgensen Rifle. This weapon was developed Ole Krag and Erik Jorgensen at the Konigsberg Arms Factory in Norway. It was a bolt action rifle that fired a .30-40 flanged cartridge using smokeless powder. It used a magazine with a five round capacity, but was also capable of functioning as a single shot weapon. Using the magazine, it was capable of 14 shots per minute. The weapon weighed 3.5 pounds with bayonet and was 48 7/8 inches in length. The Krag-Jorgensen Rifle had several advantages over the United States .45-70, which was the more predominant long-arm used by the American forces in the Spanish American War.

Most importantly, the "Krag" fired ammunition that contained smokeless powder. The smokeless powder would not betray the location of the shooter as readily as would the cloud of white smoke from the black powder ammunition used by the .45-70. Also, the shooter did not have to wait for the smoke to clear to see his target. The ammunition for the Krag-Jorgensen Rifle was of a smaller caliber than that of the .45-70, therefore, a trooper could carry more rounds with him (one hundred .30 caliber cartridges weighed the same as sixty .45 caliber cartridges). Lastly, the Krag-Jorgensen Rifle fired on a flatter trajectory and therefore could be aimed more accurately with less training.

At the park, there was more work to do to prepare for the arrival of the cavalry horses. "Yesterday Engineer Betts placed the park force at work," the *Times* reporter wrote, "building dams across Mullis and Cave Spring creeks in five places and leveling off the banks on each side so that 1,000 horses can be watered at one time at the two creeks. The banks are being sloped or inclined to the water's edge so as to afford an easy approach, while the dams will serve the purpose of collecting water enough to supply a large number of horses. More of this work will be done today at Chickamauga Park. Work on the four additional wells is also progressing finely."

In Washington, President McKinley did not think that things were progressing finely. Not only was he on the verge of a war he did not want, but he also faced a personal political disaster. Theodore Roosevelt had publicly stated that the president "has all the backbone of a chocolate éclair." The pro-war elements in both parties seemed to be taking over in congress. After days of heated debate, in which both parties strongly defamed the president, the House and Senate passed a joint resolution that proclaimed Cuban independence, demanded that Spain give up the island and withdraw its forces at once, and directed the president to use the armed forces to enforce these resolutions. Twenty-four Republicans had deserted the president and voted with the pro-war majority. There was a Republican rally, however, and at 3 a.m. on the morning of April 19, the bill passed both houses, with the amendment declaring independence being removed. This was a position that McKinley could live with, because it put the war on a moral footing that he had recommended from the beginning. He signed the bill on April 20 and sent the final three-day ultimatum to Spain.

"Yesterday was a day of preparation," the April 20 edition of the *Chattanooga Times* stated, "on the part of every individual and corporation interested in the arrival of Gen Brooke and the United States troops at Chickamauga Park. The city is full of newspapermen, artists, drummers, and men looking for work, drawn here by reason of the vast importance which this city has assumed as the strategic point for the mobilization of troops in case war.

"James G. C. Lee, assistant quartermaster of the United States army, arrived in this city at 2:30 yesterday afternoon from Chicago via Nashville… Col. Lee was met at the train by Gen. Boynton, to whom he stated that he wanted to leave at once for Camp Boynton to see acting quartermaster Line and award the contracts for wood, oats, hay and straw. Col. Lee also stated that he wanted to ride over the park today and look at maps of the same, in order to select camping grounds for the troops and have them designated

several hours before they arrive. Col. Lee inquired about hotel accommodations at the park, and upon learning that there were none, he decided to remain at the Reid house for the time being, until quarters could be arranged. Col. Lee and Gen. Boynton walked over the Reid House and five minutes after his arrival the two left in a buggy for the park…

"Col. Lee and Gen. Boynton returned at 9 o'clock last night from Chickamauga Park. For an hour and a half after their arrival Col. Lee was exceedingly busy, but finished at 1:30 o'clock, at which time he was interviewed by a *Times* reporter. He stated that he had decided to make his headquarters in the building known as Park Headquarters and would not remain at the custom house longer than tomorrow. Park Headquarters was placed at his disposal by Gen. Boynton and Col. Lee will begin moving in today. He further stated that Gen. Brooke and staff would arrive here from Chicago at 2:35 this afternoon, on train No. 1 on the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis road. In regard to the troops, Col. Lee stated positively that they would have to unload in this city and march to the park. The march, he said, would do them good, and that the unloading could and would be done with greater facility here than at the park." Major General John R. Brooke arrived in Chattanooga during the late afternoon.

General Brooke quickly began his duties as commander of the new mobilization camp taking shape at Chickamauga Park. "The work of forming an army at Chickamauga Park began in earnest yesterday," the April 21 issue of the Chattanooga *Times* announced, "a day of excitement and downright hard work for everybody who happened to be connected with the military preparations now in progress in this city. Yesterday's military proceedings, briefly, were as follows:

"Maj. Gen. J. R. Brooke, in command of the army now being mobilized at Chickamauga Park, arrived in this city at 2:45 o'clock yesterday afternoon, in a special car attached to the second section of train No. 1 on the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis road. He was accompanied by Mrs. Brooke and three aides, Capt. William V. Richards of the Sixteenth Infantry, First Lieut. James T. Dean of the Fourteenth Infantry, and Second Lieut. Frank B. McKenna of the Fifteenth Infantry. Lieut. Dean was accompanied by his wife. Gen. Brooke and his aides were met at the depot by Gen. Boynton and Maj. Dillenback. Col. Lee arrived with Gen. Brooke, having gone down to Shellmound at 1 o'clock and boarded the general's train on its arrival. After a short consultation with the last named officers, Gen. Brooke relinquished his car and went to the Read House where he was registered and was assigned to room 78 on the first floor.

"While Gen. Brooke was registering and waiting to have his baggage attended to, he was surrounded by reporters, each making unsuccessful attempts to secure an interview with him. One newspaper man stood near the elevator door and drew a pencil picture of the general talking with one of his aides. Gen. Brooke is a large, portly, dignified looking man, with a striking military bearing and manner. He wore a felt slouch hat of the kind now worn both by officers and soldiers; a black Prince Albert suit with no other decoration than a Loyal Legion button on the lapel of his coat.

"On going to his room, he had a long consultation with Col. Lee, and at about 4 o'clock walked over to the depot to see how the work of unloading the Third Cavalry horses was progressing. It was at this time that Gen. Brooke was interviewed by a *Times* reporter. 'I have been ordered to Chickamauga,' he said, 'and am now simply awaiting further orders from Washington. Until I receive them, I can give no definite answer as to my future plans. Gen. Brooke was very tired after his journey, and would not allow himself to be interviewed by reporters.

"Maj. Gen. J. R. Brooke was born in Pennsylvania, and his military career is as follows: He is not a graduate of West Point, but entered the service from civil life. He was appointed captain of the Forth Pennsylvania Infantry April 20, 1861, and honorably mustered out on July 26, of the same year, only to be elected colonel of the Fifty-third Pennsylvania volunteers on Nov. 7, 1861. On May 12, 1864, he received the brevet rank of major general for gallant service. He resigned his volunteer commission in the army on Feb. 1, 1866. On the reorganization of the army after the war, he was commissioned lieutenant colonel of the Thirty-seventh infantry July 28, 1866, and transferred to the Third infantry June 14, 1879. He was later appointed to be brigadier general, and on May 22, 1897, he was appointed to major general, the position he now holds. Gen. Brooke is the ranking officer of the four generals now in command at various points in the south. He is in command of the Department of the Lakes, and withal a true soldier and a patriotic American gentleman…

"Gen. Brooke and Gen. Boynton will leave at an early hour this morning for Chickamauga Park where they will spend the day. It was arranged last night that Gen. Brooke should have temporary headquarters in the custom house, adjoining the postal inspector's office, until all the troops that will compose his army have arrived and gone into the park. After that Gen. Brooke will in all probability change his headquarters to the Dyer house at Chickamauga Park."

It had been common knowledge for sometime that the Twenty-fifth Infantry Regiment would soon be going south to become the first unit committed to fighting in Cuba. "Col. Burt received a telegram at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon," the *Times* reporter wrote, "from Gen. Graham ordering the Twenty-fifth Infantry to proceed to Mobile at once. Quartermaster Line came at once to the city to see about the transportation, but before he had gone very far with the matter Col. Burt received another order countermanding the first one at 3 o'clock. The reason for this proceeding is not known. It is quite likely, however, that the Twenty-fifth Infantry will be moved to the coast in a short time, and they are expecting such an order to arrive at almost any hour."

It was expected that more than forty trains were either here or would be arriving at Chattanooga that day, bringing men, horses, and equipment for the growing army at Chickamauga Park. "At 4 p.m. yesterday," the *Times* reporter continued, "the first section of ten stock cars, containing the horses and equipment of the Third Cavalry Regiment arrived from Jefferson Barracks, Mo., over the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis road. An enormous crowd, mostly Negroes, who imagined that 'mo cullud sojers' were about to arrive, had gathered in the Union depot shed two hours before hand, and

when Gen. Brooke arrived he could hardly force his way through the throng. The crowd grew in numbers, and when the first section backed in on the Western and Atlantic siding, which runs parallel to and within a few feet of Market Street, the crowd made a rush out of the depot and across the yards to the train.

"Just before this section arrived, Col. Lee had awarded the contract for feeding 380 horses to Ed Kyle, proprietor of the Union Stock Yards and as soon as the first section came in, Col. Lee ordered the horses unloaded at the said stock yards. He also gave orders for the Third cavalrymen and officers to remain in their cars for the night, and that the coming wagons, ambulances, equipment, etc. be unloaded on Market Street so that they could be moved out an early hour this morning… The cavalrymen are a jovial, fun-loving set, who chaffed the crowd good-naturedly on arrival, and made great sport of the photographers, who had a battery of cameras leveled at the train as it rolled through the yards. One trooper rendered a selection on his bugle on arrival, which brought forth a ringing encore from the crowd."

Other units were expected to be arriving shortly from Vermont, Virginia, New York, and Arizona. "Maj. Dillenback spent yesterday morning at Chickamauga Park, where he decided upon having the troops encamp on the McDonald, Mullis, Dyer, Widow Glenn, Cave Springs, and Tan Yard fields, the regimental commanders to make their own selection as to where they shall select for camp. This arrangement leaves all the part of the park east of La Fayette Road clear and open for maneuvering."

On April 22 the U. S. Navy commenced a blockade of Cuba and the first Spanish ship taken. "At an early hour yesterday morning," the April 22 *Chattanooga Time* proclaimed, "people began to throng the streets in the vicinity of the Union depot to witness the departure of the Third Cavalry for Chickamauga. Hundreds of enthusiastic Chattanoogans lined the sidewalks and lustily cheered the gallant troopers as they left for the Park. Crowds of people lingered about the Union depot during the day, the presence of many ladies being conspicuous, and as each train bearing troops arrived it was greeted with hearty cheers… The Third Cavalry, members of which had spent the night in cars in the union depot yards, left the city about 9 o'clock yesterday morning on the march to Chickamauga. At an early hour yesterday morning every road leading to Chickamauga Park from the city and surrounding country was crowded with all manner of vehicles. The drag containing the 'city folks' trotted lightly by the farm wagon of the farmer and the man wheelmen [bicycle riders] glided through the clouds of dust, and gave the scene an animated appearance.

"At Lytle, or Battlefield Station, all was bustle and excitement. About fifty teams and farm wagons had congregated there under orders from Engineer Betts, to assist in transporting the forage, supplies, and baggage of the various commands to the camp sites… Gen. Brooke, yesterday, deciding upon the following locations for the encampments of troops at Chickamauga:

First Cavalry — Camp Dan Lamont.
Second Cavalry — Near the Eighteenth Indiana monument.

Third Cavalry — Widow Glenn field, near Eighteenth Indiana monument.
Sixth Cavalry — Viniard field.
Ninth Cavalry — West of Fenton's Well.
Tenth Cavalry — North of Park Smithy.
Maj. Dillenback's Headquarters — Southwest of Mullis Spring.
First Artillery — Mullis Spring.
Second Artillery — Old Mullis House.
Third Artillery — Top of ridge east of George Mullis House.
Fourth Artillery — McDonald field.
Fifth Artillery — McDonald House.



Military camps around Bloody Pond.

"The first to arrive on the field was Light Battery F, Fourth Artillery, Capt. Sidney W. Taylor commanding. The battery came over the Seaboard Air Line from Fortress Monroe… Battery F and its gallant captain are not strangers to the citizens of Chattanooga, who well remember that it was their flying artillery organization that attracted so much attention during the dedication exercise at the Park in 1895. The battery train was sidetracked on the 'barracks siding' Wednesday night and early yesterday morning left for the park. They arrived at Battlefield Station about 8 o'clock and immediately unloaded, hooked up and started for Mullis spring, near the north limit of the park, which was reached about 10:30. The batter went on 'left into line of

sections' in the vicinity of Fowler's battery in the McDonald field. Guns were unlimbered, horses were unhitched and immediately rode to water at Chickamauga Creek by the heard guard. Meantime, the nimble cannoneers, as fast as the baggage wagons arrived with the tents and camp equipage, unloaded them, and soon the white tents were glistening in the bright sun light. While this was being done, another detail was carrying wood and water, and in an incredibly short time the aroma of coffee pervaded the air, serving notice on everybody that the inner man would soon receive attention…

"The Fourth Artillery had hardly completed unloading when the first section of the trains bearing troops A. H. E, and G of the Sixth Cavalry, came to a stop opposite the Vittetoe house. As soon as the empty flats and stock cars were taken out of the way, the troopers began to unload their equipments, wagons, and ambulances from the second section which had followed them out… This battalion of the Sixth came from Fort Myer, near Washington, and is considered one of the finest commands in that branch of the service. The third section, containing the 'heard' and its guard, reached Battlefield Station about 9:30. The 'ramps' were placed in position and the neighing, curveting chargers were 'led out.' They seemed overjoyed at leaving their cramped quarters in the cars, and several of the more nervous could barely keep their hooves on the ground. There was a marked difference in the action of the steeds and the mules belonging to the commands. The long-eared quadrupeds seemed to have lost sight of their reputation for 'cussedness,' and very quietly followed their drivers to the seven baggage wagons belonging to the commands, and soon were straining at the traces pulling the generous loads piled up on the wagons by the cavalrymen. The extra wagons ordered by Engineer Betts were also loaded, and soon a line of them was strung out across the Dyer field going in the direction of the McDonald field, which Col. Summers understood to be his camp ground. The first wagon had passed the 'blacksmith shop' on the edge of the field, when it was turned back by order of Gen. Brooke, who drove up at this time in a drag, accompanied by two aides and Gen. Boynton. The long stream of wagons followed the lead of the first and proceeded to the vicinity of the Widow Glenn house where the Wilder monument is located, and went into camp east of the Glenn-Viniard road, not far from the camp of the Twenty-fifth infantry.

"At 11:20 a cloud of dust appeared over the LaFayette road, north of the McDonald field, where appeared Maj. Dillenback and Capt. Chase, the former on the staff of Gen. Brooke, the latter one of the officers of the Third Cavalry. They were accompanied by an aide. After exchanging greetings with the officers of Battery F, the location of the camp of the Third was discussed, and after riding over the ground Capt. West, under advice of Maj. Dillenback, decided to camp on the south end of the McDonald field, near where Slocum's Louisiana battery was stationed during the engagement of Sept. 20, 1863… The wagons were unloaded as fast as they arrived, and soon the cavalrymen were 'at home.' Just as they had settled down to take things easy, Gen. Brooke drove up and ordered them to strike camp and proceed to the Widow Glenn field, near where the Sixth is located, which was accordingly done."

The *Times* reporter did not neglect to report on commercial matters. "Aside from the forage contracts, the particulars of which have appeared before in the *Times*, the

Chattanooga Brewing Company has received a contract for furnishing fifty kegs of beer daily to Exchange Officer O'Neal for the Twenty-fifth infantry. The canteen building at Camp Boynton, 40 by 200 feet, was completed yesterday, and Lieut. O'Neal is now dispensing the amber fluid to the thirsty soldiers. The regimental quartermasters are buying about 100 pounds of fresh beef daily from Nathan Frank and Leo Ackerman, but have made no permanent contracts. S. T. Dewees is furnishing the officers with select groceries in large quantities daily, and considerable bread is being purchased at the local bakeries, but no contracts have been let…

"A member of the quartermaster's department explained to a *Times* reporter yesterday the significance of the thirty days rations carried by all the troops of the regular army. When the troops were given orders to move south, they all started with provisions for thirty days, of a character known as 'emergency rations,' but in ordinary parlance known as 'hard tack.' This consists of salt meat, hard bread of flour, coffee, sugar, vinegar, salt, pepper, potatoes and onions. Rations of this character are served while troops are on the march. When troops are encamped at a given point the commissary department purchases fresh bread and vegetables for the troops. This explains why bread meet and food supplies are being purchased of local dealers for the troops encamped at Chickamauga. The cavalry branch does not carry full rations for the horses, but provender will be purchased in the location of Chattanooga. The total amount of rations now on hand at the park for the two batteries of artillery, Twenty-fifth infantry and Sixth Cavalry will amount to about 147,240 pounds of provisions."

On April 23, in response to the U. S. blockade of Cuba and the capture of a Spanish ship by the gunboat *Nashville*, Spain declared war on the United States. President McKinley sent a request for a declaration of war to Congress and also requested approval for a call for 125,000 volunteers for the coming engagement. "Local interest in the Spanish-American War was at fever heat yesterday," the *Chattanooga Times* stated, "owing to the arrival of the North Atlantic squadron off the northern coast of Cuba. People were expecting to hear of a naval battle at almost any minute, and as a result the *Times*' bulletins were patronized by larger crowds yesterday than at any time since the Spanish trouble began. The Spanish-American War and the arrival of soldiers from all parts of the Union in this city has brought one curious result. People are buying a great many maps of North America, the West Indies, the Philippines, and Spain with which to refresh themselves with geography, or in cases where geographic knowledge is wanting, to lean what they had not known before. The latter class is very numerous, and one would be surprised at the lack of information in regard to the cities, islands, and continents of the globe. One bookseller sold not less than 350 maps of the West Indies yesterday…

"Chickamauga Park, yesterday, when the sun took its farewell peek at its historic fields, contained about 4,000 men of all branches of Uncle Sam's army, camped there. This number was increased as night advanced, and when the light breaks this morning it will shine upon about 5,000 men on their way to do battle, to offer up their lives for the glory and integrity of their country. The following commands were encamped at the Park at 6 o'clock yesterday evening, in the order of their arrival:

TWENTY-FIFTH INFANTRY — Col. A. S. Burt, eight companies, hospital corps, and band, in the Widow Glenn field, southeast of Bloody Pond; 550 men.

BATTERY F, FOURTH ARTILLERY—Capt. Sidney Taylor, commanding, 75 men, 5 guns, 5 caissons, and battery wagon. In the McDonald field, site of Fowlers Battery, Sept. 19, 1863.

THIRD CAVALRY — Maj. Wessel, commanding troops A, B, D, H, I and K from Jefferson Barracks, Mo. hospital corps and quartermaster department, 600 men. In the Viniard field, west of the LaFayette Road.

SIXTH CAVALRY — Col. S. S. Summers commanding, troops A, E, G, H from Fort Myers, Va. And troops B, C, F, and K from Levenworth, Kan., band, hospital corps, and quartermaster department; 850 men. In the field east of the LaFayette Road, opposite the Brock house.

BATTERY E, FIRST ARTILLERY — Capt. A. A. Capton, Washington, D. C., 5 guns, 5 caissons, battery wagon, and forge and one ambulance, hospital corps, 85 men, at Mullis Spring, southeast of the McFarland Gap Road and west of the McDonald field.

BATTERY D, FIFTH ARTILLERY — Capt Frank Thorpe, Fort Hamilton, N. Y. 5 guns, four caissons, battery wagon, and forge and one ambulance, hospital corps, 80 men. Located in McDonald field on the site of Sweet's battery, Sept. 20, 1863. Just west of LaFyette Road.

BATTERY F, SECOND ARTILLERY — First Lieut. John Greble, Fort. Edwards R. I.. 5 guns, 5 caissons, battery wagon, and forge, ambulance, and one supply wagon, 85 men. Located at Mullis Spring, north of the McFarland Gap Road and west of McDonald field.

TWELFTH INFANTRY — Col. J. W. Andrews, Fort Niobrara, Neb., Companies A, B, C, D, E, F, G, and H, band, hospital corps and quartermaster department, 650 men. Located on the Widow Glenn field east of the Glenn-Viniard road and west of the Third Cavalry.

FIRST CAVALRY — Col. A. K. Arnold, headquarters, and troops F and K from Fort Riley, Kan. Hospital corps, quartermaster department, and band. 400 men. Located in the Brock field west of the LaFayette Road, opposite the Sixth Cavalry and north of the Third.

SECOND CAVALRY — Maj. W. A. Rafferty, troops A, C, D, F, H, and G from Fort Riley, Kan. Hospital corps, and quartermaster department. 650 men. Located in Brock field between the First and Third Cavalry.

"The local railway officials were advised yesterday as to the arrival of the following troops. Aside from this, however, nothing could be learned as to their movements.

First Cavalry — Troops A and I from Fort Huachuea, Ariz., are expected to arrive Monday morning over the southern.

Second Cavalry — Troops B and I from Fort Logan, Cal., are due at 6 o'clock this morning.

Second Infantry — Companies D and G from Fort Yates, N. D., are due at 7 o'clock this morning over the Memphis division of the Southern.

Sixth Cavalry — The Fort Ethan Allen squadron left Philadelphia, Pa., yesterday morning at 7 o'clock and are due this evening at 5 o'clock.

There are also troops on the way here from Marinae Island, Mich. They are to arrive at 5 o'clock this morning over the Southern road.

The Tenth Cavalry has been delayed on account of the burning of a bridge on the Northern Pacific, so it is impossible to say when they will arrive.

The Ninth Cavalry is due at 6 o'clock this morning."

"Besides the above, there were en-route to the Park last night a detachment of the signal corps of the army, with four signal corps and field telegraph wagons and a complete outfit for establishing communications with the various commands and general headquarters.

"There are about twenty-five telegraph operators belonging to the field telegraph corps now in the Park, and they will probably begin work this morning at Gen. Brooke's headquarters.

"The stiff breeze which started about midnight Thursday from the west changed around to the southeast just before day break, and soon a mass of dark gray clouds came scurrying across the sky and at about the same time that the sun usually puts in his appearance a dense curtain covered the heavens and shut out its warming rays. It was quite chilly in the early morning air, and the lone sentries at the various camps kept up their circulation by brisk movements, with occasional stops at the smoldering fires.

"About 5 o'clock the blaring tones of a battery bugle roused the cannoners and drivers of Battery D, Fifth Artillery from their slumbers on mother earth, with the heavens for a covering, for they had arrived so late last night that they could not put up their tents. They began work immediately after roll call. A detail began cooking breakfast, the drivers groomed and watered their stock, and the nimble cannoners began pitching their tents. Unlike their brethren of the Fourth, close by, who have been in

service in the west and are provided with conical tents, the tents of this battery are what are known as the common square tent, which, strange to say, takes up more room, but will not accommodate as many men as the conical tent. Twenty one of these common tents were soon placed in a row, with a second row for the officers opposite. The battery guidon was uncased and planted at the tent of Capt. Thorpe, commanding.

"While the boys of Battery D were thus engaged, their comrades of Battery F, Fourth Artillery, snoozed serenely on until about 6:15, when the trumpeter on guard sounded the reveille. After 'roll call,' 'stables,' and breakfast, the 'paulins' were removed from the gun caissons and laid out on the grass to dry. The drivers cleaned and oiled the harness of their teams, while the cannoners looked after the guns and limbers. After every detail had been attended to, the men were allowed to rest for the remainder of the day, only doing such duties as are a part of the regular routine, rain or shine.



An Artillery Battery on the move.

"The men of Battery F, First Artillery, passed the time very much like their fellows in Battery D, they having arrived very late Thursday evening and not having completed pitching their tents.

"Battery F, of the Second, which arrived early yesterday morning, has the prettiest and most picturesque camping ground of the whole outfit. It is located just west of Mullis Springs in the edge of the timber on gently sloping ground. The fact that the batteries are located by regiments that are in the order from one to five, with the First in Mulls field, gave the second battalion this choice location, for which luck they are envied by the 'other fellows.'"

"Everybody was on the 'hustle' in the camps of the Sixth and Third cavalry regiments. The Third, which had to strike camp about 4 o'clock the evening before in the

McDonald field and move to the Viniard field, about three and a half miles further south, was straightening out its baggage, after 'stables,' breakfast. The herds of the various troops were sent to graze under guard, and it was extremely interesting to see two mounted troopers keep those lively steed, which had been cooped up for a few days, from straying too far from each other in their joy at being again on terra firma and out of the stuffy, cinder-laden atmosphere of the stock cars.

"Over in the Sixth, Maj. Wessells command, in brown canvas uniforms, was policing the camp, after the routine cavalry duties were over, and when the 'recall' from 'fatigue' sounded the ground occupied by this crack command was as clean as could be made by the hand of man. Every fallen twig, leaves, and loose stone had been raked up and carted away.

"The headquarters of Maj. Gen. John R. Brooke, commanding the army concentrating at Chickamauga Park, will be established on the gentle slope which is the north terminus of Lytle Hill, due east of Battlefield Station, and within a stones' throw of the same. Gen. Brooks was at the station for quite a time yesterday morning and extended a pleasant greeting to the officers of the various commands as they arrived. HE rested in the shade of the *Times* tent and seemed quite at home among the press gang that came and went like bees in a hive, and making a pleasant reply to each question asked him by the pencil pushers… While the men were unloading the mounts… one of the men attempted to force his horse to cross the track in front of a hissing engine. The animal shied and refused to cross. The man lost his temper and viciously dug both spurs into the flanks of the frightened animal, which reared and still refused. Gen. Brooke, who was watching the proceeding, called to the man to 'stop that spurring and pet him,' and completed the sentence with the promise of a severe dose of the guard house in case it was repeated. The trooper, rather crestfallen, obeyed the order and coaxed the steed across the track in a few moments… Gen. Brooke has ordered that his headquarters be called 'Camp Thomas,' in honor of 'The Rock of Chickamauga.'" Soon the entire park came to be known as "Camp Thomas."



General John Brooke.

"Chickamauga Park is at present the scene of one of the greatest reunions in the history of America. Since the close of the Civil War the various regiments of the United States army have been very much broken up, scattered transferred and moved about in squadrons, troops, companies, and batteries, so that, now they are together once more, there is a general handshaking and renewing of friendships. Men stationed at Fort Ethan Allen, Vt. Are asking their former mess-mates from Jefferson Barracks, Mo. about 'how

things are getting along at old Jeff Barracks.' One man learned the full particulars about the death of his brother, who belonged to another troop of the same regiment. This regiment was divided fifteen years ago, one squadron going east, separating the two brothers. The brother who stayed with the western squadron was killed in an encounter with Indians ten years ago, and his brother heard all about it yesterday…

"The trades-people of the city are anxiously awaiting the coming from New York of Col. Weston, who has been appointed chief commissariat on Gen. Brooke's staff. Col. Weston is the official who looks after the feeding of the army, and if the troops now at the park remain there for a period of two months, he will be obliged to purchase supplies in very large quantities. The impression among the regimental quartermasters and commissary men is that Col. Weston will purchase supplies in the east, but this matter is very much of an uncertainty. One thing is certain, and that is that the number of drummers in the city is no larger than usual, while on the every hand, every house in Nashville has one to three drummers here looking for a chance to take advantage of the railroad rate discrimination, and sell Nashville good in this city at lower prices than could be made by local jobbers. Aside from this, it is safe to say that arrival army at the Park has been the means of scattering several thousand dollars about the city every day. Every man in town is willing to admit that 'business is a little better than it was three weeks ago.' And some of the larger dealers say there has been a wonderful improvement. Dry goods stores have done a rushing business in flags. One order of Cuban flags, shipped yesterday from New York to the B. D. Loveman Co., was sold yesterday afternoon before arrival. The supply of Cuban flags does not begin to keep pace with the demand.

"Mrs. Anna Moltz, a member of the Woman's Relief Corps No. 2, Chattanooga, who served as a volunteer nurse during the Civil War, has volunteered her services as nurse in case of war with Spain, and her services have been accepted. The members of the relief corps have pledged themselves to assist Mrs. Moltz in this work. The corps also voted to wear the badge of the order at all times during the trouble with Spain. Engineer Betts office at the custom house is overrun daily with men of all sizes, ages, and conditions who are anxious to enlist in the service. Letters to Fitzhugh Lee, Gen. Miles and every other military personage from 'Old Vet,' and "Old Reb' offering their services continue to pour in daily. The people of the south have formed the idea that Chattanooga is the chief military center of America, hence the foregoing.

"A large school picnic passed through the park about noon, and the cheers of the artillerymen which greeted the waging flags and handkerchiefs of the little folks were continued by the troopers of the Sixth and Third Cavalry as they passed.

"The local colored baseball nine played a game yesterday afternoon at 3:30 o'clock at the baseball park with the Twenty-fifth regiment team. Music was furnished by the Twenty-fifth infantry band. The game resulted in a goose egg for the local team."



Black soldiers playing baseball.

"During the past week," The *Chattanooga Times* announced on Monday, April 25, "the citizens of Chattanooga have displayed a keen interest in the war news, and the military aspects at Chickamauga Park, but it was nothing in comparison to yesterday's enthusiasm. Everyone closed shop and store at the earliest possible hour Saturday night, took a good night's rest and rose with the lark to spend the day sight-seeing. Chattanoogans gave themselves over to a day of solid enjoyment and viewing the military attractions both in the city and at the park. They were glad Sunday had arrived; many doubtless wished that the day could be prolonged for another twenty-four hours, and not one of them cared or thought of the morrow. That was another matter altogether, which the enjoyment of the hour dispelled and drove from their minds.

"The day was beautiful in more ways and senses than one, and from early morning until late in the evening, Rossville pike presented a sight that far outranked the description of the scene on Galata bridge (the highway of the Orient), Constantinople, by F. Marion Crawford. It was a scene worthy of the pen of a great writer. Rossville road was a sort of modern Via Appiana yesterday, on which all colors, casts, and conditions of people traveled to and from the park, using various methods of locomotion, both up-to-date and obsolete. Elegant landaus driven by colored coachmen in very correct attire and filled with dignified elderly gentlemen and ladies flashed by at a brisk gait. An ox wagon or two from 'down in Dade,' containing a sovereign citizen and family of future presidents and self-made men, wobbled along in a perfunctory way, as though in no hurry to reach the point of destination. Nattily attired cyclists spun to and from the park, threading their way in and out between the jam of vehicles. The young man and his girl, on a bicycle built for two; the newly married country couple, in a buggy of the same species; tally-hos, full; business men and mechanics; family parties in large vehicles similar to the kind just mentioned; Negroes on bicycles, in hacks, and open omnibuses; people on foot, in farm wagons, on horse and mule back, and now and then a squadron of

United States cavalry or a battery of artillery, combined to make a very fine picture of one of the avenues of civilization.

"The city crowds rushed back and forth between the two depots to meet and greet each successive arrival of troops… The total number of troops that arrived yesterday between the hours of 3 o'clock a.m. and 6 o'clock p.m. is as follows:

> Battery F of the Fifth Artillery, arrived at 12:30 yesterday afternoon over the Western and Atlantic road from Tybee Island, Ga., near Savannah. The battery was commanded by Capt. H. J. Reilly…
>
> Seventh Infantry, the entire regiment of 560 men arrived at 4 o'clock yesterday morning from Fort Logan, Col., in two sections over the Memphis division of the Southern railway. The Seventh infantry is commanded by Col. Daniel W. Benham…

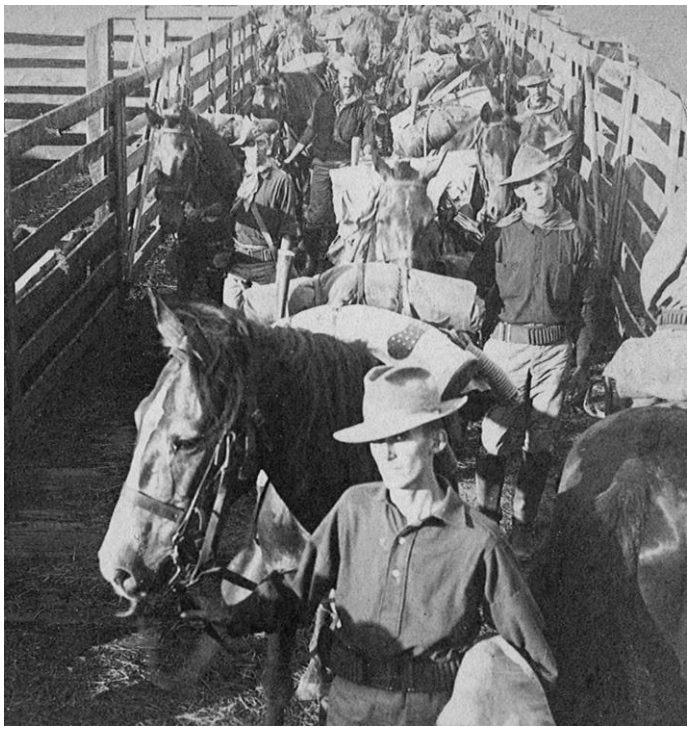


The Twenty-fourth Infantry Regiment.

> Twenty-fourth infantry (Colored): The entire Twenty-fourth regiment of 508 men arrived at the Central depot at noon yesterday from Fort Douglass, Utah, in three sections over the Memphis division of the Southern road. They were placed on the 'barracks' siding, where the men were served with eighty gallons of coffee, and left at 5 o'clock for the park. The Twenty-fourth Infantry is commanded by Col. Jacob Ford Kent…" [In Salt Lake City, where the regiment was formerly stationed, the people demonstrated their enthusiasm and admiration for the band

and men of the 24th Infantry as they lined the streets of the city to bid farewell as the regiment was leaving for Chickamauga. Only two years earlier, the whites of the city had vigorously protested the stationing of black troops at Fort Douglas. Black soldiers had won the hearts of the people and, for the moment at least, the people had rid themselves of racial prejudice.]

First Cavalry Troop: The Fort Reno squadron of the First cavalry that arrived late Saturday afternoon unloaded their horses and wagons yesterday morning on the Market Street siding and left for Chickamauga park at 2 o'clock. A large crowd witnessed the unloading and their march out Market street to the park. As a genuine curiosity the two army omnibuses belonging to this squadron beat Buffalo Bill's Deadwood stage all to pieces. These venerable relics of old frontier days were used at Fort Reno to carry mail and passengers to and from the fort and the nearest town.



Unloading Cavalry Horses.

Tenth Cavalry (Colored): The first section, containing the baggage of the Fort Assinniboine squadron of the Tenth cavalry arrived last night at 8 o'clock. The other sections were pulling in at the hour of going to press over the Nashville road.

"Gen. Brooke's army now at the Park numbers somewhere in the neighborhood of 6,241 officers and men up to 5 o'clock last night. Those yet to come will greatly augment this number…

"The throng around the *Times* bulletins was not a bit smaller yesterday than at any time during the past week. The crowds were all the greater yesterday by the arrival of a large number of people from Rome, Dalton, Ringgold, Cartersville, Tuscumbia, Decatur, Huntsville, Birmingham, Sparta, Winchester, Murfreesboro, Harriman, Pikeville, Dayton, Knoxville, Loudon, Athens, and Cleveland. There were several excursions during the day from these points. There was some complaint over the fact that the Chattanooga, Rome, and Southern road did not run trains to the park at intervals of an hour, but this was hardly to be expected: This road is doing good work in handling the troop trains as

fast as they arrive, and to augment their passenger accommodations is at present out of the question.

"Lieut. Col. Albert Hartsuff, chief surgeon on the staff of Gen. Brooke's army arrived yesterday morning from Chicago, Ill., accompanied by his wife and daughter. Col. Hartsuff for the present is at the Read House, but will in all probability remove his headquarters to the Park today. Col. Hartsuff's position as chief surgeon of Gen. Brooke's army is really the most important post of all, and it is seldom that the chief surgeon of an army has such a weight of responsibility on his shoulders as in the present case of Col. Hartsuff. It is the scheme and policy not only of the war department, but the government as well, to keep Gen. Brooke's army in perfect health and sanitation, so that in the event they are called upon to invade Cuba soon (which is now quite probable) they will be all the better prepared to withstand the effect of climate and yellow fever. With this end in view, the war department has sent to the park as chief surgeon the oldest, best, and most experienced army physician in the United States.

"Col. Hartsuff entered the regular army at the fall of Fort Sumter as a commissioned officer of the medical department, and has remained in the army ever since and in continuous duty in every department of the army. He was on duty in New Orleans during the cholera epidemic of 1866 and the yellow fever outbreak of 1867. He was stationed for many years on the Pacific coast, and from 1870 to 1872 he was medical director of the Department of Alaska, with residence at Sitka. He not only has a complete knowledge of what soldiers must beware of in various climates and localities, but has a very extensive army acquaintance, and knows every officer in the army. Col. Hartsuff was seen yesterday by a *Times* reporter, to whom he accorded the following interview:

"'My duties as medical director of Gen. Brooke's army is to see to sanitary conditions of the camps, camp locations, and the food and medical supplies; to see that the camp life of the soldier is a correct one; and, in short, to keep the entire army in such a condition that every man will be able to respond to the order sending them to the front with a clear head, a strong stomach, and a spring step. In other words, to keep them in such perfect health that they will be able to stand any climate and at the same time be available for any purpose. To the soldier sickness is a certain measure and sense much more to be dreaded than war, and the great end and aim of the medical department will be to prevent more deaths from occurring from sickness than from the vicissitudes of armed strife, and keep every soldier in excellent health.

"I have not been to the park yet, but when I arrive there tomorrow I will first of all ascertain the number of commands, how many physicians there are with each, the quality and quantity of their medical supplies, etc. I expect to find Gen. Brooke's army deficient in medical supplies, stewards, hospital corps, physicians, etc. and I will order forthwith everything that I find lacking in this line and have it sent to the park with the utmost dispatch. It is the intention of the army to keep Gen. Brooke's army in perfect trim, and each regiment will be supplied with its full quota of physicians and medical supplies. It will be my duty to fit them for a campaign. There will be regimental hospitals established, and if necessary a division hospital. Supplies will be furnished from New

York and St. Louis, the two great depots for medical stores. Every medical officer in the park will report to me, so that I will know the exact sanitary conditions and situation of the army. It will also be my duty to indoctrinate and teach each soldier how to take care of himself and what the sanitary necessities are.'"

On other matters, recruiting for the military at the Park was announced: "The officers of Gen. Brooke's army now stationed at the Park have been authorized to recruit at any and all times and whenever a good man presents himself. Those wishing to join the army can do so by applying to the colonels, majors, and captains at the Park. It is Gen. Brooke's intention to fill up each battery of artillery to its full number, as well as the cavalry and infantry regiments. It is likely that a recruiting office will soon be located in this city, but recruiting is on right now and the patriotic need not stand back on ceremony."

The editor of the *Times* felt compelled to write an editorial concerning the disorderly conduct of colored soldiers in Chattanooga. He stated: "Concerning the unfortunate and disgraceful performance of some Negro soldiers in this city Saturday night, it should be remembered that but a mere squad of the men were engaged in the ruction. We ought not allow the bad conduct of a few men to give character to a large battalion or brigade.

"These men have been on the frontier for many years. The mere sight of civilization excites them, and their life is not one that tends to refine and elevate human nature. The army is not the place to find softness or the virtues that characterize the best elements of civil society.

"The army is a machine organized for the purpose of violence, killing. The passion for violence is disciplined into the men who compose the army. They are taught to disregard life — the value of life, we mean — their own lives are held as cheap as the lives of others. We cannot expect to find the refinements of humanity in them so trained for years. If we do, we will be disappointed.

"But because they are fighting machines does not excuse soldiers when they turn on the country it is their duty to defend; and they do in a measure, turn on their country when they assail its citizens, and attempt to run roughshod over its peace officers. That sort of thing ought not and will not be tolerated by officers in command.

"Of this the public may be assured for the men who are in control of these troops are as much mortified and shocked over the conduct of their disorderly troopers as the citizens of the community as the citizens of the community in which such outrages occur.

"We do not believe that the Negro commands are made up of men of bad character and ruffianly disposition. A few of them are, as an officer of the Ninth cavalry said of that regiment, 'tough cases' and the people will not be unjust enough to condemn several thousand because a mere fraction is tough. The task of an officer commanding colored troops is a difficult one, especially when the men are quartered in the midst of temptations, and we sympathize with those officers. They cannot be too diligent and vigorous in their discipline; and, do what they may, they will bear an unequal share of blame that attaches to disorders created by soldiers."



The 9th Cavalry Regiment.

The little community of Lytle, located around the Battlefield Station, was expanding beyond its capacity. The *Times* referred to the situation as "a busy day for a hamlet not made for business. "Work began at daylight and the first rush came on when the passenger train from Chattanooga pulled in late with standing room only. Shortly thereafter came the sable troopers of the Tenth cavalry. They left the cars, laid their carbines and sabers in a long row by the side of the track and devoted themselves to unloading their horses and baggage, a work of several hours. They then went to work on the camp-ground selected for them.

"The Eighth Infantry was in bivouac between the track and the boulevard, a pistol shot away. About noon the 'assembly' was sounded, the men loaded their wagons, strung their knapsacks and marched over to their permanent camping ground. While they were in the transition stage, two trains bearing the Seventh Infantry came by, the boys in the cars waving small flags from the windows. The new comers gladly filed out of the cars which had held them for many days, and after a halt of an hour or more by the side of the pike, moved over to a position near the Eighth. A dense crowd of people of all sorts and conditions, mostly soldiers of different arms of the service thronged the one street and adjacent roads and scores of them read with interest the bulletins in front of the *Times* tent. Vehicles of all kinds from the natty drag to the transfer wagons seated with chairs filed past in almost unending column and wheelmen were equally in evidence.

"The rush to catch the evening train to Chattanooga was a great one, and those who had seats could congratulate themselves."

In Washington, the U.S. Congress passed the following bill, that was almost immediately afterward signed by the president:

"A Bill Declaring that War Existing Between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Spain. Be it hereby enacted, first, that war be and the same is hereby declared to exist and war has existed since the 21st day of April A. D. 1898, including said day, between the United States of America and the Kingdom of Spain. Second, that the President of the United States be and he hereby is directed and empowered to use the entire land and naval forces of the United States and to call into actual service of the United States the militia of the several states to such extent as may be necessary to carry this act into effect."

On April 26, the *Chattanooga Times* brought out a special "EXTRA" edition in the afternoon to cover all the latest information from Washington on the declaration of war. "The sensation of the day," a *Times* reporter wrote, "was the arrival of the *Times* extra on the evening train. A quartette of fleet running and loud-tongued newsboys quickly sold the papers which contained the welcome news that war had been declared by congress. Of course Uncle Sam's boys know they are not here simply for pleasure or their health, but it is a consolation to know that the issue has been squarely stated and all the formalities are done. Meanwhile, although the yare vastly pleased with their present situation, they are waiting for marching orders… Every one of the officers seems to be intensely pleased with the camp ground and express themselves in very complementary terms as regards the climate and topographical features of the Park country…

"Yesterday was a quiet day, comparatively speaking, for Chattanooga. There were not many arrivals of troops, and those that did arrive came in at hours when the streets were practically deserted. But aside from this fact the city was as lively and busy as ever. The *Times* bulletins drew large crowds, and travel to and from the park was large. A great many officers, more in fact than since the first arrival of troops, came up from the park and spent the day in the city seeing the sights and exploring the various quarters of the historic burg, while the National Guardsmen were to be found on every hand in all the glory of new uniforms and caps. The officers of Gen. Brooke's have deposited in the local banks from $2,000 to $100 each, which they draw on from time to time. Also, bankers state that the regular deposits of merchants (cash taken in during the day for goods) shows a very high increase during the past few days, and is likely to continue as long as the army remains at the Park…

"Col. Lee was very busy all day yesterday with the purchase of 500 horses. Yesterday he sent out more proposals and he expects to hear from them today. The thirty mules were purchased yesterday from stockmen here, in north Georgia and middle Tennessee. It is quite likely that Col. Lee will purchase a number of army wagons sometime during next week...

"At Lytle, [there was] a busy day for every man around the little station. Early in the morning the Twenty-fourth infantry loaded their baggage and marched off to their

permanent camp south of McDonald field. Shortly afterwards, the missing battalion of the Tenth Cavalry came in, and for hours worked like Trojans unloading their horses, equipment, and stores. The band, mounted on white horses, went off alone, looking like a small squadron of light horse… One of the Tenth cavalrymen fell from a wagon while at work loading it. A hurry up call brought an ambulance in charge of a squad of Red Cross men who took him to the regimental hospital…



A busy day at Lytle.

One of the soldiers at the Park saw the editorial in the *Chattanooga Times* about disorderly solders. He wrote the following response, and it was published by the paper on April 26. "The *Times* is in receipt of the following, written by one of the regular soldiers in camp at Chickamauga:

> Camp Thomas, Chickamauga Park, Ga.
> April 25, — Ed. Times
>
> We have read with feelings of gratitude your editorial on 'Disorderly Soldiers' in this morning's edition of the Times. It is not customary for enlisted men to write in defense of their own acts toward civilians. We leave that to the officers, generally. But the good sense, moderation, and broad mindedness displayed in your editorial demands some recognition from us. It too often happens that civilians, seeing a few disorderly soldiers on the streets imagine that all soldiers are alike in this respect. They condemn the whole for the acts of a small fraction. It is very seldom that a newspaper takes the trouble to write editorially to the extent you have done. Your ideas are just those that should be held by all

citizens. We hope they will be adopted by the citizens of Chattanooga as they have by its leading paper. I am sure I am voicing the sentiment of the entire command when I offer our sincere and heartfelt thanks for your timely editorial. 'Enlisted Man.'"

Under the headline "TRAGEDY AT THE PARK," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on the death of a member of the Twenty-fifth Infantry Regiment. "Walter Funderbach, a young man conducting a soda water stand at the Chickamauga camps, near Battlefield Station, shot and mortally wounded David Madden, a member of Company C, Twenty-fifth infantry, while he and a number of colored soldiers were trying to break into his tent. A few days ago, Walter Funderbach, a young man from Rome, Ga., established his stand at a tent in the Park, and his red soda and sarsaparilla was very popular with the colored troops at once. Early Sunday evening a squad of soldiers made a raid on his tent. Young Funderback scared them off, but later in the night, a number of them re-appeared, and were in the act of effecting an entrance, when they were discovered. Quickly securing his pistol, Funderback opened fire on the intruders, and a general fusillade followed. The soldiers returned shot after shot, riddling the tent with bullets. During the fire, after emptying his pistol, young Funderback fired upon the men with a shotgun, after which the soldiers retreated. Madden was found lying on the ground, groaning and apparently in agony. He was removed to his surgeon and found to be mortally wounded. Two other associates were seriously shot. Funderback has not been arrested."

"Local excitement over the Spanish-American War assumed a more regular and systematic turn yesterday," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on April 27, "that at any time since the beginning of the war. The crowds that met each successive arrival of troops were not near so large as the throngs that gathered to witness the coming of the first troops for Chickamauga, and seemed to be composed mostly with people who had business with the new arrivals, relatives and friends of the soldiers, army officers, railroad men, transportation agents, hotel runners, draymen, reporters, newsboys, etc.

"The crowd around the Times bulletins was, if anything, larger than usual, and the excitement over the announcement of the capture of three large and valuable prizes by the American warships was very great indeed. The Chickamauga hegira appears to be increasing in volume, and Rossville road was livelier than ever yesterday. Local trade seems to be on the increase generally, and no cry of hard times is heard from anyone. It is safe to say that there are very few idle men in the city now. The arrival of Gen. Brooke's army has directly and indirectly given work to a great many people, to say noting of the fact that it has also opened a market for a large quantity of Chattanooga's goods and products…

"The scene at the military camp at Chickamauga yesterday was one of animation and beauty. Here, there, and everywhere groups of officers as well as men of the line, all eagerly discussing the possibility of the rumored early invasion of Cuba. Now and then a handsome horseman, traveling at full speed, would dash by. During the greater part of the day the sun was shining brightly. The air was cooled by the early morning rains and the atmosphere was balmy. These were the conditions at Chickamauga yesterday.

"Gen. Brooke and staff were up and about early. Gen. Brooke was one among the first to leave his cot. He worked hard the day before, and had enjoyed a good night's rest, and each member of the staff arose with a hard day's work confronting him. Immediately after breakfast, Gen. Brooke, accompanied by Lieut. McKenna and others of his staff, made a complete round of the camp. By this time the cavalrymen were at work grooming their horses and taking them to and from the watering places. Now and then, one of the animals would become unruly, break away, and a lively chase would follow. Gen. Brooke is an excellent horseman, and he gave those present yesterday an exhibition that they enjoyed. The general was passing down the government road in front of the Tenth Cavalry Camp during the early hours. Several cavalrymen came dashing down the road at breakneck speed. One of the horses had broken away, and the manner in which Gen. Brooke reared his gallant mount to one side to head off the runaway opened the eyes of the bystanders and elicited applause from those who witnessed it. After this round of the camps, Gen. Brooke returned to Camp Thomas where work commenced in earnest…



Colonel Sheridan and General Brooke.

"For the most part the infantrymen stood around between showers or worked in making paths, sometimes in rock or gravel streets, the camps all being on the level with no drainage, the soft soil absorbing water, which two days of dry weather will make springy and elastic. The band of the Eighth gave a concert in the colonels parade, and the Twenty-fifth had a crowd of colored visitors. The Twenty-fourth were had at it getting their quarters in presentable shape. About 4 o'clock the Second Infantry, headed by their band, the beautiful stars and stripes and national colors flying in the breeze, their fine band playing a stirring tune, turned their faces to the little hill in their front, across the boulevard, just north of Lytle, and started to camp. They carried their belongings rolled in blankets with shelter tents outside, and went off with a swinging step. They were headed for the Kelly field where they will quarter near the Twenty-fourth Infantry with whom they are brigaded… Just after they started, another April shower began, but the Second didn't mind a little thing like that, except to fold up their flags, which they cherish very tenderly. The Twenty-fifth were to have a battalion drill in the new bugle telegraph code devised by Col. Burt. The colors of the seventh were kissing the breeze in front of the commanding officer's quarters. Every tent that had a stove in it showed a wreath of smoke above the canvas roof and the interior was cozy and comfortable in strong contrast to the severe wintry air outside.

"What will go down in history as the first order organizing the First Division, First Corps of the Cuban Army of Invasion was issued yesterday from corps headquarters. It is in terms as follows:

> Camp Geo. H. Thomas
> Chickamauga Park, Ga.
> April 20, 1898
>
> General Field Order No. 7
>
> The infantry of the command is organized as follows:
>
> Infantry Division, Col. James J. Van Horn, Eighth Infantry, Commanding
> First Brigade
> Seventh Infantry – Col. Benham.
> Eighth Infantry—Col. Van Horn.
> Twelfth Infantry—Col. Andrews.
> Twenty-fifth Infantry—Col. Burt.
> Second Brigade
> Second Infantry—Col. Bates
> Twenty-fourth Infantry—Col. Kent.
> And such other Infantry as may arrive hereafter.
>
> By command of Maj. Gen. Brooke,
> M. A. Sheridan, Assistant Adjutant General

"J. B. Thedford, 54 years of age, and a resident of Chickamauga, Ga., was the victim of a brutal assault at the camps Monday evening. According to Thedford's story he was badly treated by the colored soldiers of the Twenty-fifth Infantry. The old gentleman was about the tent of Col. Burt early in the evening, listening to the band. As he left the camp, he offered someone a drink of whiskey; it is alleged, and instead of returning the bottle the soldier passed it around until they had drunk every drop. This angered the old man, and some words followed. Finally, he mounted his mule and left the camp. While passing out of the park, he was attacked by a gang of colored soldiers, jerked from his horse and beat on the head. Several of his teeth were knocked out. He was taken to Bagwell's store and remained there overnight. He there stated that in addition to being assaulted, he had been robbed of some $30.

"The Spanish American War and Gen. Brooke's arrival are now a part of the local routine of events," was the opinion of the Chattanooga Times on April 28, 'and people are paying attention to only such features of either as are startling or unusual… Local business conditions are excellent and prices high, and rarely at any time since its founding has Chattanooga been in a more prosperous condition than it is right now…

"Wednesday was another of those beautiful days at Chickamauga, and the city folks were there in numbers. As the visitors passed the various commands, they waved handkerchiefs and banners of some sort, either American or Cuban. They invariably received response form a score or more of soldiers. At an early hour yesterday morning everything was a bustle at the great camp. Gen. Brooke and his staff made their usual rounds of the camp, returning to their tents about 10:30. During all this time the troopers were at work grooming their well-kept horses, while the infantry and artillery were polishing up their guns.

"The headquarters, Camp Thomas, was rather quiet until late in the afternoon. About 3 o'clock unusual activity was noticeable. The staff officers moved about hurriedly, while orderlies were hustling about in all directions. It soon became known that arrangements were being consummated to rush a detachment of artillerymen, with twelve cannon and a number of caissons to Tampa [Florida]. The entire camp was immediately thrown into feverish excitement. The soldiers gathered in little squads, and again their discussions were renewed… Almost every army officer, and in fact, every man in camp was discussing the possibility of a very early dash to Cuba."

The *Chattanooga Times* provided the men at Chickamauga with war news from the other side of the world. The April 28 issue described how the Asiatic fleet, under Rear Admiral George Dewey was nearing the Philippine Islands to bring the war to Spain in that area.

"Orders were received last night from the war department," the *Chattanooga Times* announced on April 29, "for all batteries of artillery, the Twenty-fourth Infantry and the Tenth Cavalry to proceed at once (today if possible) to Tampa. The language of the order created the greatest possible excitement at the Park, and while nothing was officially given out as to the meaning of the order, it is generally believed by officers and men that this movement indicates an early movement on the part of the government for the invasion of Cuba…

"One of the things most noted here as a consequence of the mobilization of troops at the park, has been the great interest in war aroused among all classes of people. Mechanics and operatives of the South Chattanooga foundries and factories spend the noon hour reading the *Times* extra and discussing the war. Country people are flocking to town to hear the latest, and even the younger generation has taken up the craze. Yesterday at noon a great concourse of children gathered on east Eighth street and McCallie Avenue, carrying flags and broom sticks, and marching four abreast to the commands of several dozen future Napoleons. At an earlier hour, another crowd of children, on their way to school, met a cavalry officer on Georgia Avenue. They quickly surrounded him, blocking his progress, and after giving three rousing cheers, somewhat to the officer's embarrassment, disappeared. The gentler sex in the city are demonstrating a keen interest in the Spanish American War. They compose a large portion of the throng around the Times bulletins, which they never pass by without stopping and reading…

"Crowds visited Chickamauga yesterday. The greater part of the day was bright, but late in the afternoon black clouds hovered over the camp, and toward evening a light rain fell, settling the dust on the roads over which hundreds of spanking horses had passed during the day. The recent heavy rains soaked the ground at Chickamauga, but it was not long before it was well dried out, and dust was passing through the air. With the soldiers another day of feverish excitement had passed. Rumor after rumor passed from camp to camp until intense excitement prevailed. When a rider stopped at any camp he would be saluted with: 'Well, friend, what have you heard?' and other questions of like character…

"In the evening an order promulgated by the war department was received by Gen. Brooke, to enlist every able-bodied man and fill up the regiments to full war strength. This order carried with it the meaning that seven regiments of infantry were to be recruited to 1,200 men each, while the present strength is between 500 and 600. Recruiting stations are to be established at Chickamauga Park, and all able bodied men under the age of 35 years, who want to join the army are to be enlisted. The vast army at the Park will soon be filled to war strength.

"Chattanooga settled down to business," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on the last day of April, after nearly three weeks of excitement and furor over the war news and arrival of troops. Things have once more dropped back in the old groove, and yesterday looked more like Chattanooga before the war and arrival of troops than it has anytime since. There were no arrivals of soldiers, and the batteries of artillery that left Chickamauga Park for Tampa, Fla., in five sections did not enter the city, but transferred from the Chattanooga, Rome and Southern road at the target near the National Cemetery and passed on around the edge of the city en-route south. Large numbers of country people were in Chattanooga yesterday, and the Times bulletins were not neglected, but the excitement had died out, and given place to keen interest in all business features of the war…

"It is generally believed that at least a part of the volunteer army [i.e. State regiments] will be mobilized at Chickamauga, but no information as to numbers has been secured. Late last evening a representative of the *Times* called on Gen. Brooke at his headquarters and asked him whether he had been officially notified as to the concentration of the volunteer troops. He said he had heard nothing official from the war department, all he knew about the concentration of troops here, he had read in the newspaper. During the last week Engineer Betts has had two forces of men at work drilling wells. At least forty new wells have been sunk since the mobilization of troops was commenced.

"The first brigade is in a transition stage, and one of its regiments, — the Twenty-fourth, a colored regiment, — is under orders to leave for Tampa, Fla., as soon as transportation can be provided. The Sixteenth came in after its long journey, and the First is thought to be en-route to the camp of the First Corps…

"As stated above the Twenty-fourth Infantry is now under orders to report to Port Tampa for active service, and will break camp and leave just as soon as transportation can be provided, which will be this morning. Early yesterday morning Gen. Brooke directed Adj. Gen. Shields to send an order to the Twenty-fourth directing that body to move at once to Tampa. It was soon learned that it would be impossible for the regiment to get to Tampa during the day, and on this account, all companies were put to drilling as usual. Col. Kent stated that he wishes to put the regiment as nearly on a war footing as possible; it has now 28 officers and 480 men. This regiment has recruited a few men, not over a dozen. If it had been permitted to remain here longer, there is no doubt, the officers say, that it soon would been filled to war strength, as many colored men in this section wanted to join… This regiment has been through a number of Indian battles all over the west, and the men are known as fighters. Maj. Ben Brown, of the regiment, was shot twice one day while out with a squad of twelve men to capture outlaws who had robbed the paymaster of the army. In this conflict eight of the twelve men were shot. The men are all ready and anxious to go to the front.



A woman offering a change in diet at Camp Thomas.

"The Ninth Cavalry, which has been ordered to the front, is also a colored regiment, which has been recruited to its war strength… It is hardly probable that this regiment will get out before some late hour this morning. There are about 650 enlisted men in this regiment. Late yesterday afternoon the officers of the Ninth called on Gen. Brooke in a body. Last night the men began to break camp, packing everything to be in readiness to leave this morning. They will march to the city today and take trains here…

"The average army officer at the park predicts that within a few hours every colored regiment in the park will have been loaded on trains and sent to the south to join the invading army. The Tenth Cavalry, under command of Col. Guy V. Henry, and Col. Burt's Twenty-fifth Infantry, both colored, expect to be called soon. The men were somewhat disappointed at having failed to receive a call along with the other regiments.

Chapter II: MAY

"Expectancy is the word to characterize Chickamauga Park," The *Chattanooga Times* stated on May 1, 1898. Every regiment here in camp is sleeping on its arms, as it were, awaiting orders to move south. The Ninth Cavalry and the Twenty-fourth Infantry yesterday went under orders to Tampa, the Twenty-fifty Infantry and the Tenth Cavalry, both colored, are packing up to leave, and it was currently reported last night that the Fifth and Sixth Cavalry had received orders to leave… When the representative of the Times left the Chickamauga Park late Friday evening, it was expected that the Ninth cavalry would soon leave for Tamps. The cavalry did not break camp until about 4 o'clock yesterday morning. The men marched to the city and took special trains over the Southern railway to the Port. The procession was a long one, rounded up by baggage and hospital wagons.

"The Twenty-fourth infantry did not get off as soon as expected, and did not leave until after 1 o'clock yesterday afternoon. The work of breaking camp commenced early in the morning, but was not vigorously prosecuted until about the noon hour, when the men commenced the task in earnest. They were not long in packing up the tents and other baggage. When the regiment was ready to march, Col. Kent and his adjutant took a position in front, riding a pair of spanking horses. The regimental band followed, and as the troops marched through the park to the tunes of "Dixie" and "Marching Through Georgia," cheer after cheer went up from the civilians who had thronged the roadway to witness the spectacle. Hundreds of people witnessed the march and followed the procession over the hot and dusty roads. This regiment is composed of colored men, about 500 in number, who have done duty in the Indian wars in the west. In all about 1,500 men have gone south, leaving in the neighborhood of 7,000 men encamped at Chickamauga…

"During the past several days several secret service men have reached the camp and are watching about in various portions of it. They are here, it is understood, to keep a lookout for Spanish spies who might wander in this direction. There are no fears of spies in the camp, but this move is only taken, it is understood, as a precautionary measure…

"The old song, a favorite at West Point of all classes, "Benny Havens, O!" has in its refrain, "promotion's very slow." In a general way, this statement is a cold fact, but every rule has its exception, and a time of war makes rapid changes among commissioned officers, as will be shown by the following orders:

"Capt. K. M. Hardin has been given unlimited leave of absence and ordered to New York to accept the colonelcy of a regiment of New York volunteers. Capt. Hardin entered the academy at West Point twenty-eight years ago; was made second lieutenant Seventh Infantry, June 17, 1874; first lieutenant May 4,1881, captain July 5, 1984. He has been detailed, at time, for duty with the New York National Guard, hence the notable recognition of his ability by the state authorities.

"First Lieut. Albert S. Frost, Twenty-fifth Infantry, has been given the colonelcy of a regiment of South Dakota volunteers, and will leave to assume the command. He is a graduate of the infantry and cavalry school, 1887, was an enlisted man in the Eleventh Infantry from September 1881 to August 1884. He was made second lieutenant Twenty-fifth infantry August 1884; first lieutenant Seventh infantry, July 10, 1881, transferred to the Twenty-fifty infantry July 20, 1891.

"First Lieut. C. C. Bailou, Twelfth Infantry is ordered to Springfield, Ill., for duty at the camp of volunteers rendezvous. He will probably be given a field office in one of the new regiments. He has seen twenty-five years service, beginning as a 'plebe' in 1882; he made second lieutenant in the Sixteenth Infantry July 1, 1890; first lieutenant Twelfth Infantry, April 28, 1893.

"As yesterday was the last day of an even numbered month, of course the regular bi-monthly muster for pay occurred in due form. This is one duty a soldier never misses, and the occasion was in its way a notable one, marked by due form and ceremony. Each regiment in the command was paraded in heavy marching order and reviewed by its command officer, the band at the head of the column. Then each command came into columns of companies and the roll of each was called. As each man's name was pronounced, he answered 'Here' and came from a 'right shoulder' to an 'order arms,' and stood at attention. The enlisted men has already signed the pay roll, and it is assumed that they paymaster will soon make a very welcome call with money, next week, perhaps. There are, say, sixty-two men in each company, and allowing for the difference in rank and emoluments the amount received will be about $1,700, aside from that due the officers, perhaps $400 more. Seen from the hill in back of the Second Brigade, the movements were typical of the pomp and circumstances of glorious war…

"Henry Bryant, a soldier of troop C, First Regiment was accidentally wounded late Friday afternoon. One of the soldiers, by accident, let a pistol fall, which caused it to discharge. The ball entered the muscle of Bryant's left arm, passed around his breast on the outside of his ribs, making its exit at the nipple. He was immediately taken to the hospital and his wound dressed. As it is, the wound that might have proven fatal had the ball gone under the ribs, is not serious, and Bryant will soon be up and attending to his duties."

"Despite extremely warm weather," stated the May 2, issue of the *Chattanooga Times,* "and disagreeably dusty thoroughfares hundreds of people drove to Chickamauga yesterday, and hundreds more went by rail. Thousands of people visited the great military rendezvous, many of them seeing a real army in camp for the first time. Every railroad leading into Chattanooga ran excursions to the city, and by this means hundreds came from towns within a radius of 200 miles. A consistent stream of conveyances poured through the park from early morning until late in the evening, and high born lady vied with simple rusticity in admiring the flower of the United States army, now encamped at Chickamauga.

"People came in crowds in cars, in vehicles of all grades and conditions on wheels and on foot. All day they drifted along the boulevards in shoals north, south, east, and west, and the groves were full of lunchers and resters. It was a picnic of the first magnitude. There was, of course, much to see in the camps of the five regiments of cavalry, and as many of infantry, but there was nothing doing in the martial way. Before the time of President Hayes, inspection and dress parade was held by each regiment in the army on Sunday, but all that is changed now, Saturday is by comparison a busy day, and Sunday, almost literally is a day of rest, save for the guards, cooks, and teamsters. The men like it — soldiers always could and always will enjoy the condition that enjoys a relief from anything that savors of toil, and are believers in Walt Whitman's injunction 'Loaf, and invite thy soul.'



The men admired the girls who visited the Park on bicycles.

"At Gen. Brooke's headquarters everything was quiet during the day. Up to a late hour yesterday evening, no further orders for the removal of troops had been received, although it is confidently believed by officers and men that most of the infantry will be ordered to Tampa, or some extreme coast point this week, hence everything about the camps is on the qui vive and ready to break camp at a moments notice. "Early in the evening the fine band of the Third Cavalry came over in a couple of army wagons and began a concert which lasted an hour or more. The gem on the programme was 'Robin Adair,' the number most heartily applauded was 'Dixie,' with 'Yankee Doodle' a close second…"

Most of the men in the camps were aware that the latest news of the war concerned significant naval matters. In the Philippines, Dewey had defeated the Spanish

Pacific Squadron at the Battle of Manila Bay. Closer to home, U. S. Lieutenant A. S. Rowan arrived at Bayamo to coordinate Cuban-US forces.

"Under the new law, just made by congress, the soldiers will be better paid in time of war than they have been paid in times of peace. Instead of getting $13 per month the privates will be paid $15.00 per month, and the pay of the other ranks has been increased. The increase was just about 20 per cent of the old pay. Thirty-seven dollars per month is the estimated amount that the government will pay out for each private. This includes the cost of food, lodging, clothing, medical attention, and pay. The enlisted strength and scale of pay for the different grades in infantry and light battery follows:

Company of Infantry	Monthly pay
One First Sergeant	$50.00
One Quartermaster Sergeant	21.00
Four Sergeants (each)	21.00
Twelve Corporals (each)	18.00
Two Musicians (each)	15.00
One Artificer	15.00
One Waggoner	15.00
Fifty-five to Fifty-nine Privates (each)	15.00

Light Artillery

One First Sergeant	$50.00
One Quartermaster Sergeant	21.00
One Veterinary Sergeant	21.00
Six Sergeants (each)	21.00
Fifteen Corporals (each)	18.00
Two Farriers (each)	15.00
Two Artificers (each)	15.00
Two Musicians (each)	15.00
One Saddler	15.00
One Waggoner	15.00
Fifty-five to Fifty-nine Privates (each)	15.00

"These men are supplied with uniforms and all other necessary clothing, including shirts, drawers, undershirts, stockings, shoes, hats, caps, blankets, etc., and are well fed. When all this is considered the scale of pay amounts to much more than it first seems."

On May 3 the *Chattanooga Times* reported a slow day at the park. "It was an ideal day at Chickamauga yesterday to the native," the reporter wrote, "but a majority of the soldiers who he just come from a cold climate in the west, complained of the heat, but one of the surgeons of the Division stated to the Times that this kind of weather at this time would be of great benefit to the troops, accustoming them to the change so that by

the time they are ordered further south, they will be in a measure acclimated. There was comparative quiet at the various camps, although the crowds of visitors were almost as great as any day of the week. The routine drills began in earnest, and the men are beginning to feel that something more is to be expected of them than dress than dress parade…



Officers relaxing around the campfire at Camp Thomas.

"No orders of any kind affecting the movement of troops was received at headquarters, and there is a general belief about the naval engagement in the Philippines, in which Admiral Dewey won such a signal victory, that it will be several weeks before a general movement is made, if in fact it is made at all."

On May 4, the *Chattanooga Times* had more welcome news. A front page headline proclaimed: "VOLUNTEERS ARE COMING Chickamauga Is One of the Points of Concentration."

"Advices received late yesterday afternoon through the Associated Press were to the effect that a great part of the volunteer army would be mobilized at the Chickamauga Park for instruction and general maneuvering. This was expected, and for the past few days, the park officials have been engaged in work making preparations for the reception of a large army. Many wells have been sunk, while every available spring has been cleaned out. The officers have no fear of the water supply. Gen. Brooke, as well as Col. Sheridan, and others, have contended all along that the park is sufficiently large enough to accommodate over100,000 troops if necessary… All day yesterday additional supplies arrived at the park, and it is evident that the war department is rapidly making preparations to send a large body of soldiers to the park."

News was received from Washington that some of the Colonels in the park commanding regiments would be promoted to the rank of Brigadier General to command the volunteer state units that were coming. One of these was Colonel Burt from the Twenty-fifth Infantry Regiment. The news quickly leaked out to the men. "The scene in several camps Monday night," the Times reporter wrote, "was a very singular one for the regular army, where, after 'taps,' silence is supposed to reign. Dispatches came to several of the colonels who were to have yester been made brigadiers, of the good fortune in store for them. The news rapidly got out, as did the regimental bands, and harmony and enthusiasm filled the air. The cheerful racket was kept up till midnight, shared in by officers of all grades, and for that matter, by enlisted men, who were proud that their commanding officers had been promoted to wear a star instead of the eagle and given real rank in accordance with the posts they had been chosen to fill."

All across the country, men were rushing to join the volunteer state units. Hundreds of miles north of Chattanooga, in Cleveland, Ohio, a young man named Joseph Beiler enlisted in Troop B, of the 1st Ohio Volunteer Cavalry. On Thursday May 5, 1898, he bought a small notebook and determined that he would keep a diary of his military experiences. His first entry, for May 5, read: "Troop B. 1st. O V. C. left Cleveland O. today at 10 o'clock for Columbus arrived at Columbus at 4 o'clock had to drill 4 miles to camp Bushnell & had to fix our tents before we could turn in for the night had no supper and only a sandwich for dinner it rained very near all day."



Joseph Beiler.

The next day, Friday 6, Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote: "had just two pieces of bread and one potatoe for breakfast fixed our tents up put floors in filled our mattress with straw went over to the head quarters were examined had a piece of bread piece of bacon & cup of coffee at four o'clock after we came back which was our dinner & supper it rained hard all day."

"There is no doubt," the *Chattanooga Times* reporter wrote on May 7, "but what a large portion of the volunteer army will be mobilized at Chickamauga for the purpose of organization. It was learned yesterday from a reliable source that the war department is

making preparations to send the troops here soon. As Associated Press dispatch to the Times from Chicago last night stated that a large consignment of rations would be shipped in immediately from Chicago to this city. Over four trainloads of food will be sent here, and it is impossible for the 6,000 men now encamped at Chickamauga to use all this. The dispatch from Chicago follows:

> "Chicago, May 6 — The government has ordered 2,000,000 rations now in Chicago to be sent at once to Chattanooga. This will amount to about four trainloads of bacon, hard bread, sugar, coffee, beans, salt, pepper, and vinegar, the component parts of the soldiers' bill of fare.

Maj. Smith and his men were busy today receiving the immense quantities of food that were called for suddenly by a telegram received from Washington. The bacon amounts to twenty-seven cars — 900,000 pounds. This will go via three different railroads in order to minimize delay. Each of the items of principal food in the list of ration constituents will be shipped in quantities represented by six figures. The total weight of the 2,000,000 rations will be 1,500,000 pounds net…



The men of Company A, 16th Infantry Regiment, eating in the field.

"All state troops are being mustered in on state camping grounds until their organization into regiments shall have been completed. After this organization has been perfected, it is thought the majority of the will be concentrated at this point for general maneuvering and drill. Official information as to the mobilization of the volunteers is expected to reach here today.

At the state camping ground in Ohio, one member of the Volunteer army, Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary on Saturday May 7: "The weather was worse today than yesterday it rained all day the mud is ankle deep I was digging ditches all forenoon had no more to eat than we had yesterday."

In the Chattanooga area, the main story for May 7, was the description of the departure of the 25th Infantry Regiment — the first unit to arrive at Chickamauga. "The Twenty-fifth Infantry is now en-route to Tampa, Fla.," the *Times* reporter wrote, "while in all probability the ultimate destination is the Dry Tortugas.

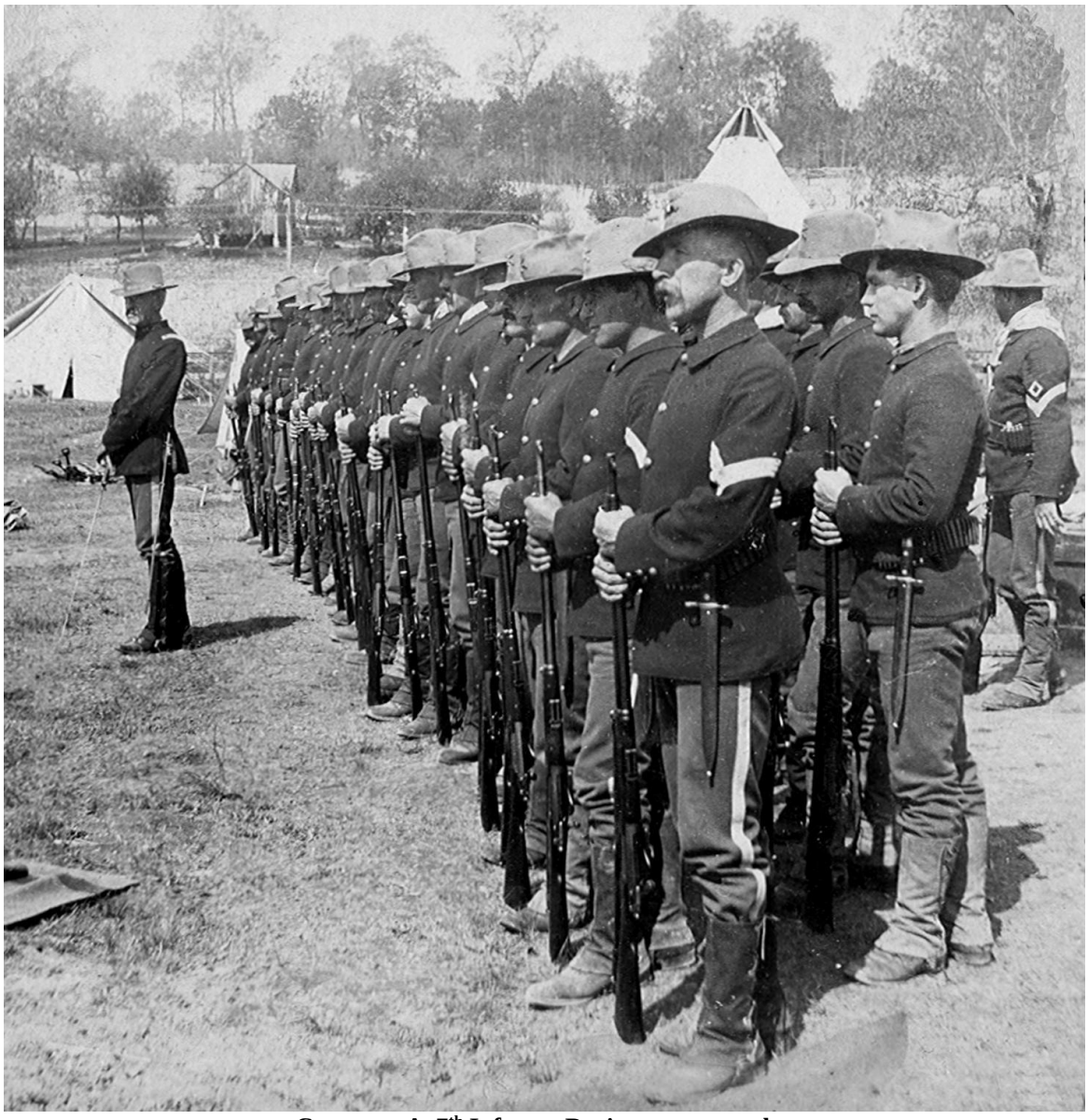
"At an early hour yesterday morning the work of breaking camp was commenced, and long before the noon hour arrived, everything had been packed and hauled to Battlefield Station. A few days ago President Wilburn, of the Chattanooga, Rome and Southern, and Agent Peebles of the Chattanooga, Nashville, and St. Louis railway, had a large loading platform erected at the station, which proved a great convenience. Immediately after the baggage was loaded and hauled to Battlefield Station, it was placed on board a freight train. At 1:30 the train of baggage left for Tampa via Chattanooga.

"The baggage train had just pulled out for Chattanooga when Col. Burt and his men started on the mile march from their old camp to Battlefield Station, formed in fours. Col. Burt led, riding his magnificent steed, followed by the regimental band, which discoursed popular airs. The soldiers followed. The procession was of some length, and the men were heartily cheered as they tramped on to the railroad station. A train of tourist sleepers was awaiting them, and they went immediately aboard. The trail left Chickamauga for Chattanooga about 3:30 o'clock amidst much enthusiasm. As the train left the little depot wild cheers rent the air. To a representative of the *Times,* Col. Burt said all that bothered him was the fact that he had not received orders to go directly to Cuba with his command. He stated further that every man in his regiment was anxious to go immediately to the front.

"Upon the arrival of the train at Chattanooga, several hundred Negroes congregated in the Western and Atlantic railway yards. Among the number were many women who were muchly interested in the soldiers. Amid cheers from the Chattanooga Negroes, the trail pulled out for Tampa.

"Sect. Alger and Gen. Miles," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on May 8, "spent some time today considering the question of the assignment of the major-generals to the several army corps that the regular army and volunteer branches of the army or to be divided. Some of these, it is said, have been finally determined upon, but the selections made are withheld for the present." There was much speculation about the possibility of

General Wheeler or one of the other former Confederate generals coming to Chickamauga.



Company A, 7th Infantry Regiment on parade.

On the same day, Joseph Beiler, of the 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary: "When I got up this morning the sun was shining brightly after breakfast we put up the sides of the tents dried the blankets made a bench to sit on & a cubboard to put our dishes in & cleared up our tents we had a better dinner today I had a fill for the first time in camp this afternoon we played cards the ground is drying of fast a nice brisk is blowing & the sun is shining brightly & life is worth living after all."

The *Chattanooga Times* had a dramatic announcement to make on Monday, May 9. "Fifty thousand soldiers of the United States army are to he mobilized at once at

Chickamauga park. The notification came yesterday to Gen. Brooke from Secretary [of war] Alger, and the news was quickly spread through the camp and into the city. These volunteers are to be brought here to be organized into corps, divisions, brigades, and regiments, preparatory to doing duty for their country in case they are needed in the war with Spain. This vast volunteer army is made up of the flower of young American citizens, the pick of the National Guard from every state in the Union, who have determined to fight until Cuba is free and the Maine is avenged.

"Already orders have been sent from Secretary Alger to the governors of Massachusetts, Wisconsin, West Virginia, Indiana, and other states to dispatch their volunteer regiments to Chickamauga Park at once, and before the end of the week, the regular army now in camp at the Park will have been supplemented by many thousand soldiers from the various states.

"It has been officially announced that the following distinguished officers will be in command of the various corps:

"Maj. Gen. Fitzhugh Lee, famous in the Army of Northern Virginia, the hero of Havana, and the idol of all sections.

"Maj. Gen. Wilson, the distinguished cavalry leader in the union army, whose great raid was one of the notable events of the Civil War.

"Maj. Gen. Joseph H. Wheeler, 'Fighting Joe,' of Alabama, whose record is known to all men in the South.

"The following lately appointed brigadier generals, ex-colonels in the regular army, will be here to give young soldiers the benefit of veterans experience, extending back more than a third of a century.

"Brig. Gen. Burt, late colonel of the Twenty-fifty infantry who left here on Saturday for Tama.

"Brig. Gen. Summer, late colonel of the Third Cavalry, who is still in command of his regiment.

"Brig. Gen. Snider, late colonel of the Nineteenth Infantry, who has not yet left that organization.

"Brig. Gen. Compton, lately given the star of a brigadier.

"In round numbers, the order contemplates movement hither of at least 50,000 men in the three arms of the service, viz.

45 regiments of infantry, 45,000 men.
9 regiments of cavalry, 10,000 men.
4 batteries of light artillery, 700 men.

"Regular army officers have been for some days past mustering in volunteers, and thousands of them are nearly ready to start toward the front, stopping on Chickamauga's historic field to become partially acclimated and ready for the next forward movement… They are coming in force, and coming soon…

"Gen. Boynton stated last night, that the volunteers ordered to Chickamauga Park will be located in camps east of the LaFayette Road, which runs north and south almost through the center of the park. 'The infantry, I understand,' said he, 'will be located along Chickamauga Creek, so that water can be had easily. The park can accommodate 50,000 additional soldiers easily, but 60,000 would fill it up completely.'



Reed's Bridge, located on the east side of the Park.

"Gen. Boynton stated that his information on the locations from which the troops are to be sent to Chickamauga was meager, but that he knew 50,000 had been ordered here, and would begin arriving as soon as arrangements can be made for transportation. He said that the park force would continue drilling wells indefinitely, arrangements having been made to secure additional drilling apparatus from other points…

"Notwithstanding the beautiful weather, there were not as many visitors to the park as on the previous Sunday. The most of the visitors came down on the special trains on the Chattanooga, Rome, and Southern railway. The regular train from Carrolton, brought up a number of Georgians from points on the line who returned home that evening. A large number of wheelmen from the city came out in the afternoon.

"At 4 o'clock Chaplain Bateman of the Sixteenth Infantry, conducted religious services at the stand back of Kelly's field where the park was dedicated. He was assisted by Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Rood, Mr. and Mrs. S. M. Chambliss and other singers of the city.

There was a large attendance of soldiers who manifested much interest in the services. Chaplain Bateman is a good talker and his sermon was quite interesting…



Religious services at the Park.

"Sixty-six new recruits arrived last night at 6:20 o'clock at the Central depot on train No. 5 of the Southern Railway in charge of Lieut. Barnum and Pvt. Huff of the Tenth Cavalry. Pvt. Huff had 13 recruits from Boston for the Seventh Infantry, and Lieut. Barnum had 53 from Fort Slocum, N.Y. to be divided up among the various commands at the Park. All the recruits were white men, mostly Irish and Germans. They were a tired, dusty looking set in their new uniforms, and they seemed glad that their journey was about to end. They remained in the general waiting room at the depot until 11:10 o'clock last night, at which time they left for the park. During this interval, the recruits slept, wrote letters to their relatives, and read the latest news from the front…

"The first consignment of equipment for recruits for the regular army arrived at the Park yesterday, and was quickly divided out among the regiments and distributed. Each man gets two suits of underclothing, trousers, blouse, flannel shirt and two blankets. The recruits yesterday were supplied with these things, and it was an interesting sight to witness the distribution. The new men seemed to be transformed at once from gawky, awkward fellows to quick, sensitive soldiers by the mere donning of Uncle Sam's official habitments. One could not help but realize that it at once becomes an honor and a pleasure to take service under a government which is now enlisted in so noble a cause. The new men wore a look of conscious pride as they carried away their new toggery, feeling that a great change had come into their lives.

"With the advent of the first regiment at Chickamauga National Military Park, marking the beginning of Camp Thomas, commenced a rush that seemed likely to

overwhelm the local officials of the Chattanooga, Rome, and Southern Railroad, upon which fell the transportation of thousands of men, horses, and mules, quartermaster's supplies, food and forage, saying nothing of the additional passenger travel, which followed at once as a matter of course, and which must be accommodated… The Southern Railroad will, this morning, complete a large loading platform at Rossville, and will offer it for the use of the army at Chickamauga Park. This is done to assist the Chattanooga, Rome and Southern in the event that 'hurry orders' should come and embarrass them… This generous offer guarantees the quick and prompt handling of troops to and from the park…

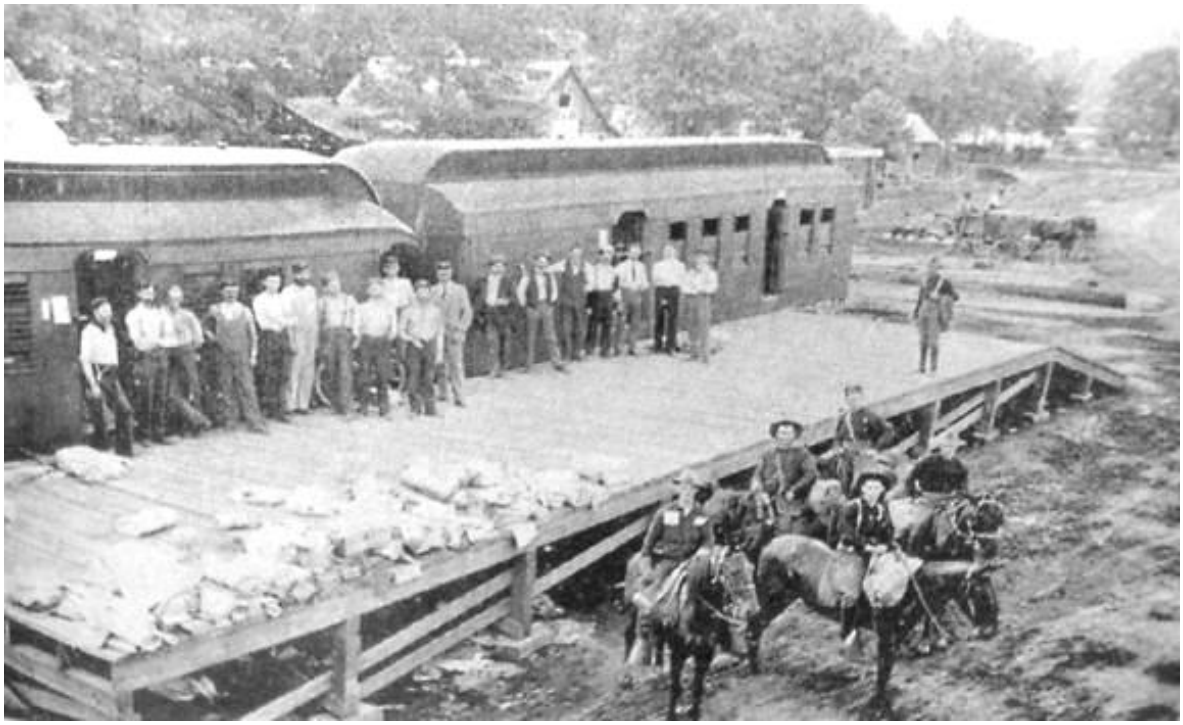


Issuing uniforms and equipment to the new soldiers.

Joseph Beiler, the volunteer still in Ohio with the 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary: Monday 9 "I was put on guard duty last night was two hours on & four hours of for 24 hours had to stay at the guard house all the time I was not out on a post duty well every thing goes along lovely now we had three pretty good meals today we had ham & eggs for breakfast browned ribs of beef potatoes & bread for dinner & beef steak & fried onions & bread for supper we are now soldiers of the U. S. of A. we were sworn in this evening there were 20 thrown out of troop B. before we were sworn."

"The post office business at Battlefield Station is assuming large proportions. There are four mails per day, except Sunday, and postmaster Bagley has his hands full from morning until night distributing the mail to the various regiments. There were twenty full pouches in the first mail yesterday morning. The transportation of the mail from Chattanooga to the Battlefield Station has been placed under the jurisdiction of Postmaster Sharp of this city, and a clerk has been assigned to sort the mail on the train.

At the post office, the mail is fixed up in pouches for each regiment, and it is delivered to the various regimental camps, where it is properly distributed by officers who are acquainted with the personnel of the command…



Bags of mail on the loading platform at Lytle.

"Major General Brooke was yesterday notified," announced the *Chattanooga Times* on May 10, "that 50,000 of the volunteer troops would be assembled at Chickamauga for active maneuvering, and active preparations for their reception are now in progress at the park. During the past several days, a large force of men have been at work, constructing a large warehouse on the government property opposite Battlefield Station, while numerous sidetracks have been laid by the Chattanooga, Rome, and Southern railway. A loading station has been built at Rossville by the Southern and Alabama Great Southern roads, while the Georgia, Western, and Atlantic have put up a loading station at Ringgold. These increased facilities will all be needed when the troops commence to arrive….

"Recruits are arriving at the park in large numbers, between 200 and 300 having reached Chickamauga yesterday. The newcomers are from recently established recruiting stations all over the country. During the past few days many of the recruits are from the east, coming from Boston, New York and Baltimore. Upon their arrival at the park the men are sent to the regiments to which they have been assigned by the recruiting officer. They are taken into camp and given general instructions as to the life of a private soldier. After this preliminary is over, they are turned over to a sergeant and drilled. As a rule, five or six raw recruits are turned over to one sergeant, who upon taking them into an open field, and teaches them the regulation army step. In the infantry they are next

provided with a gun and taught how to handle it. In the cavalry the men are provided with a horse, saddle, and saber. They are first taught to mount and dismount, etc., and afterward the more difficult part of the tactics. The teaching of these recruits to drill is easier explained than performed. The average recruit upon entering the army has never handled a gun, while inevitably they know nothing at all about drilling. The majority of the recruits are drilled two or three times each day, until they are accustomed to their duties. After they become proficient in the small squad drill, they are assigned to companies and permitted to join in the company drill…



First instruction at drill.

"The work of collecting supplies for the volunteer army soon to be at Chickamauga is an undertaking of almost as great magnitude as that of mobilizing the army itself. The busiest place and the busiest scent in Chattanooga is at the government supply depot on Boyce Street, which is also the headquarters of Capt. W. K. Wright, depot commissariat and assistant quartermaster general… Mr. Wright and Mr. Thomas stated to a Times reporter that they would be obliged to rent every vacant room and warehouse in the business portion of the city in which to store the two and a half million rations. At the lowest estimate, twenty large storerooms will be necessary to hold this large quantity of provisions…

"On Saturday the proprietor of one of the largest brick blocks in the city rented every room in his building, and yesterday he had twenty-five applications for rooms which he could not furnish. The hotels are doing a land-office business and every land lord and land lady in the city who has rooms, furnished or unfurnished, to rent about a week ago are now turning applicants away. A *Times* reporter who canvassed the boarding houses yesterday found that each had received an increase of boarders over the past week…

"The recruiting station of the Tenth Cavalry at the Bates block did a land-office business yesterday, Lieut. Barton receiving forth applications. Lieut. Barton says that the

applicants, as a rule, are all fine physical specimens. They are not all from this city, but are drifting in from all parts of the surrounding section As a result, Lieut. Barton has all the work that he can perform. Out of the forty applicants that were examined yesterday by Dr. Fain, Lieut. Barton selected the following Negroes on account of their superior physical qualifications and sent them to the park to join the regiment:

Augustus Hargraves, of Dallas County, Ala.

Robert Edwards, of Bald Knob. Ark.

William Graves, a day laborer, residing on Warren's Alley, this city. and

Martin McBride, formerly a driver for A. J. Ault, residing at 308 Lookout St., this city.

This makes a total of eight recruits enlisted since the office was established. Lieut. Barton says that this office is the first of any of the four established at Knoxville, Atlanta, Louisville, and this city to secure recruits for the Tenth Cavalry, the others having met with indifferent success.



Men of the 10th Cavalry.

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary: "Tuesday 10 — This forenoon I was on police duty this afternoon I done nothing but read & write letters until 4 o'clock when we had to drill for the first time since we are in camp in the evening it rained."

On May 11, the *Chattanooga Times* announced that the troops at Chickamauga had been ordered at once to Tampa. "By Thursday night, unless the volunteer troops arrive before that time, Camp George H. Thomas, Chickamauga, will be deserted. Maj. Gen. Brooke yesterday morning received orders from the war department at Washington directing him to send all cavalry and infantry troops — about 6,000 now encamped at Chickamauga to southern points without delay…

"The scent at the Park last night was one of animation and beauty. Almost every soldier in the camp was up and about until a late hour. One could stand off at some distance and see the forms of the stalwart men as they roamed about between their tents and the brilliant light of the campfires. The scenes at the park this morning will be well worth witnessing. It is expected that several hundred people will be out at an early hour. Orders have been issued suspending all drills in the various commands and everybody will devote their entire time to making final preparation for departure.

"The soldiers in several of the commands worked all night and this morning will find them well worn out. They will then have to perform their greatest task, that of breaking camp. The commanding officers of the four regiments to leave today announced last night that they would commence breaking camp at daylight and would be loaded and ready to leave early in the morning. They are scheduled to depart at 6 o'clock, but it is very doubtful if the first two regiments scheduled to depart are ready to go before 9 or 10 o'clock."



A regiment leaving camp.

The paper also reported an item from Washington stating: "Gen. Wheeler left this morning for Camp Thomas, Chickamauga. In the field Gen. Wheeler will have command of the cavalry, and he expects to be among the first to go to Cuba, in fact, he so informed the members of the Alabama delegation this morning at the train, when they all went to see him off."

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote: "Wednesday 11: This morning I went to the doctor I have a little cold the doctor put me on the no duty list so I don't have any thing to do at all it rained again this evening."

"Gen. Brooke's provisional army at Chickamauga is on the move to the coast. Three regiments of cavalry, the Second, Third, and Sixth, left yesterday, while three regiments of infantry will follow today. The remaining two regiments of Cavalry, the First and Tenth will leave on Friday. The Sixth and Twelfth Infantry are booked to leave this week, probably not before Sunday…

"At the camps of the Second, Third, and Sixth cavalry, the men remained up late Tuesday night packing. They were again up at about 4:30 o'clock yesterday morning making the final preparation for their departure. There was an unusual scene of activity about the camps of the Third and Sixth Cavalry yesterday morning. These two camps were located adjoining below Lytle hill. At 7 o'clock 'general' was sounded, which is the signal for lowering of tents. There was hustling and breaking camp, and by 8:25 everything was loaded on wagons, and the soldiers were ready for their long journey to the coast… It was arranged that the regiments load at Rossville and Ringgold in order that there would be no delay in hurrying the troops to Tampa. The Sixth Cavalry marched to Ringgold, arriving there about 10 o'clock. They commenced the work of loading from the recently constructed platform, and finished the task late in the afternoon. Three special trains were provided and the first one left for Tampa soon after the noon hour, the other departing during the afternoon and evening.

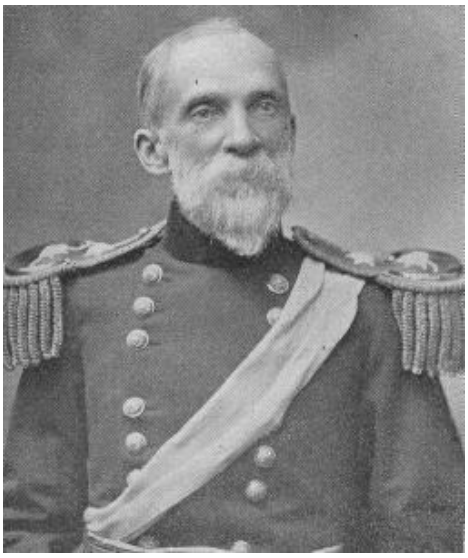
"The Third lost no time in reaching Rossville, where a long string of suitable cars were waiting on the Belt railway's tracks. The stock was first loaded, and sent to Chattanooga, from which point it went over the Southern system to Tampa. The baggage wagons, etc., were next loaded, the men going later. The last of the soldiers left Rossville for Chattanooga last evening. Great crowds gathered at the railroad yards to see them off. All of the soldiers were in the best of spirits, and glad to get away…

"As stated in a previous article, all the soldiers who came to the Park from New Mexico, Arizona, and Colorado were provided with beautiful Navajo blankets, which they purchased from the Indians. Two troops of the Second Cavalry are from New Mexico, and two more, B and I are from Colorado. The members of these troops, finding that they had no use for Navajo blankets in this climate, and realizing that they were likely to prove to be an encumbrance on the coast and in Cuba, were busy during the hours mentioned, seeking purchasers for their beautiful blankets. Some rare bargains were struck. One trooper sold a beautiful black and white blanket of exquisite design to a local merchant for $10, just a third of its actual worth. Another red, yellow, and green blanket went for $15, and many admirers of art and objects de luxe were in great luck last night, by securing at a low price some of the very finest Navajo blankets…

"Maj. Gen. Joseph Wheeler, better known as 'Fighting Joe of Alabama,' arrived at Chickamauga Park yesterday morning at 9 o'clock. Gen. Wheeler it will be remembered, has been named by the President to command a division of the volunteer army to be mobilized at the Chickamauga Camp. Upon receiving his commission at Washington, he was instructed to come direct to Chickamauga and report to Gen. Brooke for duty. Gen. Wheeler did not even wait to get his uniform, but packed his valise and started on his journey south, reaching Chattanooga at 7:40 yesterday morning. He was met at the depot by Gen. Henry V. Boynton, president of the National Park Commission, as well Commissioner A. P. Steward, of the Chickamauga Park

"After a hasty breakfast at the Central passenger station, these three gentlemen accompanied by Maj. M. H. Clift and Capt. J. P. Smart of this city boarded the Chattanooga, Rome, and Southern train for the battlefield. Upon arrival, at the

Battlefield Station, Gen. Wheeler, accompanied by Gens. Boynton and Stewart, was driven in a carriage to Gen. Brooke's headquarters, where he formally reported for duty. Of course none of the volunteers have arrived at the park as yet, and on this account Gen. Wheeler will have a few day's rest. He has been hard at work in Washington these for the past several days and relief from duties for a few days will greatly benefit him.



General Joseph Wheeler.

"A representative of the *Times* rode out to Chickamauga with Gen. Wheeler. The Gen. Is 61 years of age, small in stature, and rather slender. Gen. Wheeler, in many respects, resembled Gen. Henry V. Boynton, only that he is not quite as tall. To the *Times* man he stated that he was in the best of health and ready to perform any duty to which he might be assigned. The Maj. Gen. stated that he had received no instructions as to his new duties. He continued: 'I was instructed by the war department to report to Gen. Brooke at Camp Thomas, Chickamauga, immediately, and left Washington on the first train. I have no idea as to my assignment. Gen. Brooke will look after that.'

"'Gen. Wheeler, what do you think of the present condition of the U.S. army?'

"'The president has devoted his entire appointing power in trying to get an efficient corps of officers to organize the army with great promptness. In doing this, he has appointed all brigadier generals from the regular United States army and appointed all brigadier generals of the army as major generals and is now selecting staff officers upon the same basis. I think there will be but very little work in accomplishing this work. Recruiting officers have gone out over the country, and I understand that their work is progressing with a degree of satisfaction.'

"Gen. Wheeler was then asked by the *Times* man as to the extent of the mobilization at this point. He remarked:

"'I know nothing about the volunteer army to be concentrated here except what I have seen in the press dispatches. Before leaving Washington, I heard from Maj. Gen. Wilson. He stated that he would be in Chickamauga either Friday or Saturday, and I understand there has been no change in his plans. Maj. Gen. Lee has been requested to remain in Washington a day or two, to wind up his consular business, and receive information about his future duties.

"'Gen. Wheeler, do you expect to go to Cuba?'

"'I don't know whether I will go the island or not. During my whole military career, I never asked for an order, or objected to an order, nor have I asked a moments delay in obeying an order. Gen Brooke is now my commander, and every effort of mine will be to promptly and strictly comply with his orders and to make my command efficient. I take it this way, that the government knows all of the acts, and the soldiers have nothing to do, save carry out the policies of the administration and obey promptly the orders of the commanders. As yet I have received no information about going to Cuba. I am ready to go wherever my commander may direct…'

"After spending some time at the headquarters of Gen. Brooke, Gen. Wheeler, accompanied by Gen. Van Horn rode over the Chickamauga Park. This is not the first trip over the battlefield, as is a well-known fact, Gen. Wheeler took a conspicuous part in the Battle of Chickamauga. Yesterday was the first time he has been on the field in years. As he stood in front of Gen. Brooke's headquarters yesterday afternoon and viewed the signal corps operations and passing cavalrymen, he remarked: 'This reminds me of old times. I am glad to be here again.'

"Gen. Wheeler visited the various camps and rode over the portion of the park between the LaFayette Road and the Chickamauga Creek, where the greater part of the volunteers are to be camped. He said to a *Times* man that he deemed the park a handsome place for the mobilization of troops, and that a more suitable spot could not be found. Last evening Gen. Wheeler returned to the city, accompanied by his old-time friend Gen. Henry V. Boynton.

"Everybody was happy at Chickamauga yesterday. The paymaster arrived on the early train from Chattanooga, and paid the soldiers during the day… Over $100,000 had been shipped to Chickamauga and was delivered to the paymasters upon their arrival there… In order to expedite the work, each paymaster was given certain regiments to pay off. About two hours were taken up in paying the soldiers in each command. Each company was called into line, and as the officers called the roll, the men were paid….

"The outfit of an infantry soldier in the United States army on active service, which must be carried on campaign is as follows:

2 blankets	10 pounds
1 rubber poncho	2 pounds
1 half shelter tent	2 pounds
1 overcoat	6 pounds
1 pair shoes	2 pounds
1 cake soap	3.5 ounces
1 pair trousers	2 pounds
1 shirt	1 pound
1 pair drawers	11.50 ounces
1 pair socks	3.45 ounces
1 towel	2.50 ounces
1 blanket bag	2 pounds
Haversack and rations	9 pounds

Rifle, bayonet, field belt, scabbard	12.5 pounds
Canteen, filled and cup	4.5 pounds
Ammunition,100 rounds	6 pounds
Total	64.5 pounds

"This does not include the clothing, and incidentals, as pocket knife, pipe, tobacco, money, etc., which would make the total nearer 70 pounds. This would make a fairly good load for a pack mule. By the terms of a recent order from provisional corps headquarters, the men in the ranks are to be relieved of as much as possible. The knapsack, tent, blankets, overcoat, canvas half, change of clothing, soap and towels, are to be carried on a wagon, two of which be furnished to each company. This will take about seventeen pounds off the shoulders of the tramping soldiers, leaving some forty-seven pounds, which is an awful burden to bear under the tropical sun, where every pound pulls down with double the force of its actual weight…

"Lieut. Barton, the officer in charge of the Tenth Cavalry recruiting station in the Bates block, received a telegraphic order yesterday morning from adjutant Barnam, of his regiment, instructing him to send all recruits to Tampa, Fla., instead of New Orleans, La., after today, and, if possible, to clothe them in the regulation uniform before they start… There seems to be no end to the enthusiasm of the colored population of this city and section, and the office is doing so very well that it is almost certain to be continued. Yesterday, Lieut. Barton had forty applications for enlistment, out of which number the following were selected. Samuel M. Jones, laborer, of DeKalb County, Ala., and Charles C. Senters, laborer of 611 Seventh street of this city. These men were sent to Tampa pursuant to the last order. This makes a total of twelve recruited from the local office."

Still in Ohio, Joseph Beiler. 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote: "Thursday 12: It rained all last night & was still raining this morning the sun came out this noon and dried of the ground pretty good." ‘

On May 13, The *Chattanooga Times* reported that the men who had left Camp Thomas for Tampa, Florida had arrived with no problems. "The United States army at Chickamauga," the reporter continued, "is rapidly going south. Three regiments left the park yesterday, two are scheduled to depart this morning, leaving the First and Tenth Cavalry to break camp Saturday… Nothing out of the ordinary attended the departure of the three infantry regiments. At each of the camps, the men arose at 4 o'clock, and went immediately to work, packing the baggage that had not been looked after the evening before. The Second and Seventh broke camp almost simultaneously at 6:30 o'clock. In a very few minutes their baggage was loaded on wagons, and the march to the railway stations was commenced.

"The Seventh marched to Rossville, and there loaded on the Southern's loading station, leaving about 11 o'clock over the road for Tampa. The second left from Ringgold, the citizens of the little town turned out en masse to witness the departure of the soldiers. They were not long in loading their train, pulling out promptly at noon. On

account of the loading facilities at Ringgold, it was impossible for the Sixteenth to load until in the afternoon, and on this account this regiment did not leave their camp until about 10 o'clock, when they marched to Ringgold, leaving that point in the afternoon…

"Chattanooga witnessed a fair example of what a soldier does when he is paid off yesterday. In fact, it did not take the local merchants long to find out that Gen. Brooke's army had received their pay. Those of the soldiers, both infantry and cavalry, who could came to town, and what they did for their month's pay was enough to make a thrifty man shed tears. They dined at Neddos and elsewhere on oysters and wine, 'set 'em up,' to every Tom, Dick, and Harry that came their way, and 'blew themselves' generally. Sergeant J. P. Smith, colored, of the Tenth Cavalry, was walking up Market street yesterday afternoon, when his attention in some way was attracted to a very ragged little Negro boy, about 12 years old. He took the boy into Wildman's clothing store, where he purchased him a complete outfit, hat, shoes, and clothing, for the sum of $10, and made him put them on. When the boy emerged from the store, his companions scarcely recognized him, so great was the metamorphosis. The bootblacks did a thriving business yesterday on the strength of the soldier's pay day, for every trooper, as soon as he had swallowed a few Manhattan cocktails, wanted his boots blacked from heel to top…



A soldier on pay day.

"Using a slang expression, it might be said 'There was a hot time in Georgia' Wednesday night. All of the soldiers were paid off Wednesday, and during the evenings, the canteens did a lively business. Many of the soldiers imbibed too freely, and painted in glowing colors Lytle on the hill. In front of the Lytle post office there is a sign. The sign reads: 'Rubber Boots For Sale.' As there are about three inches of dust on the road in the vicinity of the station, the soldiers decided that the sign was as useless as the boots, and proceeded to perforate the placard with bullets. The fusillade continued for several hours and the residents of the little village were terror-stricken, expecting every moment to be shot. Several hundred shots were fired. Guards were sent out from the various camps and a number of the men were arrested and are now 'doing time' in the guard house for their offense. Fortunately, no one was hurt…

"A large number of the men in the regular army are devotees of fortune, in that they are dead game sports, born gamblers who will cheerfully risk money on the turn of a card and are always ready to sit into a little game. To them, payday in camp is an oasis of cheerfulness in the desert of dullness, drilling, guard, and fatigue duty. They have improved their opportunity and in the vicinity of the canteens under the shade of small groves, a tin horn gambler would find a paradise. Everything is 'wide open,' even to beer bottles and the man who asked to tempt fortune had his choice of methods, Poker, chuck-a-luck, craps, and the western game 'Rush Reuben,' were the favorites. One man of foreign partialities had a roulette wheel in operation, and the boys were invited to 'make game while the ball rolls.' And they did, sometimes to their sorrow. While there were some verbal quarrels, nothing in the shape of a bloody affray occurred. Winners and losers were philosophical…

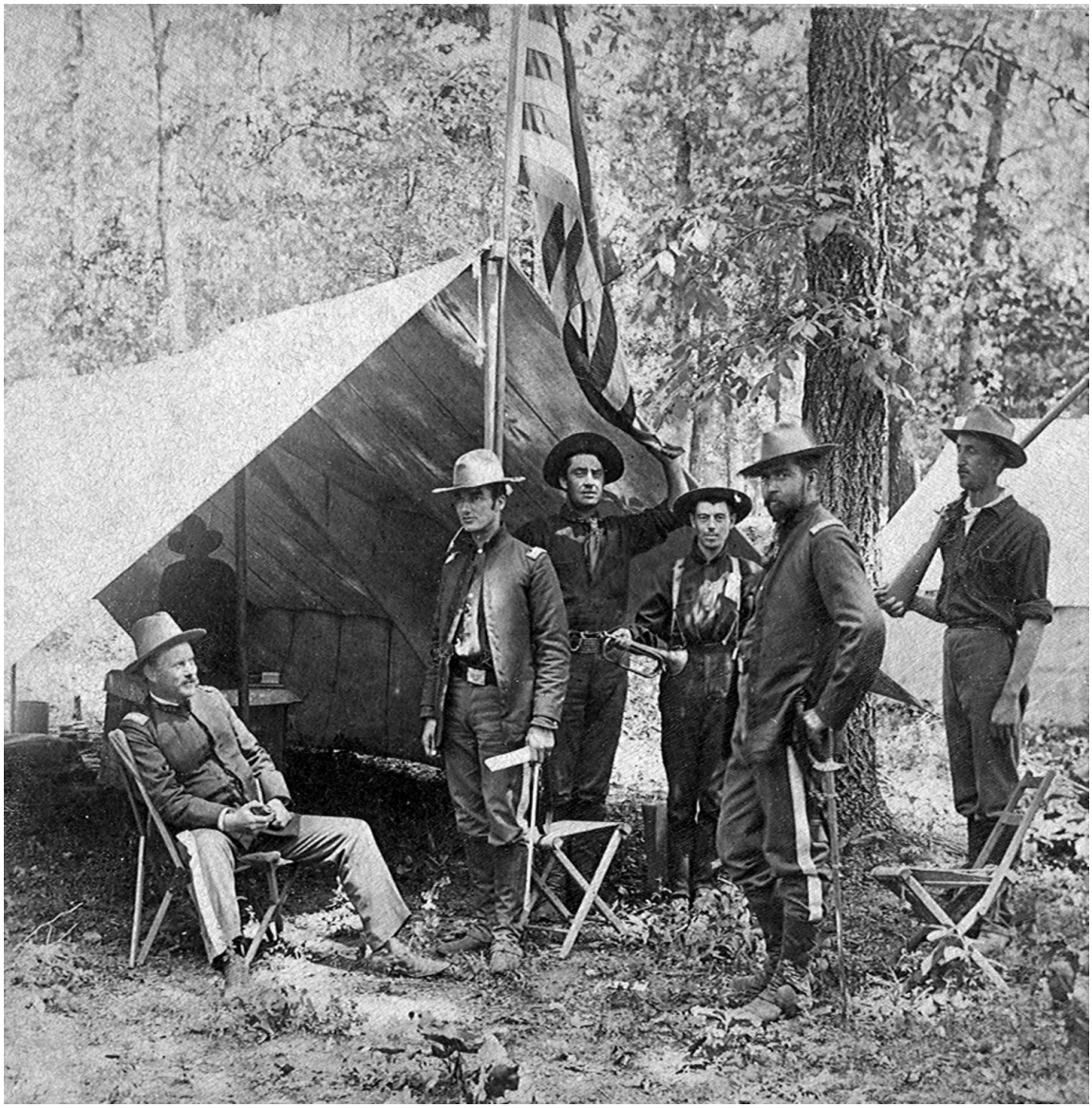


Card games in camp.

"Maj. Gen. Joe Wheeler… was yesterday ordered by the war department to Tampa, and will command the invading cavalry in Cuba. When Maj. Gen. Wheeler received his orders, he was at the dedicatory exercises on Snodgrass Hill. As soon as possible, he left the rostrum and after spending a few moments at the headquarters of Maj. Gen. Brooke, left for Chattanooga. Gen. Wheeler gave an example of his energy and activity yesterday. His orders were to go by the first train to Tampa. He left the speakers rostrum at the park as soon as he received the orders, and reached the city just twenty minutes before the Southern train was to leave. He had to go to the Read House, pack his baggage, and get to the Central depot. He secured a hack, while a friend telephoned the railroad authorities to hold the train for him a few minutes. But the general did not want the train held. He made up his mind to get off on time, and he did. He prepared his baggage, purchased his ticket by telephone, and had it waiting when he reached the station. Several gentlemen who witnessed the feat observed that if the

Spaniards 'expected to escape Joe Wheeler, they would have to get a move on them' such as they had never done before. Gen. Wheeler has not even received his uniform as yet…

While Wheeler was rushing to leave Chickamauga, Private Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary: "Friday 13. This morning we received orders to move on to Chickamauga and we were all day getting ready"



A typical company headquarters at Camp Thomas.

"Nearly all the regular troops have left the Chickamauga camp," The *Chattanooga Times* reported on May 14, "and for the next three or four week it will present a rather desolate appearance. Early yesterday morning the Eighth and Twelfth infantry regiments broke camp, leaving immediately for Tampa, Fla. Their ultimate destination is Key West, from which port they will embark for Cuba… This morning the last two regiments, the First and Tenth Cavalry, will break camp, and go immediately to

Tampa, Fla... Col. Sheridan, adjutant on Gen. Brooke's staff, said yesterday afternoon, 'There will be 40,000 to 50,000 troops mobilized to Chickamauga to be equipped, trained, and organized for service.'"

One of the thousands of men coming to Chickamauga, Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary: "May14: We were ready to move at 8 o'clock but did not start untill 12 o'clock & then marched 4 miles to Columbus where we took the train & got to Cincinatta at 8 o'clock."

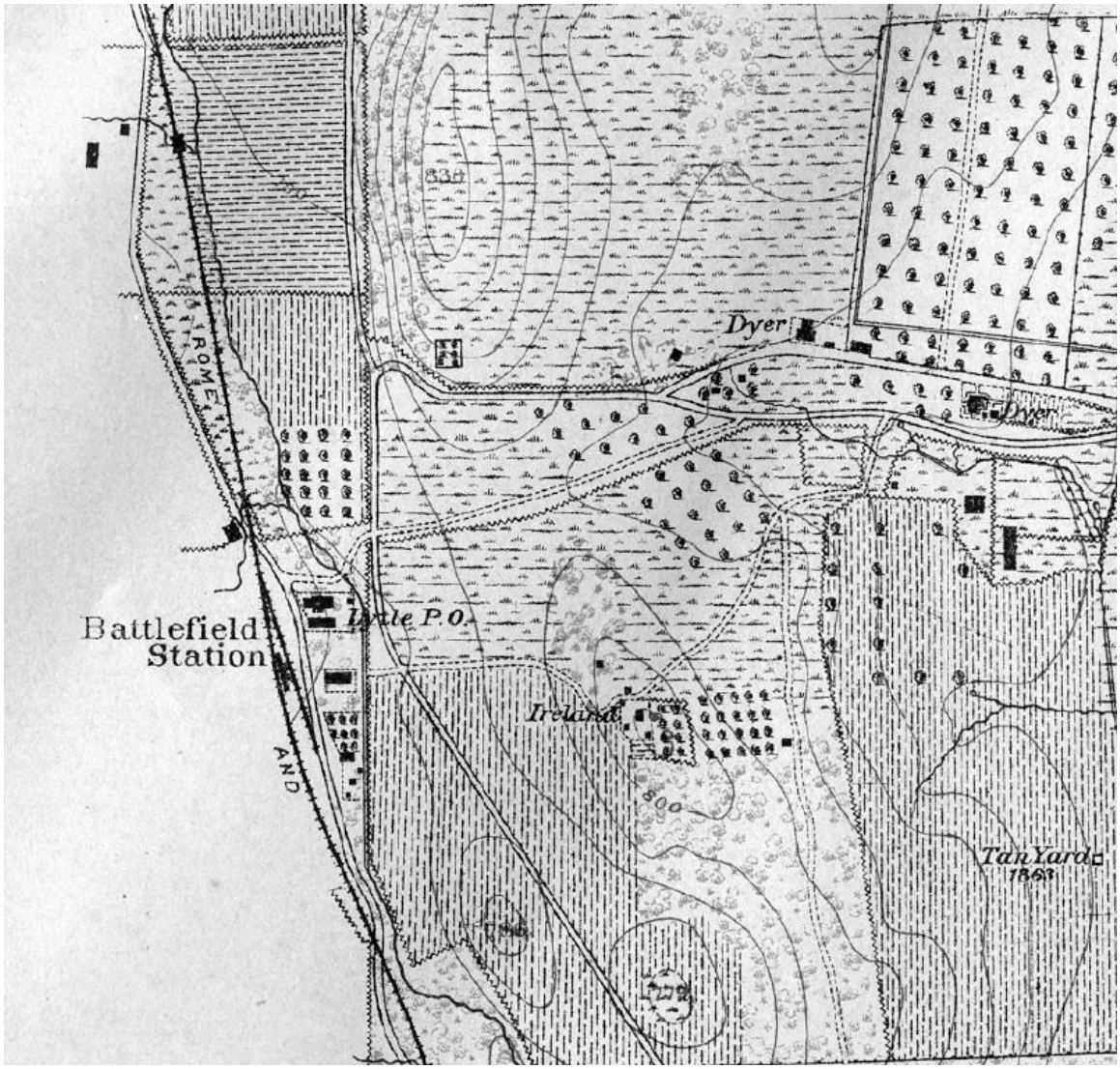
"Although reveille was sound in the cavalry camps before sunrise," The reporter for the Chattanooga Time wrote on May 15, "it was hours before the welcome call of 'boots and saddles' was heard. Ordinarily the interval would have been a brief one. In this case the delay was chargeable not to the lack but the newness of transportation facilities. Given six green mules to be driven by one line, and a driver who has never used that sort of guidance and the feat is more difficult than to tool a four-in-hand, because mules are opinionated and set in their ways.

"The Tenth, under Lt. Col. Baldwin, got away about 9:30. Forming on the northeast slope of Snodgrass Hill, commanded by the four cannons that flank the monument of the Eighteenth Ohio light battery, they were at ease until the wagon train was ready. Then the regiment, moving 'right by twos' led across the plain in the reverse direction from that taken by Granger's corps when they marched to the succor or Thomas on September 20, 1863. They took their way through Rossville Gap and landed on the cars at a platform built by the side of the Belt railroad near East End.



The 10th Cavalry Regiment.

"It was 11 o'clock when the First filed from their camp near the Dyer house, past Park headquarters, starting on their march to Ringgold, the fine band at the head of the column, mounted on gray horses playing in beautiful style 'The Stars and Stripes Forever,' and the guidons, the stars and stripes, and the yellow flag bearing the national coat of arms. It was a stirring sight and one to stir the blood and quicken the pulse of man with martial instincts.



Map showing Battlefield Station and Regular Camps.

"The Twenty-fifth Infantry was the first regiment of regulars to report at the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Park in obedience to the order which contemplated a massing of troops there, but which was afterwards changed to suit the new plan of campaign. The First Cavalry was the last command, except a guard, to leave Camp George H. Thomas, as it has been officially christened.

"These arrivals and departures comprehend the coming and going of ten batteries of light artillery, all in the army; six [regiments] of cavalry, more than half the total; and six [regiments] of infantry, nearly 25 percent of that arm of the service. They are good soldiers, none better in brain and brawn, physically, mentally, and morally, they stand without peers in the armies of the world. They are plucky and spoiling for a fight. Whether they tramped away on foot, rode on caissons, or bestrode horses, they went gladly, following the stars and stripes, and ready to die, if need be, under 'Old Glory.'

"Chattanooga has learned to know them, and will follow their fortunes, as told in war bulletins, with a sense of personal interest. May victory perch on their banners, and may the veterans live to tell their grand children tales of experiences of 'When I was at Camp Thomas at the beginning of the War with Spain.'

"Lieut. Barton, in charge of the Tenth Cavalry recruiting station in the Bates block received a telegram yesterday morning from Adjutant Barnam of the Tenth Cavalry stating that Capt. S. L. Woodward of this regiment had been placed in charge of the regimental recruiting. The telegram further stated that Capt. Woodward had been directed to proceed to Ft. McPherson, Ga., where all recruits are to be sent pending further orders. Pursuant to this telegram, Lieut. Barton decided to send his recruits to Atlanta in squads of twelve at a time, boarding them in this city until he had the required number. He accordingly advertised for bids and subsequently let the contract to Mrs. M. V. Lovell, 913 Georgia Ave., at $1 per day each. Lieut. Barton had twenty applicants for enlistment yesterday. Out of which number he selected the following four:

James Hale, formerly a driver for J. F. Bryan of this city.
Robert Chanley, a laborer of Churchville.
Oscar, laborer.
Edward Wallace, laborer of St. Elmo.

This makes a total of twenty men so far enlisted. The recruits above mentioned were sent to the Lovell boarding house. As soon as Lieut. Barton secures twelve men, he will provide them with uniforms and send them to Capt. Woodward at Ft. McPherson.



Dyer Field looking north.

Joseph Beiler's 1st Ohio Cavalry had been one of the first volunteer units to start to Chickamauga, and he was able to write in his diary: "Sunday 15: We were riding all forenoon got to Chatanuga at 12 o'clock & to Chickamuaga at 2 o'clock had marched

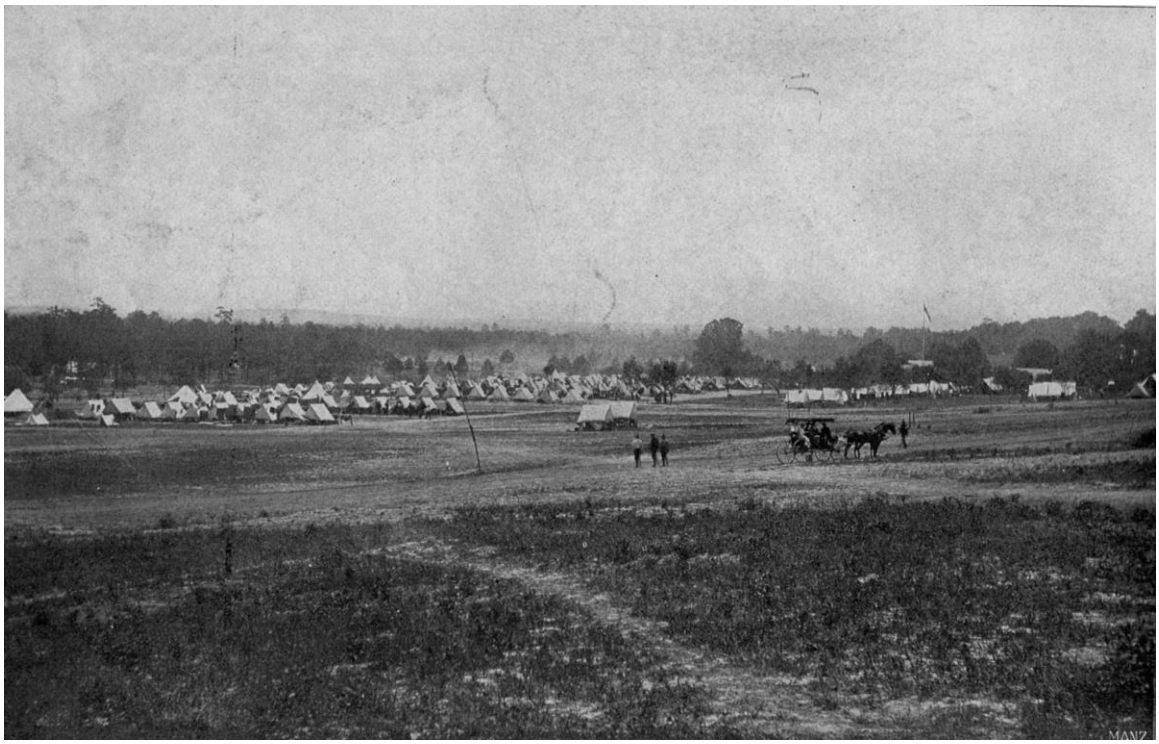
only 1/4 of mile when it started to rain very hard so we took to shelter where we could find it till it stoped raining & we had gone but half a mile when it started to rain & hail the hail was as big as a hickory nut & the rain just poured down all the way to the camp ground then we had to wait two hours till our tents came the ground was wet our cloth were ringing wet & we had but one blanket & that was wet but we rolled ourself up in the blanket and went to sleep."

"The First Ohio Volunteer Cavalry, the first command to report of the great volunteer army, coming as fast as steam can hasten it, to Camp Thomas in the historic Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Park," wrote the *Chattanooga Times* reporter, had an experience yesterday that it is safe to say every one if the members will remember while he lives.

"The first battalion reached Lytle at noon in eight sleepers for the men, one for officers, and one for a baggage. The second battalion came up nearly an hour later, the trains resting side by side. Lieut. Col. Day, with his adjutant and quartermaster, had in the meantime gone to the headquarters of the provisional corps to report the coming of the command and to be assigned a camp ground, upon his return each battalion was ordered to fall in, left the cars, and formed in line by companies. The men are fine looking physically, well built, and intelligent in appearance, but they are not soldiers, only raw material from which soldiers will be made. There are two exceptions, however to the rawness. Company H has been until recently a crack light battery in Cincinnati, its members being uniformed and partly equipped. The famous 'Troop A' of Cleveland has been broken into quarters, one of them being assigned to each company from Cleveland, in the first battalion, and they have blue clothes, carbines, and sabers. On the principal that 'a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump' the mixing of well drilled men with absolutely new recruits will bring about good results. The remainder of the men had no uniforms or equipment, some blankets, for the most part yellow, rolled, tied, and slung over the left shoulders. In comparison with the thoroughly equipped regiments they were a motley crew, but that they had made a most excellent beginning in drill and discipline was very soon made manifest.

"When they were in line, with fours counted… scattered drop of rain began to fall. They came thicker and faster, yet the young soldiers paid no heed, but marching in step went on under the shower, which became a heavy downpour. The column, on command, took cover literally under the quartermaster's warehouse, and when, a few moments later, the sun came out in an April day fashion, the Ohio boys came out also, formed line, went by 'fours right' and started afresh. Jupiter Platus didn't like his bluff being called that way and made another call on his resources. The rain began again as if a heavy shower bath had been turned on, and thick among the drops were frozen ones, hail as large as bullets. Still the First went on grimly, the joke on them not being a dry one until they reached the camp of the First regular cavalry, vacated the day before, when its former occupants started for Cuba, via Tampa. The contrasting conditions between the First and First second were as different as possible. The veteran troopers had everything needed for soldiers and a wagon train long enough for a division of infantry. The recruits had not even experience, but they were getting it fast. One went away on horseback to

take sleepers, and this left sleepers to march in the rain and when tents were issued to them, to pitch their canvas shelters and sleep as best they could. There are other things in war: its glitter and glamour. The trade of a soldier has its unpleasantness like everything else on this mundane sphere. Meanwhile, the dry and comfortable cars stood empty on the track. But things soon changed for the better. The sun came out, tents were drawn, seventeen to a company, fires were started, and the work of pitching camp went on rapidly and in a service-like way, and in due time the First was at home in its new surroundings."



The camp of the 1st Ohio Cavalry Regiment.

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote; "Monday 16: This morning we fixed our tents secure put a flor in & dug ditches around the tents."

Throughout the day, more and more regiments arrived at the Park. The camps spread out over the grounds.

"The citizens of Chattanooga began to appreciate yesterday," the *Chattanooga Times* stated May 17, "what the recent order of the war department assigning fifty three regiments of the volunteer army to Chickamauga Park for mobilization and organization meant. Eight regiments of volunteers means something over 8,000 men—now at the park—and that is hardly a beginning. Eight regiments of regulars, recently here, only contained about 4,000 men, because they were not full to war strength. Volunteer regiments must be filled before they are mustered in. From this time on, for many days there will be arrivals of from 4,000 to 5,000 men each day, until the 60,000 are all encamped on the historic fields to which they have been assigned. Gen. Brooke and his staff are read for them. The park has been laid off into camps, and the assignments will

be rapidly made as the troops arrive. The arrivals yesterday were as well handled as could be expected. The men suffered somewhat for water, and it has been suggested that the city authorities provide some way by which soldiers arriving in the city may have a public place at which they can quench their thirst after traveling in the hot cars…



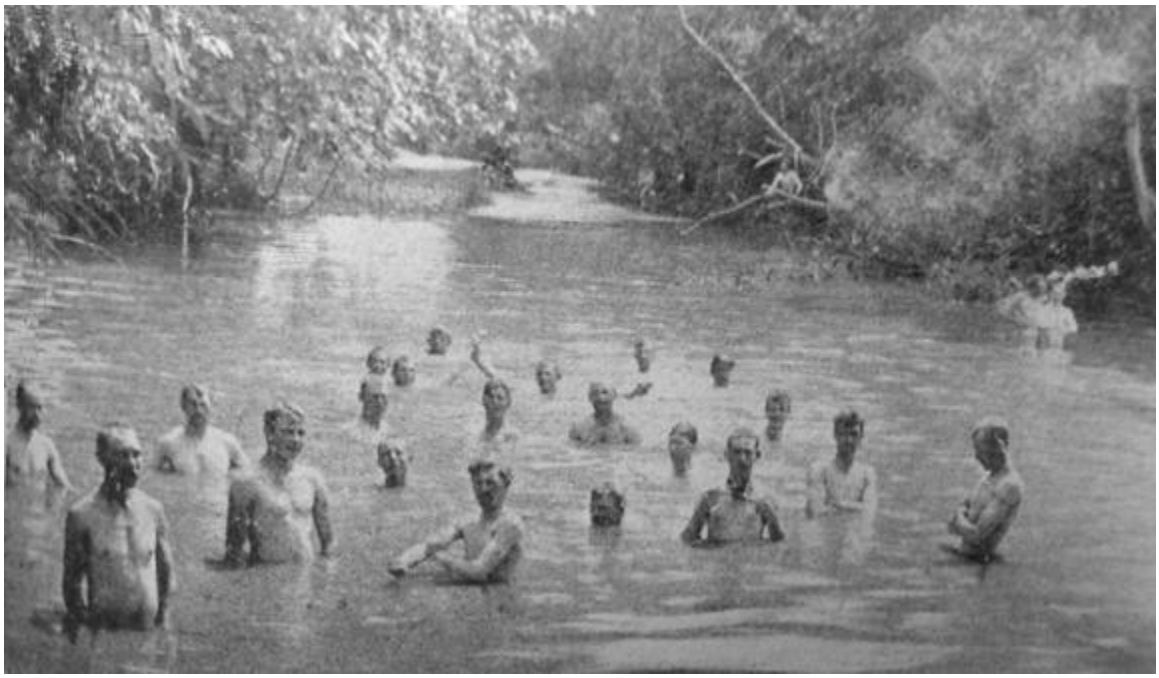
Free time in camp.

Some of the units listed as already being in camp at the park included the 5th Illinois Infantry, 3rd Illinois Infantry, 4th Ohio Infantry 105th Indiana Infantry, 4th Pennsylvania Infantry, 1st Ohio Infantry, 3rd Wisconsin Infantry, 5th Illinois Infantry, and Batteries 26 and 27 of the Indiana Artillery. The 105th Infantry regiment is notable in that it was commanded by Colonel George M. Studebaker, secretary of the famous manufacturing company bearing his name that turned out stages and wagons, who was at this time 85 years of age. The *Times* reporter was highly impressed with the 3rd Wisconsin Infantry. "The soldiers of this regiment," he wrote, "were rather good looking men, and more like regulars. They did not indulge in any foolishness, or horse play like the soldiers of a good many other regiments."

Lieutenant Barton continued with his recruiting efforts for the Tenth Cavalry. On this day the Times reported that a local man named Joseph Larue came to the recruiting office. The man passed his interview and physical and was just about to be recruited when "his wife appeared on the scene, grabbed Joseph by the collar, and marched him off home."

"Gen. Brooke issued his first order from corps headquarters affecting the volunteer army yesterday morning, according to which Maj. Gen. James H. Wilson, of Delaware, is assigned to command the first division provisional army corps, composed of three brigades of four regiments each. Almost simultaneously a second order was issued

assigning Brigadier Generals A. S. Burt, H. W. Lawton, and C. E. Compton to command brigades under Gen Wilson. Gen. Burt will command the First Ohio, the Third Wisconsin, and the Fifth Illinois, which yesterday were assigned to him by Gen. Wilson. The Third Illinois and Fourth Ohio will be commanded by Gen. Compton. The other regiments will be assigned to divisions upon their arrival at the park. The first Ohio Cavalry has not been brigaded as yet. The work or organization will continue as the troops arrive."



Bathing in Chickamauga Creek.

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote: Tuesday 17: "This fore noon we had a good drill in the afternoon we went to a creek about 3 miles away to get a wash..

"The white tent city of Uncle Sam's volunteer army at Chickamauga park is rapidly growing," wrote the *Chattanooga Times* on Wednesday, May 18. "Already 12,000 of the flower and pride of America's chivalric and patriotic sons are in the field here, ready to die for their country's honor and flag. All day yesterday troops poured into Chickamauga Park, while many trains arrived at Rossville, Ga., six miles from the camping grounds, and marched to their quarters. By sundown eleven regiments of infantry and one of cavalry, had arrived, along with two batteries of light artillery, numbering in all about 13,000 men. While this number of men are now in camp, the rail-yards of Chattanooga, and the line of the Chattanooga, Rome and Southern railway between this city and Rossville, is lined with commands en-route to Camp Thomas.

"Gen. Brooke stated late in the afternoon that he had received many advices from troops now en route and that he expected them to continue to arrive at the rate of seven or eight thousand a day. While the troops are arriving the organization of the army is rapidly being completed. Upon the arrival of the troops at the park, their colonels, or the

commanding officers report to Gen. Brooke. They are assigned from the provisional army headquarters to the division commander. From the division commander's headquarters, they are turned over to the brigade commander, and finally get into camp.

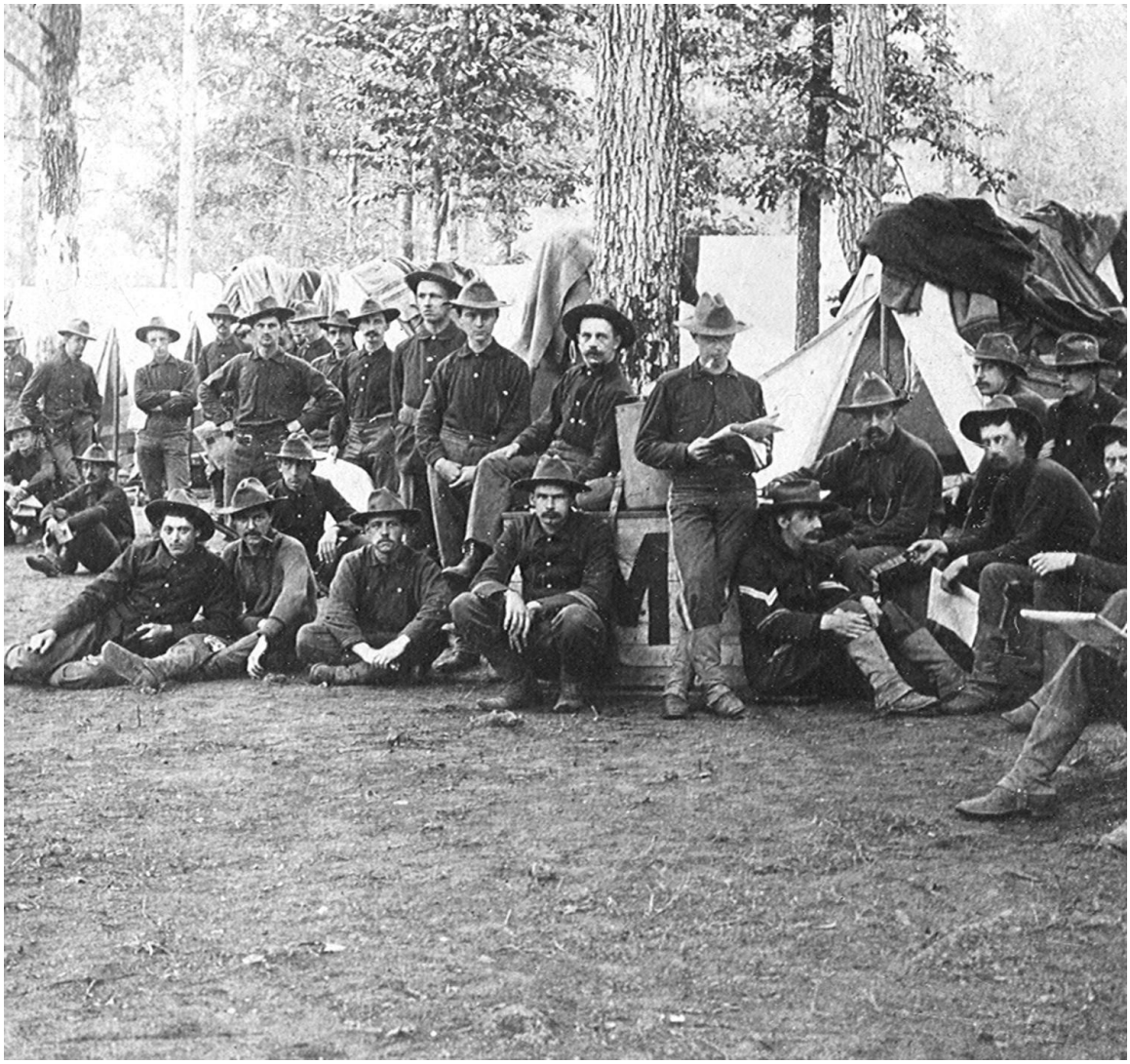


The Kelly house on the east side of the La Fayette Road.

"All the troops so far in camp are located along the slope of the first ridge west of the LaFayette road in the Kelly, Poe, Bortherton, and Viniard fields. The entire ridge is thickly wooded and makes an admirable camping ground for the troops. In front of the ridge for a distance of four and a half miles is an open field, running along the LaFayette road. This will be used for drill purposes, affording ample accommodations for the entire army. A number of new wells are now being drilled on the camp ground. Brig.Gen. Wilson said yesterday, as he looked upon the command stretched along the ridge: 'There are certainly a lot of fine fellows. They are fine men, many of them having seen hard service and will drop into the routine of camp life and military instruction without trouble.'

"The First division of the First provisional army corps has been filled, while two regiments have been assigned to the Second Division of the same corps… There is a scarcity of brigadier generals at Chickamauga. Gen. Brooke said yesterday afternoon that the organization will be completed as rapidly as possible. The work of receiving the troops and assigning them to their positions was a big task.

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Weseday 18: This morning we had a very warm drill it was about 90 in the shade this afternoon I had my hair cliped short we drilled awhile this afternoon for the first time that we drilled in the afternoon."

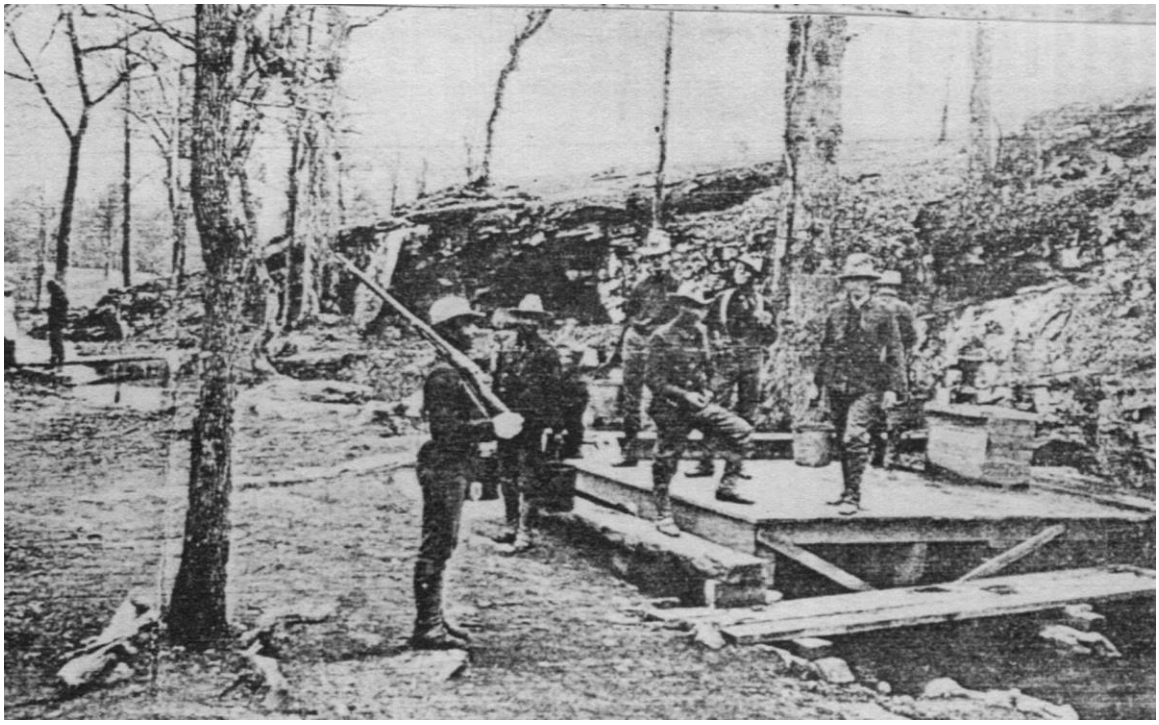


Men resting in camp.

On May 19, the *Chattanooga Times* reported: "Gen. Brooke has nearly completed the Second division of the First provisional army corps, and by tomorrow evening it will be filled, twenty-seven regiments the required numbers. Gen. Brooke expects that by Saturday evening 40,000 men will have reported to him and have been assigned… The organization of the corps continued yesterday unabated, and by the end of the week the organization of the First corps will be completed. Gen. A. K. Arnold, designated to form the Second division of the corps, made rapid headway. He established his headquarters in a handsome grove near the Jay's mill road, about a half mile from the old mill, where the famous Battle of Chickamauga was opened…

"Late yesterday afternoon the wildest excitement was created at the Chickamauga camp by a story circulated to the effect that Spanish spies were in the camp and had poisoned the wells from which the First Ohio, Third Wisconsin, and Fifty Illinois troops obtained water. The news went from camp to camp. Everyone was excited and no one could be induced to touch water. In connection with the story it was reported that three

men had been captured by the First Ohio while they were poisoning a well and that a heavy guard was about them to keep the soldiers in the regiment from lynching them. The entire story was denied by Gen. Brooke when seen. He said: 'It is all nonsense, not a word of truth in the report. We will have a large number of men in camp and we will have to be careful with our water. On this account a guard has been placed about each well or spring, so that it would be impossible to tamper with the water.'



Guard at Cave Springs.

"Yesterday, six or more boys, both white and colored, gathered about the trains of volunteers with baskets full of pies, sandwiches and cakes for sale. It was not long before they were overpowered and their stock in trade confiscated. Every vendor of this sort was treated in the same manner. The Moerlein beer wagon drove up near the Central depot yesterday loaded with kegs of beer. The driver, a boy of twenty, left the wagon for a few minutes to transact some business, during which time one of the Indiana soldiers helped himself to a keg of beer and took it into one of the cars. The young driver, discovering his loss, complained to Policemen Johnson and Hison, who searched the cars but without success, the Hoosiers giving both a good 'guying' for their pains.

"Thursday 19" Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "This morning I was put on no duty list we got our uniforms this after noon I got one pair of pants one blouse one hat a pair of under pants two flannel shirts a pair of leggins a puncho two pair of sock"

"According to the latest advices received at corps headquarters," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on May 20, "about 81,000 men will be mobilized at the Chickamauga Chattanooga National Military Park for equipment and general instruction in army

regulation. This information was given out by Gen. Brooke yesterday afternoon. Gen. Brooke said he had received official notification from the war department that three army corps—the First, Third, and Sixth would be organized at Chickamauga. Gen. Brooke will command the First corps, Gen. Wilson the Third, and Gen. Wade the Sixth… Gen. Boynton, president of the park commission, who has personally supervised the work of preparation for the volunteers, said yesterday afternoon: 'We are getting things in nice shape now, and will soon be in condition to care for the entire army to be concentrated at this point.'



The camp of the 1st Vermont Infantry Regiment.

"The fact is that the war department at first contemplated the mobilization of 50,000 men after they had been fully equipped in state camps. Instead of this plan, the organization of the volunteers has been changed materially, and now the men are being sent to this camp by the trainload, many of the soldiers without uniforms, arms, or accoutrements, not speaking of instruction. While soldiers are arriving, preparations are being vigorously prosecuted. Engineer Betts of the National Park commission now has a large force of men at work drilling wells in the camp grounds with a steam apparatus. The regiments are all camped in a thickly wooded section of the park, all open fields being reserved for maneuvers and drills.

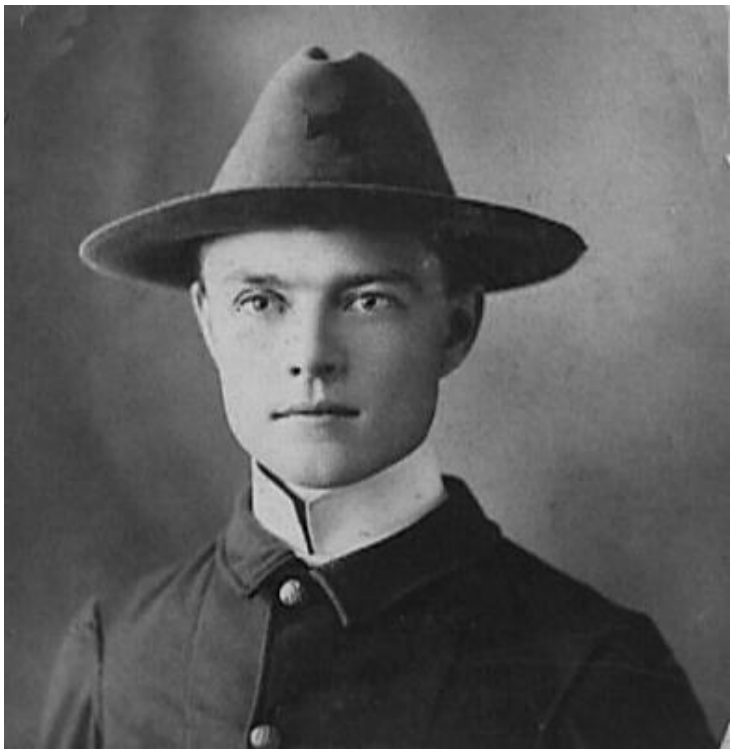
"Gen. Boynton said yesterday morning that about one third of the timbered part of the park was settled with troops. Only 22,000 men are were on the ground at the time, and it is evident that some of the volunteers will not enjoy the shade of stalwart oaks, but will have to camp in open sage fields under the glaring sun, as did the regulars, recently sent to Tampa. The park will be filled, all the available fields in use, when the last of the troops arrive. While the reservation will be covered with tents and men, Gen. Brooke apprehends no trouble on account of the water supply. Each watering place is now under

guard to prevent waste. Gen. Boynton and Gen. Brooks, it is understood, has been considering a proposition to locate a large force pump at Crawfish Springs and pipe water to all parts of the park. They have about decided that this is un-necessary, as a supply of water at the wells and springs is sufficient to water the troops, while the stock will be watered in Chickamauga Creek which will be further east than the camps of the other regiments…

"Lieut. Barton, in charge of the Tenth Cavalry recruiting station… had twenty applicants yesterday, but of which number, he recruited Ike Bright, colored, of this city. Lieut. Barton will send eleven recruits to Fort McPherson, Ga., this morning over the Southern road."

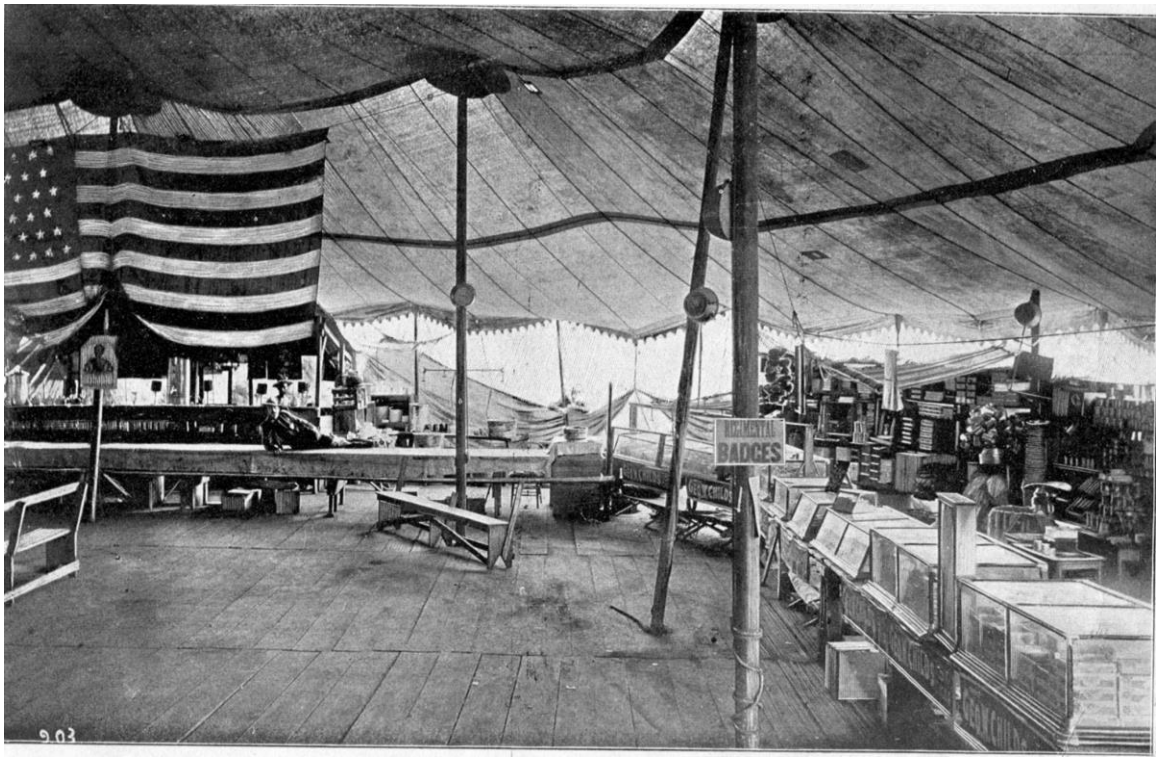
Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, recorded in his diary: Friday 20: Today I washed some of my clothes helped to dig a dugout for provisions and drilled in the evening."

Private Aubrey L. Whetton., a new member of the 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, decided, like Jospeh Beiler, to keep a diary of his military service. He wrote: "May 20, 1898 — Reached Cairo, Ill. 4:30 a.m. Nothing eventful between Cairo & Nashville, except crossing Ohio river which in the early morning made a beautiful sight but this was about all there was of interest between Cairo and Nashville. The scenery at some points was something to be enjoyed and this combined with the ovation rec'd along the route made the trip interesting. People presenting the boys flowers. There seemed a dearth of pretty girls through the south as we only saw one or two that were really attractive. Passed Fair Grounds at Nashville where the soldiers encamped they gave us hearty cheers [and] climbing a ten foot fence to get a chance to see our train go by. Reached Chattanooga at 10:35 p.m. and ran into station for an all night stay. Capt. Marquardt took the boys who were not asleep out for a walk and incidentally for a glass of beer. Cody & Whetton were in the number, Frankel being asleep and Harris on guard. Slept on train all night and dreamt of Chickamauga Pk."



Private Aubrey L. Whetton.

On May 21, the *Chattanooga Times* reported: "Gen. Brooke has completed the formation of the first army corps, of which he will be the commander, and today he will begin the formation of the First division of the Third corps, of which Gen. James H. Wade will be the general commanding. The commissary department has received its full compliment of supplies, and the regiments that are without will be furnished as rapidly as they apply. Division, brigade, and regimental drills will begin at once, and it is hoped that within a few weeks the soldiers now at the park will be ready for the field if their services should be needed. Gen. Wilson and Gen. Brooke are both pleased with the troops they have in hand, and they believe that they will make good fighters…



A regimental canteen.

"In several of the regiments in camp at Camp Thomas, canteens have been established but the men as a unit are opposed to the matter, and it is understood will shortly ask Gen. Brooke to have the canteens closed. Chaplains Brown and Davis of the Third and Fifth Illinois regiments, are leading the fight on the canteens. They claim that the establishment of canteens for the permanent sale of beer would result in great harm to discipline and good order. The nearest place at which intoxicants can be procured is Chattanooga. On this account those who are opposed to the canteens claim that it would be bad policy to establish them when it would be so easy to maintain a strict discipline in regard to its use. The argument has been made that the proceeds of the sale of liquor could be used for the purchase of nourishing food, Chaplain Davis said yesterday: 'The state of Illinois is pledged to furnish all things necessary in this line, and there will be no need of establishing saloons to keep the men. My regiment prides itself on its temperance and sobriety, and it is the desire of those in command that this condition be as good when we return to the field as it is now. The fight is not only being made in this

camp, but all over the entire field. The temperance men are all of the opinion that the opening of canteens will work to the detriment of the commands.

"The amount of mail received yesterday at Lytle post office was simply enormous. On the early morning train from Chattanooga over seventy-five sacks of mail went to the station. On account of the short run it was impossible for the mail to be 'worked,' and it was sent on to Carrolton, Ga., and was returned late this afternoon. Over 30,000 letters were sent out during the day. The heavy mails have been caused by the fact that large bundles of letters are now being forwarded from the state camps all over the country.

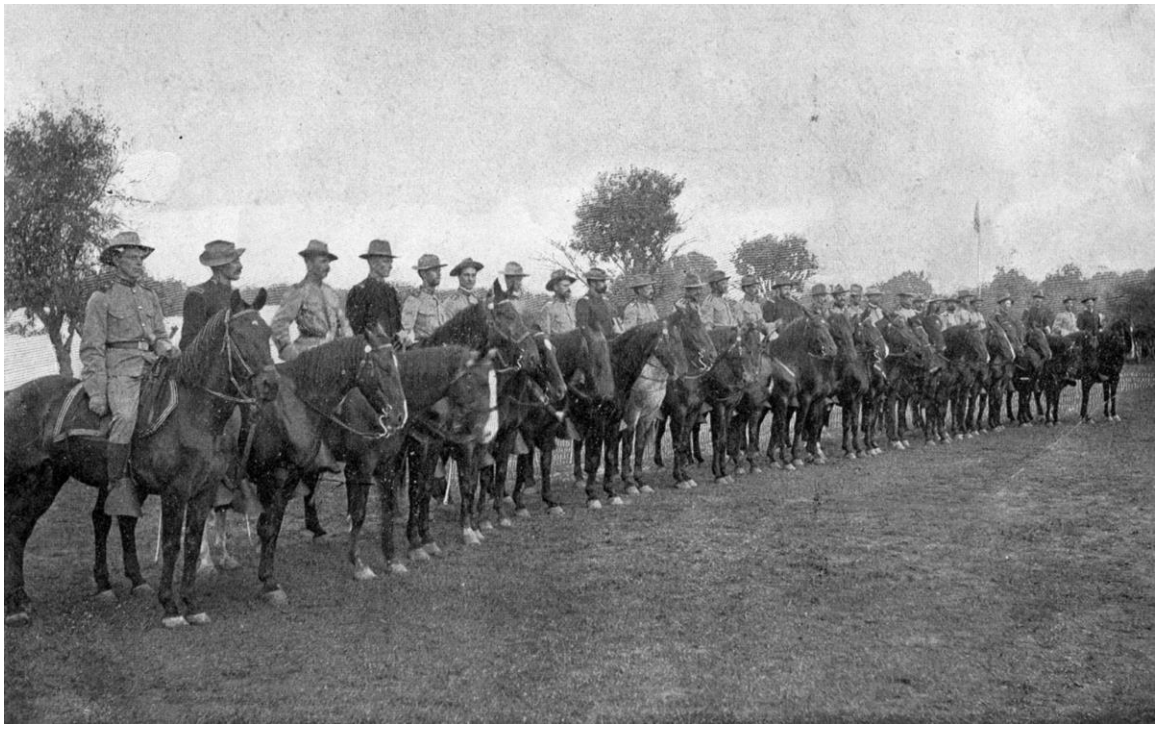
"Prosper Lazard & Co. have been awarded the contract to furnish Camp Thomas with bread. The contract reads that the company 'shall furnish the army with all of the fresh bread needed.' This means that from 65,000 to 75,000 loaves of bread will be made daily. The bread ration of a soldier is one loaf per day, and on account of the unsettled fact as to the number of men mobilized here it is impossible to tell how much bread will be needed daily. Yesterday morning Mr. Lazard put a large force of men to work constructing twelve ovens. He will perhaps add four more when these are completed. Each of the ovens will have a capacity of 6,000 loaves every twenty-four hours. At first the intention was to erect eight ovens, but yesterday's orders were issued t o increase the capacity of the plant. The army commanders are anxious that the ovens should be put in shape at once. Mr. Lazard, on that account, has hired a very large force of men, and it is understood, will be able in a week or ten day to furnish all the bread needed. There has been some discussion as to the water supply for the oven. There is not a well very close to the plant and on this account a large well is now being dug. This will be pushed. Mr. Lazard has advertised for bakers, and estimates that from forty to fifty will be needed…

"Frank McReady, a soldier of D Company, Twelfth New York Volunteer infantry, died yesterday afternoon just as the regiment took up the march from Rossville to Camp Thomas. The command had debarked at Rossville on account of the jam of cars on the railroad. McReady, who had not been very well for several days, had hardly started to march when he fell over in the road and died in a few minutes. The cause of death was heart failure. The remains were taken to Sharp's morgue, where they were prepared. The body will be sent to New York for internment."

"Saturday 21," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "This morning we had inspection this afternoon & we had no drill & I packed my clothes to send home."

On the same day, Aubrey L. Whetton. 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: Left for Chickamauga at 9:00 o'clock and saw plainly Lookout Mt. and this started the boys talking about the Civil War. Capt. Marquardt sat in our seat for fifteen minutes and talked with us. As the train rolled on we came nearer the mountains and could plainly see a small sized city on its top; also saw cable cars going up and down and we all longed for a chance to get out and make the ascension but this was out of the question and must be left for some future date. Three or four miles out of Chattanooga our train stopped and all kinds of rumors spread from coach to coach as to the cause.

After waiting about one hour we were allowed to get off our coach and take exercise. The boys strolled off in directions of farm houses near the track. Whetton, Cody, Frankel got some eggs and pie and heard organ played by one of our boys at one of these houses and then started back for train. Frankel wandered on to a house where some of the company were singing and playing and went in. After balance of boys went he made love to youngest daughter and as a result had a good dinner of cold meat, potatoes, salad, strawberries, cake & milk. After getting back to train learned there had been a rear-end collision between first section of our regiment and passenger train. It was first stated that 6 men and a number of horses had been killed but we learned that 1 man Gen. Walker of Co. H. was the only man killed. H. Brolaski of Co. H and another man of same Co. were seriously injured but would recover. After wreckage had been cleared from track we proceeded on our way to the Park and arrived at Lytle Station at 4:50, marched into Park about ¾ of a mile and bivouacked [sic] on Snodgrass Hill that night. We are all longing for a change from corn beef, bread and coffee but will not get anything else until permanent camp is struck.



Officers of the 1st Ohio Cavalry Regiment.

"There are in round numbers, on a moderate estimate," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on May 22, "32,000 volunteers now in Camp Thomas and more en route. A week ago there were none. The First Ohio Cavalry arrived in the rain, heralding the coming of a new Army of the Cumberland. Since the first corps, composed of three divisions of three brigades each, 27,000 men in all, have been organized, put in moving order, and some of them have began drills in a systematic way. Taking into effect that all of these twenty-seven regiments and several others have arrived in six working days the magnitude in bringing military order out of chaos may be imagined; it cannot be understood fully by those who seen the incoming of volunteers at Lytle.

"Orders from the war department have announced that the army for service in the war with Spain is to be made up of seven corps. The first organization at the Chickamauga Military Park was the first provisional corps. It is understood that the word 'provisional' is to be dropped as part of the title…

"Gen. Boynton has decided to augment the water supply at Chickamauga Park by putting in pipe lines and conducting water from Chickamauga Creek and Crawfish Springs to accessible points in the park. Six inch pipe has been ordered from Pittsburgh and will be rushed here on a passenger train. Work was commenced yesterday on a pipeline from Chickamauga Creek and it will be completed within a few days. A second pipeline will be put in from Crawfish Springs, and in this was an adequate supply of good water will be furnished…

There was much attention paid to the arrival of Colonel Fred Grant, son of the noted Civil War general and U.S. President, Ulysses S. Grant. "One thing is certain," the *Times* stated, "Col. Fred Grant, commanding the Fourteenth New York, will be the senior colonel in the First brigade, First division, and will command the brigade. The son is making progress as rapidly as did his great father in 1861."

"A serious railroad accident occurred yesterday morning at 9 o'clock at Rossville, Ga., in which George M. Walker, Company D, First Missouri Infantry of St. Louis, and four other members of the same regiment were injured. The facts are as follows:

"The First Missouri Infantry, which arrived in this city at 10 o'clock Friday night on the Nashville, Chattanooga, and St. Louis road was turned to the Chattanooga, Rome and Southern and left for the park at 8 o'clock yesterday morning. The first section, containing the First battalion and Col. Badterf, on arriving at Rossville, headed into the siding in order to let a train of empty coaches, belonging to the New York Central road, and in which the Second New York Infantry had gone to the park several hours before, pass by on their way back to this city.

"The second section, containing the Second battalion and Lt. Col. Cavender and in charge of Engineer Sam M. Ayers, of 111 Rossville avenue and conductor Jas. McAllister were close on the heels of the first and were obliged to come to a stop on a curve at Rossville, while the first section headed into the siding. In this connection it might be well to state that when these troop trains are turned over to the Chattanooga, Rome, and Southern, that road places a complete crew in charge of each. Regular passenger train No. 2 left the Central depot at 8:30 and passed East End at 9 o'clock. Engineer Will C. Wheeler, of this city, was at the throttle, and fireman Hamby stoking. Now in approaching this curve, an engineer in his seat cannot see more than 100 yards up the track, owing to the fact that it is rather sharp, and for the large number of trees along the line. The fireman, however, can see much further, owing to the seat he occupies, although even his view of the track is obstructed by the trees along the curve.

"The engine collided with the Arms Palace car containing the eight horses, which was the rear car telescoping it with an Adams express car, used for baggage immediately in front. The soldiers in the baggage car to the number of sixteen, saw what was coming and jumped just in time to save their lives. If they had remained one second longer, all would have been killed. The Arms Palace horse car, contained at the time five men and sixteen horses. It was a very strong car and withstood the shock admirably. Three of the horses were killed outright, and the others brused and skinned in places. The persons killed and injured are as follows:

George M. Walker, Company D, killed
Howard Brolaski, Company D, left hip injured.
Ed Laurasberg, Company A, multiple contusions.
Alfred M. Land, Company M, left hip dislocated.
R. D. Leidel, Company H, sprained back.
First Lieut. E. R. Richards, Company H, left arm and hand cut.



The train wreck at Rossville.

"When the collision occurred, a scene of the wildest confusion ensued. Passengers and soldiers came tumbling out of the cars, and for a few minutes anarchy reigned supreme. The indignation of the St. Louis soldiers knew no bounds, and Lt. Col. Cavender ordered Engineer Wheeler and Fireman Hanby under arrest, more for the purpose of averting a grave disorder than for any other purpose. The two men were put in charge of a guard, and later taken to Chickamauga Park. At 2 o'clock Lt. Col. Cavender telephoned to Sheriff Bush and told him that the accident had occurred in Tennessee and to come and take charge of the prisoners. When Sheriff Bush arrived he found that Wheeler and Hanby had been turned over to Deputy Varnell and released.

"The natural conclusion was that all the men in the horse car were killed, and Col. Cavender ordered them extracted from the wreck. The work was done in short order, every soldier lending a willing hand. As the work progressed, the groans of the injured could be heard and when they were finally reached and removed they were found to be in the condition above stated. By this time Dr. Baxter, physician for the Chattanooga, Rome, and Southern railway had arrived and also several ambulances as well as corner Gillespie. Dr. Baxter dressed the injuries of Brolaski, Laurasberg, Land and Leidel, none of them, contrary to the report printed yesterday afternoon, are seriously injures. Dr. Baxter then had them loaded in the ambulances and taken to St. Vincent's infirmary, where at last account they were resting easily and soon will shortly recover.

"The mangled remains of George M. Walker who happened at the time to be at the end of the car next to the baggage car were sent to Sharp's undertaking establishment in charge of corner Gillespie. Before leaving, Lieut. Col. Cavender insisted that an inquest be held over his remains, and pursuant to same, corner Gillespie will summons a jury and hold the inquest at 11 o'clock this morning. Lieut. Col. Cavender stated to Mr. Gillespie that Walker was one of the best men in the regiment and ordered that his remains be embalmed and placed in a handsome coffin for shipment to St. Louis today.

"Owing to this wreck the third section was detained near the Big Spring ice company's plant until late yesterday afternoon. In addition to completely wrecking the Adams express and the Arms Palace horse car, the Engine No. 2 was partly derailed, the front trucks jumped the track. The tourist cars beyond the Adams express were not injured in the slightest degree. In fact, what saved the train was the strength of the two cars telescoped. The baggage and ammunition in the Adams express car were saved, being subsequently removed. The three dead horses, together with the uninjured ones were also removed shortly after the collision.

"The track was cleared of the wreck and the passenger train was put back on the track by 1 o'clock, at which time the First Missouri proceeded to the park. Just who is to blame for this accident is very much in the dark. The Chattanooga, Rome, and Southern state that the matter will be investigated and that until this is done it will not be possible to place the blame on anyone."

"Sunday 22," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary. "Today we had no drill this morning we were read the article of war this afternoon I went out for a walk & I run across some old friends of mine from Manston Wis. belonging to the 3 Wis Inf. Co. D."

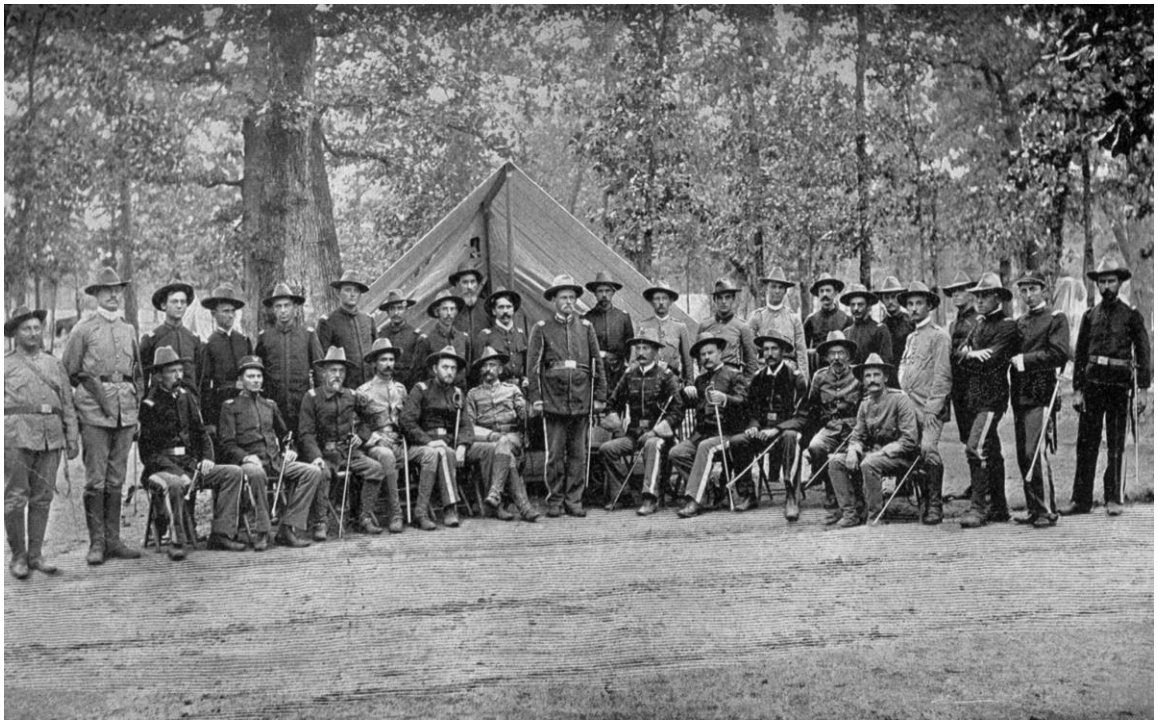
Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E made his May 11, 1898 diary entry as follows: "Woke up about 5 a.m. and found blankets did not make a very soft bed and we four boys felt rather stiff. Had a dose of corn beef coffee and bread and then waited for orders for march to permanent camp. At 10:00 a.m. assembly sounded and 15 minutes later we were on the way and it was a hot, dusty weary march. After a mile or so the bugle sounded sick call and hospital corps became busy as men began droping[sic] out, we lost, or rather one of our men (Luzzie) dropped out. We

stopped for a 5 minute rest and some boys went in search of water Cody having a hot chase to catch us having gone a distance to get his canteen filled. Later on we stopped for lunch and then moved on to camp. Arrived at previously selected point and about two hours afterward our tents were up and each man designated (6 to a tent) to a certain tent. We four remaining together with Sergt. Groshorn & Kerbish. Supper at 7:45 and Harris, Cody and Frankel with 16 other boys started to find the river to take a swim guided by two boys who claimed to know the way but proved to be poor guides and we became lost but succeeded at last in finding the river and enjoyed short swim, having to get back to camp at 10 o'clock we did not have long to stay so we started back about 9:20 but after tramping for about ¾ of an hour we had to confess we were lost. We ran into a detail the 12th New Hampshire Reg. who took us to the officer of the day who released us from arrest gave us direction and escort out of his guard lines. We plodded along till we ran into the 2nd Mo. guard lines where we were compelled to except[sic] the courtesy of their officers of the day and remained in their guard house for the night on account of rain. He giving us certificate to our Capt of having reported."



Officers of the 2nd Ohio Infantry Regiment.

"The work of organizing the second corps at Camp Thomas (the third) out of the seven to be organized according to orders from Washington, stated the *Chattanooga Times* on May 23, is progressing rapidly and systematically, and as fast as regiments arrive they will be brigaded and signed to divisions. Gen. Lewis H. Carpenter, who will command the First division of the corps, has reported for duty to Gen. Brooke, and will support the organization of the division. The First brigade will be under the command of Col. Fred D. Grant, of the Fourteenth New York…" Colonel Grant was the son of General Ulysses S. Grant, of Civil War fame.



Officers of the 2nd Arkansas Infantry Regiment.

"It was stated yesterday, on good authority, that Col. Colt, of the crack Fourth Ohio Infantry, has been detailed to do provost duty in the city to protect the people and ladies from rowdyism and the depredations of young toughs who have disgraced themselves and their states since the volunteer have been arriving at the Park. It is stated that Col. Colt will camp his regiment at some convenient point in the city and a guard will patrol the streets day and night to apprehend any soldier who may have the temerity to offer any insult to ladies or disturb the property of citizens. This has been deemed necessary, because in an army of 50,000 men it would be a strange thing if a lot of toughs and hoodlums were not to be found. Col. Colt is well known and very popular in this city, having with his command been here about two weeks during the dedication of the Park. He has not decided yet where he will pitch his camp, but he will find no difficulty in getting a suitable place, as the people of the city have all the confidence in the world in him and his men…"

The need for Col. Cole and his men was demonstrated by another article in the same issue of the paper. "Before daylight Saturday morning, [Fire] Chief Wilcox was awakened by what he thought was someone throwing a large stone against the house. Subsequent investigation showed that about that time a drunken volunteer, whose name, company, and regiment, could not be learned, chased a Negro woman named Sarah O'Neal out of her house on Hogan's alley, and as she ran down B street alley, he fired his pistol at her. The heavy .45 caliber bullet passed through Chief Wilcox's bedroom, and passing through a second bedroom, lodged in a piano in the front room, about two feet from the floor. Only a few days before, Mrs. Wilcox had changed the bed from a point opposite the piano to another part of the room. Had the bed remained where it was, both

Chief Wilcox and his wife could have been dangerously wounded, if not killed, inasmuch as the bullet found lodged in the piano entered on a level where their bodies would have been, had the bed not been removed…

"Lieut. Barnum, of Company A, Sixth Ohio, Col. McMackin's regiment , is not in camp, and there is a modern instance of 'Held By the Enemy,' in his case. Lieut. Barnum was suffering from a well developed case of measles when the Sixth's train unloaded at Rossville. Col. McMackin made the sick officer as comfortable as possible under a tent near the railroad station, intending to send the regimental ambulance back after him when the hospital tent had been pitched. A hospital sergeant was left in charge of him. Shortly after the regiment marched away, an elderly man dressed in homespun made some interesting inquires about the sick man. The sergeant informed the man of the nature of the lieutenant's illness.

"'What are you going to do with him,' asked the stranger.

"'Going to take him to camp as soon as the hospital tent is up,' was the reply.

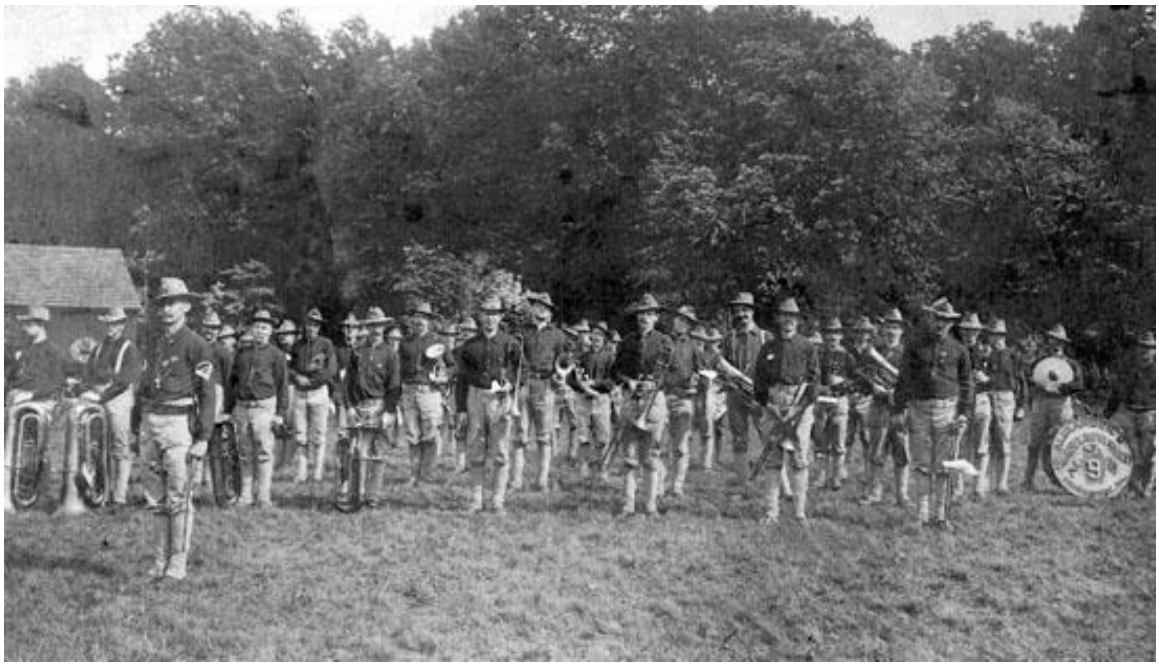
"'Take him to camp," exclaimed the stranger. 'By Thunder, you won't do anything of the kind! I'll take him to my house.'

"The sergeant protested, but without avail. The determined stranger hired two colored men on the spot, and carried the sick officer, cot and all, to a pretty cottage in the trees about a quarter of a mile from the station. Ten minutes later, instead of jolting along in an ambulance, on a six mile journey to a field hospital, the sick man was tucked in between snowy sheets in a cool and darkened room while the family doctor of the Good Samaritan prescribed for him. Later two more rooms in the same cottage were occupied by two men from the Second Minnesota, suffering from the same disease. The man in homespun, who turned his home into a hospital, was Capt. Welcott, who was with Lee's cavalry during the war. When Col. McMackin heard the hospital sergeant's report this morning explaining that Lieut. Barnum had not been brought to camp, he let go a vigorous expletive and ordered his horse. 'Gentlemen,' said he, 'I'm going to ride six miles to take my hat off to that old rebel captain.'

The Third Tennessee Infantry regiment had been raised with four companies made up of Chattanooga men, and one from Hill City. The men of this unit had been sent to Nashville to be mustered in. The May 23 issue of the *Times* had an article announcing that they were being transferred to Chickamauga. "It is not known whether the regiment will stay here, or be sent to Washington. They come to Chickamauga to receive their equipment, and await orders."

"This morning work will be commenced in earnest on the pipeline from Chickamauga creek, which will supply the camps with water for stock and washing purposes. The first carload of pipe arrived yesterday from Pittsburgh and was immediately unloaded and carried to the tower near the creek. The park commission has instructed Engineer Betts to push the work on this new water system with all possible

haste and has given him a large force of men to do the work. The regular Chickamauga Park work force spent the whole of yesterday in setting up the engine and pump lately arrived at Hall's Ford, the highest point on the reservation, under the direction of Engineer Betts. By 6 o'clock the engine and pump were in working order. A line of pipe laid to the tower (which was built several years ago) and the reservoir filled with water. This morning the force will begin laying pipe to every camp on the reservation and by Friday of the present week, Engineer Betts expects to have every camp supplied from the tower with water from Chickamauga Creek. The work is being pushed as rapidly as possible. The pipe for the drinking water line from Crawfish Springs is on the way and work will be commenced on it tomorrow. It does not take long to lay a line of this character, as the pipe is screwed together and simply laid on the ground."



The band of the 9th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment.

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Monday 23: This morning I got the loan of $5.00 from Sergeant Marley & I sent my cloth[ing] back to Cleveland in the evening we had regimental parade at 7 o'clock we went on guard in the afternoon we practiced for guard mount in the evening."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "We had some difficulty in finding our camp this morning but got in in time for roll call and mess. Cody is still on kitchen duty. Whetton begins today and Harris has also been detailed to same duty. Frankel ran a piece of rock in his foot while swimming last night. We are having pretty poor grub to eat especially so today. Today we all wrote home but none of us have yet received any mail. Harris, Cody and Whetton had hair clipped short."

On Tuesday, May 24, 1898, The *Chattanooga Times* reported the first Division level review held at Chickamauga since the Civil War. "The First division, First corps, was yesterday reviewed by the commanding officer, Maj. Gen. Wilson. Although no particular demonstration was made or taken of the demonstration, yet it was a spectacular scene doubly interesting from the fact that it will go into history as the first great formal movement of a large body of troops in the Spanish American war. It began early, in the cool of the day, before 9 o'clock. The three brigades of the First division, nine regiments, practically 9,000 men, formed in line of battle, the right resting north of the Kelly field. Thence it ran perhaps a mile along the ridge, a portion of the command forming in the rear a second line, as if for a reserve in an assault. After the usual formal inspection of the line the division moved in column of fours, changing direction twice, until on a line parallel with Gen. Wilson, who sat on a beautiful horse in front of a brilliant group of staff officers. Then in column of companies, i.e. each company marching in line, one behind another, the division came on in fine shape. Each regiment had a reputation to sustain, won in state camps, and each company was bound to do as well as any in the regiment. The result was a singular good one. The marching was, as a rule, in excellent time, the alignment accurate, and the distance well maintained. Gen. Wilson expressed himself as highly pleased and proud of the fact that the division when maneuvered together for the first time should act so like regulars and veterans. With the morning sun glancing from polished arms and trappings and the silken stars and stripes and state flags waving in the breeze the site was a glorious one, picturesque and showing the glistening, pleasant side of a soldiers life. The vision of war was a smiling, not a grim one…

"Speaking of the review to a *Times* reporter, Gen. Breckinridge said that the First Division was composed of a very fine body of men, indeed, 'the absence from the ranks' he said, 'of the weak, stringy, weedy looking boys was most gratifying. The men are built for the business of war, and I do not remember of seeing any body of volunteers in 1861 that at all compared with the men now at the park. Many of the states have perfected their National Guard organizations to such a point that the officers and men are thoroughly soldiers, regulars, I might say, in all save some little experience and actual campaigning and their presence in the ranks give it the appearance of a well-trained army rather than a body of raw volunteers. The idea of a review is to tone the troops up to their best endeavor and I think that more reviewing will follow…'

Some members of the Fifth Maryland Infantry Regiment, including a few officers were arrested and "sent to the guard house on a complaint of the members of the Fourteenth New York for swimming in Chickamauga Creek at a point where the New Yorkers have been getting water for drinking purposes. They remained in the guardhouse only a short time, however. The whole thing is looked upon as a huge joke, Col. Grant's men are still indignant over the occurrence, and say they will shoot the next Maryland man who attempts to swim in their drinking water…



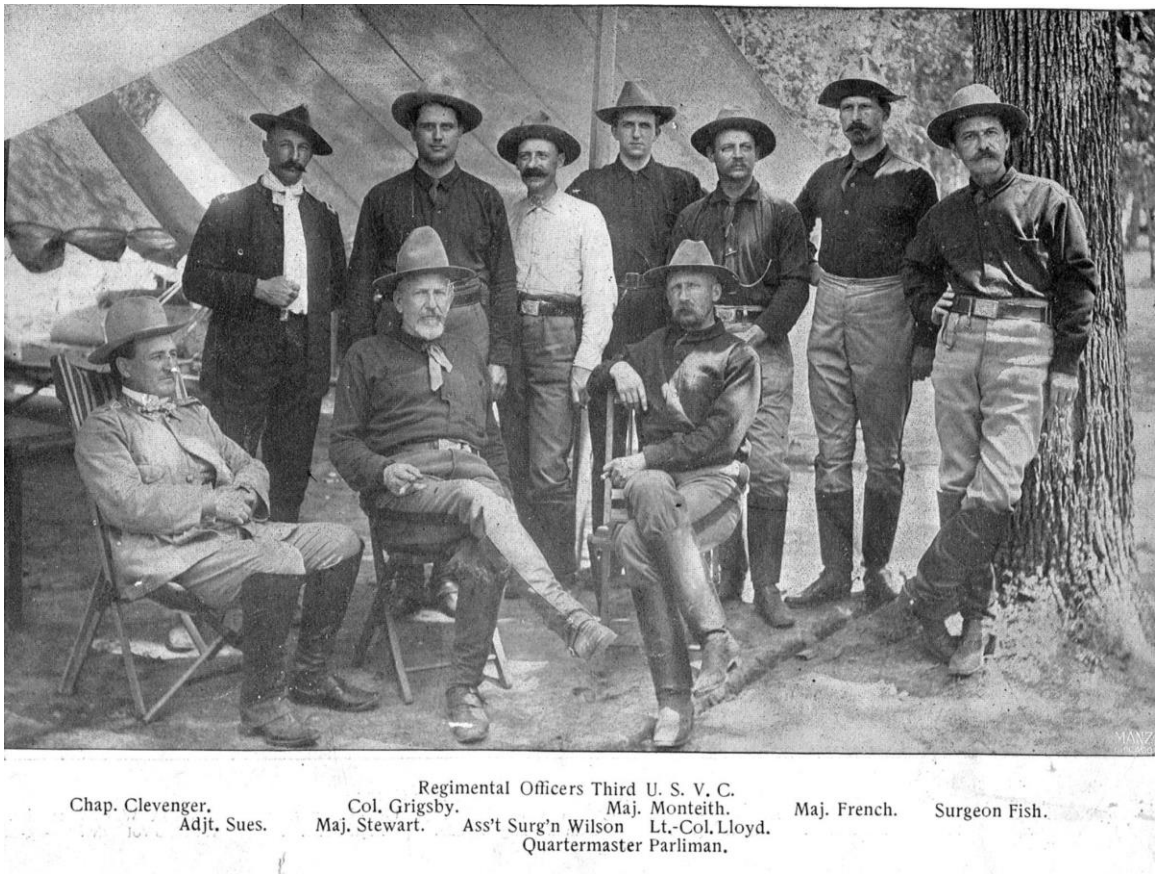
Swimming in Chickamauga Creek.

In spite of the efforts on the part of two chaplains the form a temperance movement in Camp Thomas, several of the Illinois men expressed pleasure at finding canteens available. "One pleasing change the boys discovered in being mustered into the volunteer service is that the regimental canteens are recognized and allowed, whereas in National Guard camps beer was strictly tabooed and the mean with a large thirst was obliged to run the guard or cajole his officers for a pass to town."

Early in the war, there was considerable interest in recruiting cavalry regiments of what was termed "sharpshooters and cowboy rough riders." Three such regiments were raised in the west. The First Volunteer U.S. Cavalry Regiment was largely organized by Colonel Leonard Wood, but better known as being led by Colonel Theodore Roosevelt. The Second Volunteer U. S. Cavalry Regiment was organized and led by Colonel Jay L. Torrey. The Third Volunteer U. S. Cavalry, was organized and commanded by Colonel Melvin Grigsby. At first all three regiments were called "Rough Riders," but, due to media attention, this term gradually began to be applied to the First regiment. The Third regiment came to be better known as "Grigsby's Cowboys." The first regiment was sent to the coast in preparation for going to Cuba, the second was seriously disrupted by a tragic train wreck while on the way to Florida, and Colonel Grigsby's Third Regiment was ordered to Chickamauga. "Great enthusiasm prevailed along the entire route;" the regimental adjutant, Otto L. Sues, later wrote in his book *Grigsby's Cowboys*, "the several troops traveled from their respective places of muster-in to Chickamauga Park, Georgia. People who had never been outside of their native burg, and who judged the cowboys entirely by what they had read in yellow-covered literature, came out of curiosity to see the men who picked their teeth with a bowie knife and snuffed candles

with the bullet from a six-shooter. Others, who had more knowledge of the world and considerable more sense, came also; but the latter came to pay the tribute American citizens always consider due the patriot. The yellow covers were greatly surprised to find that “Grigsby's boys” were orderly, well-behaved, gentlemanly and intelligent; that even the “long-haired pards” who were with the regiment were as well up on current topics and gentlemanly behavior as the best of the spectators. In short, they soon found that the regiment was no spectacular, grand stand aggregation; no “Wild West” on wheels, but composed of intelligent, sensible cowboys, miners and other Western men, who were in the army for business, and that business any duty the Government might call upon them to perform. Sensational stories, and more sensational pictures, appeared in the Chicago papers, depicting the boys with large six-shooters and fierce-looking bowie knives, whereas, as a matter of fact, there was not a six-shooter in the entire command while en route to Chickamauga, nor a knife any bigger or fiercer looking than that issued by the Government to all its soldiers. That, however, did not deter the papers from publishing all kinds of sensational stories about the regiment. These preceded it, so that by the time they arrived at Chickamauga, Tennessee, a great many people were afraid to leave their houses, and some, so we were informed, even barricaded their doors when they heard the Cowboys' were in town. However, the courteous, gentlemanly behavior of the regiment in camp soon disabused the minds of the Chattanoogans, who became their staunchest friends, admirers and defenders against the current slanders. Before the regiment was in camp a month there was not one regiment among the fifty thousand troops camped at Camp Thomas more popular in Chattanooga than were “Grigsby's Cowboys.” (Otto L. Sues, *Grigsby’s Cowboys*, private publication, Salem, South Dakota,1900:21)

The lead elements of the 3rd Volunteer U. S. Cavalry, reached the park on May 24, 1898, “Headquarters and Troops B, E and K reported for duty at camp on the morning of the 24th, and were assigned a camping ground in the woods east of the Lafayette road and south of the Brotherton road. In locating the camp in the woods, the first principle of military hygiene, as prescribed by regulations, was disregarded. A mild protest was made to the commanding General about the location of the camp, which was met with the reply that ‘all the open ground must be used for drill purposes.’ As soon as the horses were unloaded at Lytle, the command was marched to the camping ground, where they arrived in a drenching rain storm, which thoroughly soaked everyone. In the meantime Quartermaster Parliman and his assistant, Quartermaster Sergeant Culver, were working like Trojans, drawing tents and cooking utensils. At four o'clock in the afternoon the first load of tents arrived, together with a load of cooking utensils. It took but a short time to find a couple of cooks in each troop, who soon had the somewhat belated dinner well under way; while the men were busily engaged pitching tents. By dark that evening, all of the officers’ tents, the tents of the three troops and the Adjutant’s and Quartermaster's offices were up, the horses fed and groomed and a second meal disposed of. The troops that came later found everything ready in camp for them to begin building the little homes that were to shelter them, thanks to the energy of the Regimental Quartermaster’s Department. (Sues, op. cit. 21-22)



Regimental Officers Third U. S. V. C.

Chap. Clevenger. Col. Grigsby. Maj. Monteith. Maj. French. Surgeon Fish.
Adjt. Sues. Maj. Stewart. Ass't Surg'n Wilson Lt.-Col. Lloyd.
Quartermaster Parliman.

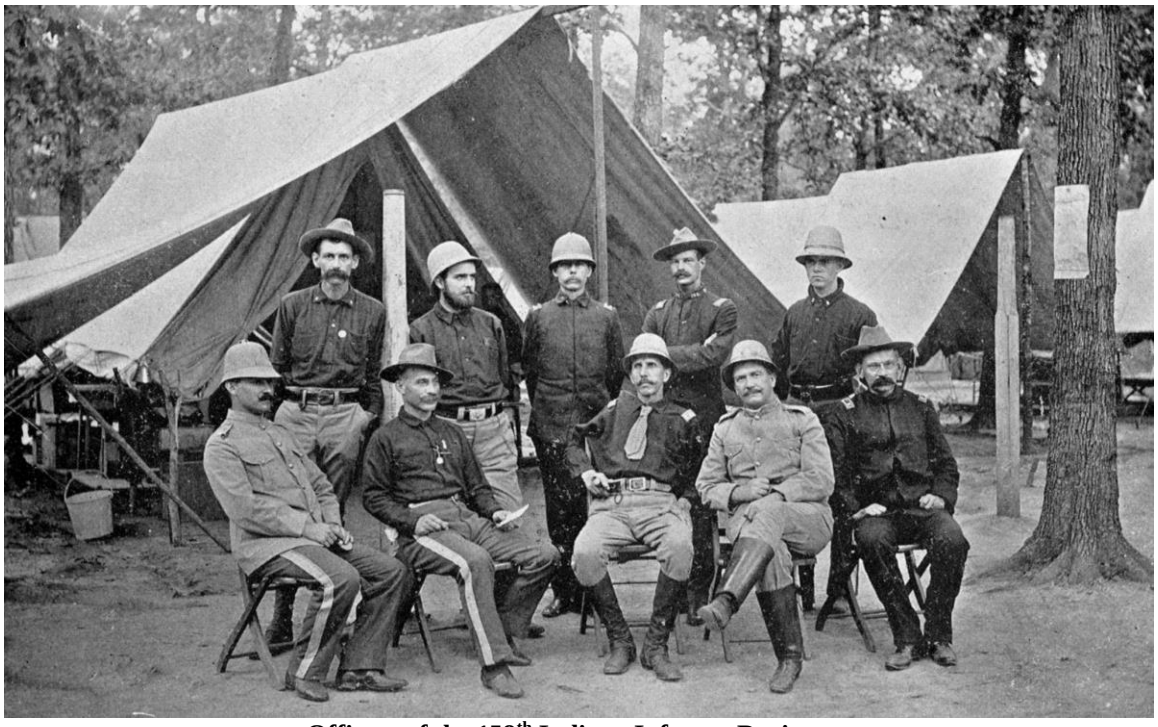
"Tuesday 24," Private Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Last night & today I was on guard I was on post number one on the first releif I had two prisoners under my charge."

On the same day, Private Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Infantry, Company F, simply wrote "Uneventful day."

"During the past week," the *Chattanooga Times* reporter wrote on May 25, "many commands have been added to Gen. Brooke's army, until it numbers in the neighborhood of 35,000 men. Last night there were encamped on the field thirty-seven regiments of infantry and two cavalry. In addition there are eight batteries of artillery… Hundreds of people in Chattanooga have friends in some regiment at Camp Thomas. To make as easy as possible their hunt for a camp the subjoined hints as to location are given:

"Coming from the city on the LaFayette Road, the light artillery area away to the right, where the regulars of the same branch of service were quartered. Just south of the Kelly field the searchers come to the first infantry camp, on the left of the boulevard. He has come to the First brigade, First division, First corps, made up of the First Ohio, Third Wisconsin and Fifth Illinois. The Second brigade is composed of the Sixteenth Pennsylvania, Second Wisconsin and One Hundred and Fifty-seventh Indiana. By this time the Brotherton Road, at least a mile and a half from the start, has been passed, and only one third of the camps accounted for.

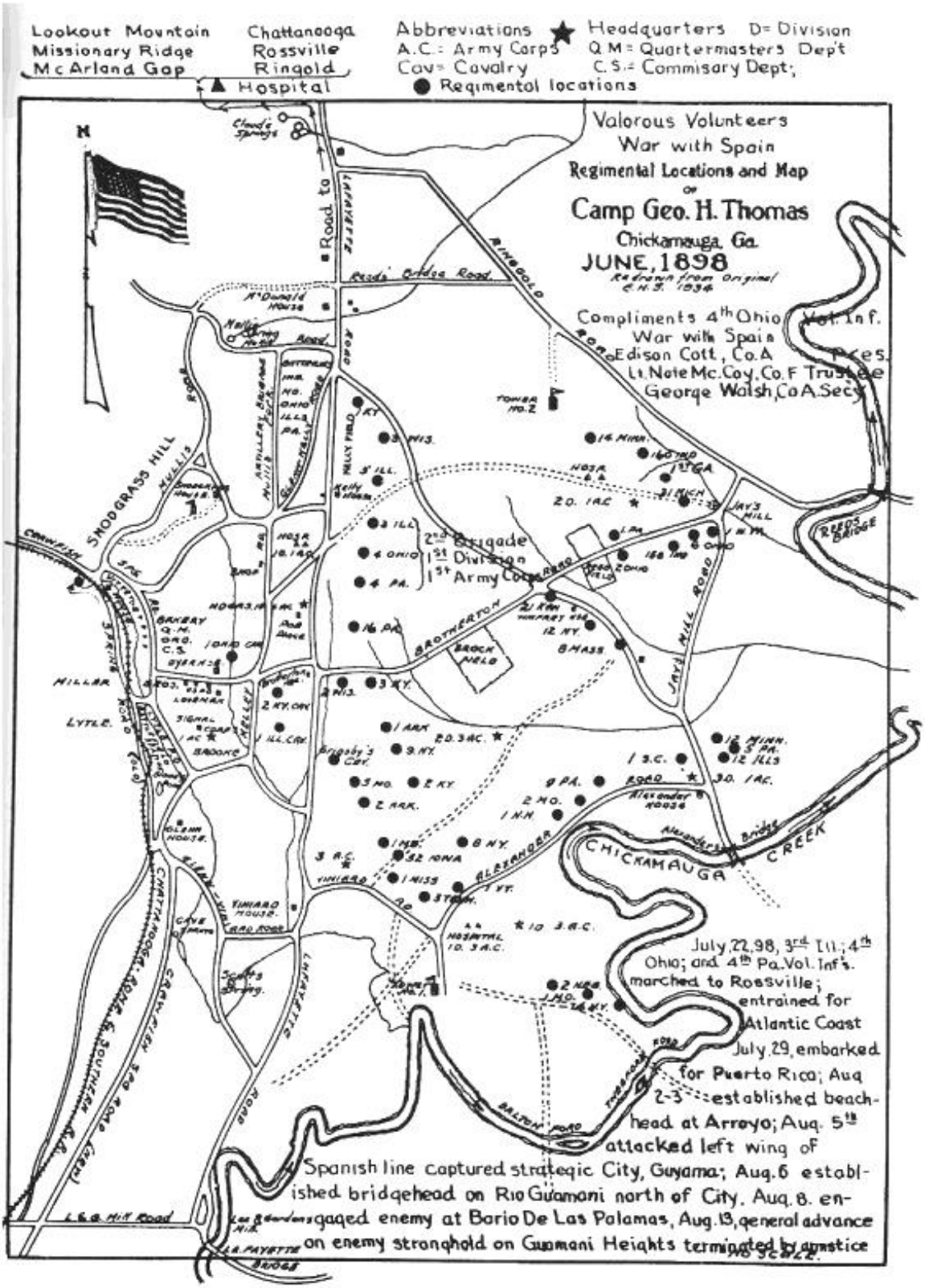
"To find the second division of the corps, turn to the left at the Brotherton Road, and follow it at least two miles to the vicinity of Jay's Mill, where you will come upon the camps pleasantly situated. Beginning again the story of brigades. The First comprises the Thirty-first Michigan, Third Pennsylvania and One Hundred and Sixtieth Indiana. The Second, the Sixth Ohio, the One Hundred and Fifty-eighth Indiana, and First West Virginia. The Third, the Sixth Ohio, the Twelfth Minnesota, and Fifth Pennsylvania.



Officers of the 158th Indiana Infantry Regiment.

"Retracing one's steps almost halfway to the LaFayette Road, the Preston Smith shell monument is reached, near which the Third Division is settled down in a city of tents. First brigade, First Illinois, Twelfth Minnesota, and Fifth Pennsylvania. Second brigade, Eighth Massachusetts, Twenty-first Kansas, and Twelfth New York. Third brigade, Ninth Pennsylvania, Second Missouri, and First New Hampshire. In a straight line their tents would reach four miles and a half. To reach any one regiment one may have to travel that distance.

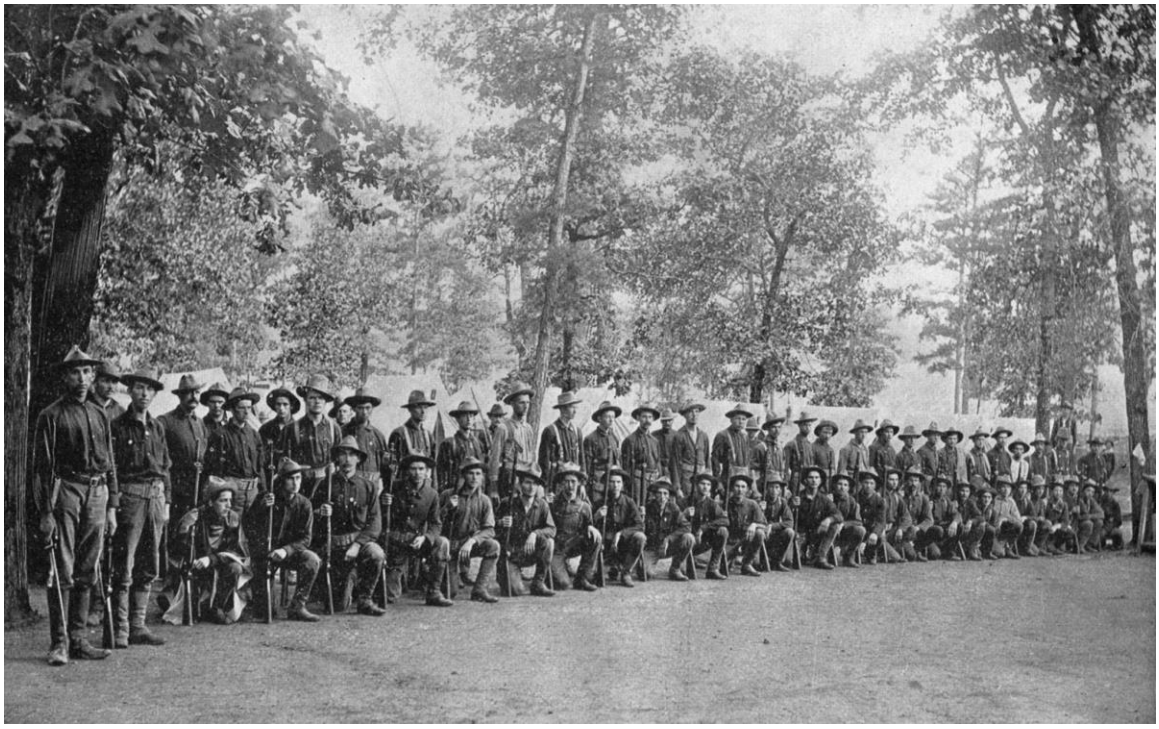
"Near the Third division of the First corps begins the First division of the Third: First brigade of which is commanded by Col. Fred Grant. Its make up is as follows: Fourteenth New York, Fifth Maryland, and First Missouri. Second brigade, Second New York, Second Nebraska, First District of Columbia, Third brigade, Third Tennessee, Third Vermont. The cavalry brigade will be encamped nearby. The Third United States is already there and the First Ohio will soon move. Incoming regiments for a few days will be sent to the vicinity of Alexander's Bridge…



Map showing camps of the volunteer regiments.

Major General James C. Breckinridge was sent to help with the organizing of the troops at Camp Thomas. "Gen. Breckinridge returned last night from Chickamauga Park, where he and Col. Astor spent the day, making a detailed inspection of the First Division, First corps, especially the hospitals, which Gen. Breckinridge states are sadly in need of many things. The hospitals have an outfit for caring for only two dozen men, but fortunately no one has been sick. This morning Gen. Breckinridge will review the battle exercises of the First division of the First corps which begins at 6 o'clock. Two brigades will assault the Third brigade of this division on Snodgrass Hill, and a regular sham battle will be enacted. Gen. Breckinridge has not finished his work by half yet, and will be here for some time.

"Yesterday was a great day for the little post office at Lytle. Two large mail cars have been sidetracked at Lytle, and here the regular mail was 'worked' by a force of ten clerks. Yesterday over 25,000 letters left the post office on the outgoing mail, while at least 40,000 were received. All this matter is being distributed by the regiments. At [each] regimental headquarters a post office has been established, and through this agency, the mail matter finally reaches the hands of the party addressed.



Ohio Infantrymen.

"The first regiment of Ohio infantry is the recipient of a greatly appreciated gift from the Woman's Club of Cincinnati. These noble women, realizing the perils and temptations into which the soldiers will be thrown, have donated a tent to be known as the chapel tent, where the men can receive spiritual benefit and also have a place to pass away the time when they are idle. The tent will be located next to the hospital corps of the regiment, which is situated in the northeastern section of the park next to Jay's Mill.

The tent will be well lighted and will have every convenience for the comfort of the soldiers. It will be well supplied with the best of books, and religious services will be held twice each week. On Wednesday night prayer meetings will be held, and on Friday night the First regiment Christian association will conduct services. The tent is placed next to the hospital corps so that the convalescent patients in the hospital can go into the tent and spend the time pleasantly. The tent will be in the charge of Chaplain Harold Henderson of the regiment.



Site of Jay's Mill.

"The Midway, as the one street in Lytle has been dubbed, is as unique an uncongenial as the typical mining camps described by Bert Harte. It has grown from next to nothing, so that embraces pretty much all kinds of trade, reputable and at times otherwise, although the good men area in the great majority. Now comes F. C. Huffman, the manager of the Peters and Green Comedy Company, who not only proposes to build an opera house, but has a force of men at work upon it. The structure will be about 50 x 150 feet in size and seated for an audience of at least 800 with standing room in addition. It stands in the field where only a few days since the festive farmer followed the pensive mule, working to make a possible 'crap.' Soldiers say such an institution will do big business, the 'season' lasting as long as the army of Cuban invasion is concentrated near Midway…

"The Chattanooga Brewing Company is supplying nine canteens at Chickamauga Park. The others are using Cincinnati and St. Louis beer. These canteens do a thriving business from morning till night. Some of them have taken in $600 in a day. The beer is dispensed to civilians as well as soldiers. The soldier gets his canteen, which holds three pints, filled for a nickel."



The 5th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment hosting a social in camp.

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote, "Wednesday 25: This morning I was on fatigue duty until 11 oclock. This afternoon we had a little rain in the evening we had dress parade."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote "This is as much an uneventful day as yesterday except we had fresh beef for the first time since we left Jefferson Barracks."

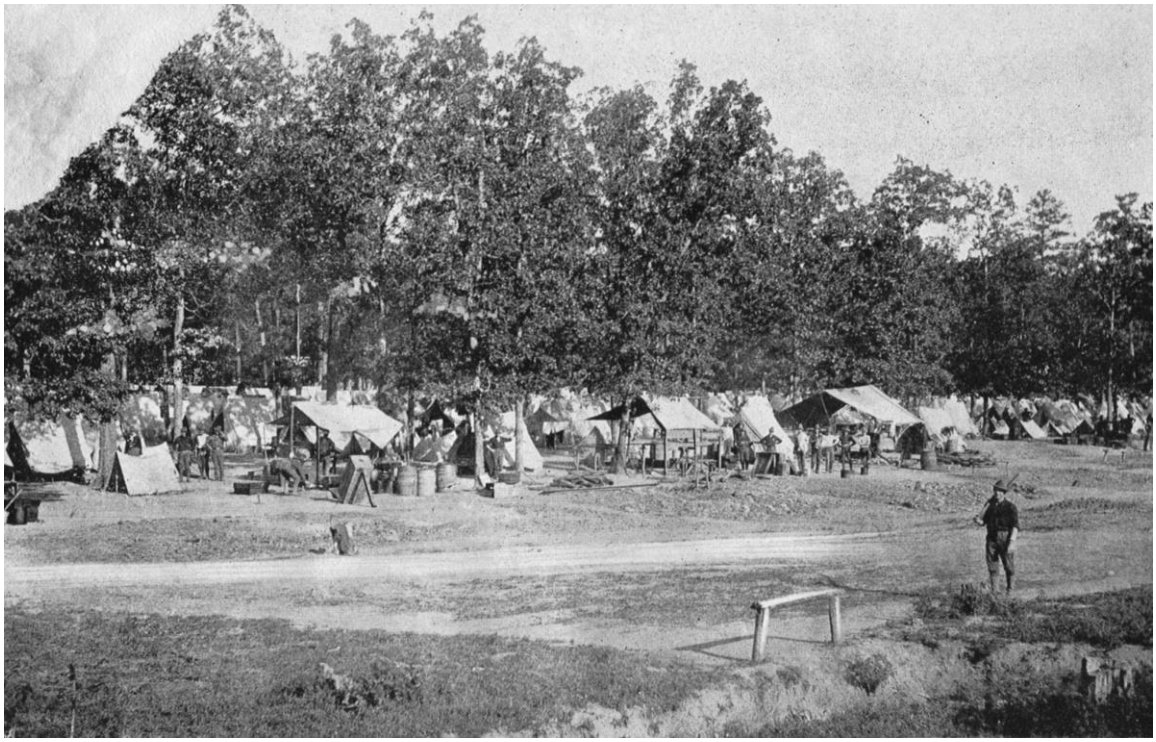
"The three brigades of Gen. Wilson's First division of the First corps engaged in a very realistic sham battle at Chickamauga yesterday… Gens. Wilson and Breckinridge refereed the battle, and late yesterday afternoon they decided that the Second and Third brigades had won the fight and the victory was therefore awarded to them. The manner in which the battle was won, in a nutshell is as follows: While Gen. Burt's brigade possessed the gap one brigade advanced on his front, while the other brigade flanked his left and advanced to his rear. He was therefore hemmed in on all sides and could neither hold the gap nor retreat. Although Gen. Burt's brigade was greatly outnumbered, they held the gap for quite a while, and the 'enemy' was compelled to do some fierce fighting in order to flank his left. Gen. Burt claims that if the proper rules had been observed the force that flanked his left would have been ordered out of the fight, as they exposed themselves in passing over Snodgrass Hill, and would have been wiped out of existence if ball cartridges had been used in the battle.

"The battle was one of the most exciting and interesting events that has occurred in the Park since the troops have been stationed there. The soldiers all went into the fight with a determination to win, and their lusty yells of victory, and the terrific roaring of the rapidly firing guns, the noise of the moving wagons and the terrible din which could be

distinguished as being made by a retreating and defeated army, brought vividly to the minds of those in the Park thoughts of the scenes that occurred there in the sixties. Taken all together it was a great fight, and shows very plainly what Uncle Sam's boys will do to the Spaniards when they meet on the battlefield. Some of the boys could not stand the heat and were overcome before the battle was concluded. One man was discovered with a sprained ankle.

"The most serious affair that occurred during the fight and which bordered on the 'real thing' [was] caused by the refusal of an officer to surrender when captured. It seems that Lieut. Batty, of the Sixteenth Pennsylvania, commanding a squad of men was surrounded by Company C of the First Ohio, and ordered to surrender. The lieutenant did not like the idea of being captured, and instead of surrendering he ordered a charge of bayonets. The men were at close range when this order was given. Company C fell back, and as they did so, Private Martin raised his gun and fired straight at the lieutenant's head. The entire charge of powder took effect in his face and he was carried from the field painfully wounded. It is not known what steps will be taken in the matter.

"The sham battle was the principal topic of discussion at the park yesterday. It is probable that if the orders had been known sooner an immense crowd of Chattanoogans and visitors would have attended the Park yesterday…



Camp of the 158th Indiana Infantry Regiment.

"Maj. Shiba, of the Japanese army, and one of the members of the staff of M. Kato, the Japanese minister to England, arrived in this city yesterday from London, pursuant to orders from the Mikado. Maj. Shiba comes to this city on a mission similar to that of Capt. Lee, of her majesties service, and it is likely that before the war ends

other foreign countries will send representatives to this city to study our armies and military strength. Maj. Shiba arrived in Washington several days ago with credentials from the Japanese government, which he presented to Secretary Alger and obtained him the proper letters of introduction and other credentials necessary to become attached to Gen. Brooke's staff. Maj. Shiba left at noon yesterday for the park, where he paid his respects to Gen. Brooke, and his staff, and was made a member of the staff in the same manner as a newspaper correspondent would be. Maj. Shiba was seen by a *Times* reporter, to whom he stated that he came to study and report on the various branches of our military service, their drills, modes of fighting, etc. He said he did not know how long he would be here, and was unable to state whether or not he would go to Tampa, but proposed to see all that was to be seen. Maj. Shiba is stopping at the Read House, but will spend every day of his stay at the Park. He is a small, rather handsome man, and wears the major's uniform of the Japanese army, which is a trifle more gaudy than anything in the American army. Maj. Shiba took part in the war with China, and carries a number of decorations and medals for efficient service and gallantry. He speaks excellent English, with a slight French accent.

"C. D. Chapman, of Columbus City, Ind., aged 22, of Company G, One Hundred and Sixth Indiana Infantry, was the victim of a peculiar accident yesterday that may put an end to his career as a foot soldier. Chapman came to the city on some personal business, and at 12 o'clock took George Cooley's chair in front of Ed Ransom's saloon to have his shoes polished. Chapman was wearing a Colt's revolver at the time, buckled under his coat. After his shoes were polished he buttoned up his coat and told Cooley, the bootblack to brush him off. This the colored boy did, and rather vigorously at that, inasmuch as his brush struck the hammer of the revolver, discharging one of the cartridges. The ball passed through the palm of Chapman's right hand, tearing the flesh and entering his right foot between to toes and the instep, and lodged in the sole. Chapman was removed to St. Vincent's infirmary, where he received surgical attention. Several of the bones of his right foot were shattered, and it will take time for him to recover…

"By 6 o'clock this evening the new water works at Chickamauga Park will be about completed. Both, pumps, operating the separate lines were successfully operated yesterday, filling the Hall's Ford tower full of water. The pipe for the two lines arrived yesterday morning from Pittsburgh, Pa., and were distributed, one leading from the tower to the Brotherton house in the center of the park, and the other leading to the southeast corner of the park, as surveyed several days ago. Today a large detail of men from the Pennsylvania and New York regiments, good mechanics, will connect the pipe together and by nightfall the waterworks will be complete and in operation. Other lines may be laid from time to time as may be required. The work is being done under the supervision of Engineer Betts and Quartermaster Lee…

"Lieut. Barton, recruiting officer for the Tenth Cavalry, had one of his recruits desert yesterday morning. Lieut. Barton stated to a *Times* reported that he felt satisfied that the Negro did not realize the gravity of his offense nor the punishment. He therefore wrote a letter to Sander's father, stating the penalty, and giving Isaiah until this morning

to return. Unless he comes back in that time, he will be arrested by the U. S. Marshal and sent to Fort Levenworth. Lieut. Barton did a land-office business yesterday. He first sent twelve colored recruits for the Tenth Cavalry to Ft. McPherson, and then examined forty applicants for the rest of the day, out of which number he selected James Collins and Jeff Reece, of this city… Lieut. Barton also received a letter yesterday from some of the non-commissioned officers of Company H, One hundred and Sixtieth Infantry. It seems that this regiment has quite a number of colored men, who enlisted at the start and have since acted in the capacity of cooks and servants. These men want to be transferred to the Tenth Cavalry. Lieut. Baton has not acted on the matter so far."



Laundry day for the 2nd Kentucky Infantry Regiment.

This issue of the *Times* also provided much information about the situation with the regular regiments that had been transferred to Tampa. "Key West is suffering from a reign of terror. Two murders were committed during the night and the best citizens feel that unless the town is promptly put under martial law a state of riot may prevail at any moment. The police force consists of three men and with streets and grog shops infested with turbulent jackies, Negroes, and roughs of many classes the danger to the respectable classes is no mean one. In consequence of last night's bloodshed, Commander Forseythe has already asked for a guard of twenty-five marines to protect the naval station and government dock and strong efforts are being made bay citizens to have marital law declared… The municipal conditions here would be classed as grotesque, to say nothing of war time. How long they have existed is a puzzle. They became manifest soon after the arrival of two companies of the Twenty-fifth Infantry, colored. One of these soldiers became involved in a shooting affair in the streets, and was lodged in the county jail. Half an hour later, a body of his comrades with rifles marched on the jail and forcibly liberated him, the sheriff being powerless to prevent it. Since then the harbor has become the base of operations for a number of free-and-easy saloons, all crowded night after

night with ‘jackies’ and rowdies of all classes. One night this week, a general fight occurred in one of these, and no less than four sailors suffered broken heads. The impotent police force of three men saw the whole affair, but of course could do nothing. Within the past three months so-called ‘peace guardians’ have resigned office, complaining that they have long been paid in city script at the rate of $50 per month, which is discounted one half. A new trio of policemen were obtained, and these now show signs of rebellion, declaring they will resign. Long before the war broke out there had been much talk of marital law for the town, but no steps to this end were taken. There is little doubt now, however, that martial law will soon be a fact.

The African American soldiers who had felt racial prejudice at Lytle and Chickamauga, found the situation much worse when the units were moved to the staging area near Tampa, Florida. For more than a month that black troops remained in the area, even their blue uniforms provided little protection from the anti-black prejudice of white soldiers and civilians alike. In the words of a Tampa newspaper, white citizens in the area refused “to make any distinction between the colored troops and the colored civilians” and would tolerate no infractions of racial customs by the colored troops.”

The wait in Florida became interminable for black units camping near the cities of Tampa and Lakeland for those six weeks in May and June 1898. The 10th Cavalry, the last of the four units to arrive, was forced to find a campsite in Lakeland while the 9th Cavalry and 24th and 25th Infantry, some 3,000 strong, encamped near Tampa. Racial tension was nothing new for the southeastern United States, but the sudden arrival of blacks unaccustomed to blatant discrimination created an explosive atmosphere. Shortly after their arrival in Lakeland, black troops found themselves in a confrontation with a white antagonist that ended with the man's death and the arrest of two black soldiers. “some of our boys, after striking camp, went into a drug store and asked for some soda water. The druggist refused to sell to them, stating he didn't want their money, to go where they sold blacks drinks. That did not suit the boys and a few words were passed when Abe Collins came into the drug store and said: “You d____ niggers better get out of here and that d____ quick or I will kick you B___ S___ B____ out,” and he went into his barbershop which was adjoining the drug store and got his pistols, returned to the drug store. Some of the boys saw him get the guns and when he came out of the shop they never gave him a chance to use them. There were five shots fired and each shot took effect.” In Tampa, conditions were no better, erupting in violence on the eve of embarkation for Cuba and sending nearly 30 black soldiers to the hospital. (Anthony J. Powell, “Black Participation In The Spanish-American War,” The Spanish American War Centennial Web Site, http://www.spanamwar.com/AfroAmericans.htm)

Back at Camp Thomas, there was far less tension. “There is no doubt that the boys of Company C, First Ohio are lovers of pork. This fact was illustrated very plainly yesterday when several of the boys sighted a ‘razor back’ strolling through the woods near the camp. An order to charge was immediately given. The ‘pig’ at once retreated, but assault of the Ohioans was so terrible that he was soon branded as a prize. He was carried to camp, through the officers’ camp, in the meantime squealing in a manner

calculated to arouse the troops at the farthest of the Park. A blow on the head with a shovel soon quieted him. The boys say he will be roasted.

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, recorded in his diary: "Thursday 26: This morning I cut up a pig & helped to get dinner this after noon we got the rest of our uniforms in the evening we had dress parade which we have now every day today two troopers were Court Marsheld one out of Troop H he received a fine of $10.00 & 60 day in the guard house at hard labor the other trooper was out of G troop he got a double fine of $10.00 & 60 days on two charges these are the first cases of Court Marshel."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "At 8:00 Harris, Carroll and Frankel went over to the 1st Ill. to meet a friend of Frankel's and after meeting him went over to the 1st Ohio about 4 miles from our camp to find Harris' cousin whom he had never seen. We found him and also their canteen which resulted disastrously to Harris' pocket-book. We remained there a couple of hours and May 26, 1898 then started home. They had an awful tired feeling coming back and laid down to rest and fell asleep. Got home in time for mass."

"With yesterday's arrivals," The *Chattanooga Times* stated on Friday, May 27, "there are now encamped at Chickamauga Park, a volunteer army numbering 42,000 men. The day at the park was without special incident, most of the commands observing regimental drill. Gen. Breckinridge continued his inspection of the First corps. Two miles of the pipeline at the park were laid yesterday, and by tonight the two lines will be completed and the park will be abundantly supplied with water…

"Every man in the Fourth Ohio Infantry has been vaccinated, and in a few days it will be a matter of impossibility to have the men out on drill. The first of the present week, Surgeon Semkins had companies E, C, and B of the First battalion vaccinated. Early yesterday morning, the chief surgeon, assisted by Drs. Taylor and McMurray, commenced vaccinating the other men in the command. The soldiers were marched to the hospital quarters in companies and one by one the vaccine point was applied to their arms. The surgeons were seated in a special tent. Each private walked into the front end, giving his name and company, was vaccinated by one of the three surgeons, and passed out the rear end. From the tent the boys went to their quarters nursing their arms. Col. Colt said that he expected that half his command would be laid up before the end of next week. Drills may be suspended…

"Troops A, C, and D of Col. Grigsby's Third Volunteer (Cowboy) Cavalry 227 men arrived at the Central depot from South Dakota at 6:30 o'clock in one section of ten cars over the Cincinnati Southern road…The arrival of these plainsmen and 'bronco-busters' was made known to themselves in a studied concentration of yells and war whoops. The men made no objection to sleeping on the grass last night, being accustomed to this mode of life in South Dakota. They will leave at 5 o'clock this morning for the Park…

The paper reported on the arrival of the Ninth New York Infantry Regiment. "This regiment was organized in 1800, and has, at all times, maintained its organization. In the officers car of the first section was the old flag of the regiment that had passed through the war of 1812, the Mexican War, and the Civil War. On the stripes of the flag are inscribed the names of fifteen decisive battles in American history, the flag being present at each with the Ninth regiment. The Ninth is of New York City, their Armory being 125 West Fourteenth Street. Col. Greene is a well-known military man of the east. Lieut. Col. Rand and Maj. Larigan are veterans of the civil war. The soldiers of this regiment are all fine looking men, and it is worthy to remark [that] a large proportion of them are Hebrews. Their behavior while in the city was exemplary. The regiment, as usual, has a mascot in the shape of a goat by the name of 'Dewey.' Each company also possess several very fine St. Bernard, pug, and bull dogs… The trip to the city was uneventful, without either accident or incident. The men arrived in good condition, none of them being sick. What was a little peculiar, the officers of this regiment expressed a hope and desire that the Ninth would be encamped nearby and placed in the same brigade with a regiment from one of the southern states…

"Mr. D.B. Loveman, of the D. B. Loveman Co., was at the park yesterday and as a result of his visit one of the most valuable concessions yet granted was given him. The need of a first class department store was made apparent to the authorities and Mr. Loveman's well established reputation as a merchant secured for him the privilege. By the authority of Gen. Brooke, and upon the recommendation of Gen. Boynton, the D. B. Loveman Co. will at once commence the erection of a substantial and spacious storeroom to be located in the near neighborhood of Gen. Brooke's headquarters on Lytle Hill. The store, when completed, will be stocked with an extensive stock of merchandise. It is Mr. Loveman's intentions to make the various departments complete in every detail."

"Lieut. Barton, recruiting officer for the Tenth Cavalry, had forty applicants for enlistment yesterday, all of whom failed to pass the examination. In regard to the deserter Isaiah Sanders, the following humorous occurrence is worth relating: Lieut. Barton, finding that Sanders failed to put in an appearance sent Corporal Edwards, colored, after him. Edwards went to the house of Sanders' parents on East Ninth Street, and in a few minutes saw very clearly that they were hiding their son. Edwards gave all hands such a scare that the boy's mother fainted. Then he returned to the office, and in a few minutes afterward Isaiah returned, promising to never desert again."

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary: "Friday 27, This morning we started on the new schedgle we have two drills two & one half hours in the morning instead of one & one half hours & in the afternoon we have one & one half hours instead of one as we used to have."

"The great volunteer army at Chickamauga Park," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on May 28, "grows steadily each day. Three regiments arrived yesterday and went into camp. The number of men now in Gen. Brooke's army reaches nearly 45,000, and it is believed that by tonight, that number will have been passed…

"Adj. Gen. Sheridan was in a most pleasant and agreeable frame of mind yesterday, and no doubt felt as young and happy as he did twenty-four years ago, when he encircled with a wedding ring the finger of a most estimable woman, who by that ceremony, and by ties of affection, became his wife. This memorable event in the lives of Gen. and Mrs. Sheridan took place just twenty-four years ago yesterday. The anniversary celebration came in the midst of a great rush of military preparation, when the general was taxed to his utmost, but he was not to busy to recall the nuptial day and to bestow upon it happy thoughts of earlier days. Mrs. Sheridan was with the general a part of the day, and the occasion was passed without ceremony. Gen. Sheridan came in for another share of congratulations when, in the afternoon, it became known that President McKinley had sent his name to the senate, among other nominations made yesterday, to be a brigadier general in the volunteer army…

"Col. Milton [should be Melvin] Grigsby's cowboys, the famous rough riders of the west are being broke into life at Camp Thomas in fine shape. The westerners erected their small tent city yesterday, and as soon as their camp is placed in proper condition they will begin the regular routine of drills and duties. There are six more troops of cowboys already on the road, and are expected here in a few days. Four of the troops are from Montana and two from North Dakota.

"Col. Grigsby was a seatmate of H. Clay Evans of this city, at Lancaster, Grant County Academy of Wisconsin when Col. Grigsby went to the Civil war. The colonel has written a book entitled 'The Smoked Yank' giving his interesting experiences during the civil war. Col. Grigsby was captured and escaped from the Confederates twice, and once was captured by a brave fourteen year old southern lad who held him at bay with a shotgun. He was dubbed 'the Smoked Yank' by the colonel of his regiment on account of his black and smoky appearance when he arrived in camp after escaping from the Confederate prison. He was a daring and brave soldier, and during the war in the Cahaba, Alabama, Andersonville, and Florence, S. C. military circles.

"The cowboys under Col. Grigsby's command are all hale and hearty looking men and are reported as being possessed of a quality of courage that is difficult to find outside of a cowboy's realm. They are very enthusiastic and pushing the work of arranging the camp with a vim and energy that shows very plainly that they are in this fight for business.

Col. Grigsby, in speaking of his boys yesterday, said: 'The boys are ready, willing, and anxious to fight. We have not received our equipment yet, but we will soon begin to drill and, although none of the men know anything about military tactics, I hope to have them in first class condition in a very short time. The boys enlisted in the army for the purpose of fighting, and if we get a chance at the Spaniards, we will show you what a western cowboy can do. What we need is guns, horses, and clothing; we already have the marksmanship and horsemanship. If we had our equipment now, we could do good fighting without any drilling, but I do not think it prudent to put a body of men in a battle under ninety days training. Some of the boys of the regiment have seen some

terrible fighting with the [and] Indians, and when they go into battle, they know what it means."

"Saturday 28" Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "This morning I was detailed as cook police so I took charge of the kitchen by request of the cook & I made a good vegatable soup the first real soup that we had.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote, "Nothing of interest today. Cody, Whetton & Harris were with some D.C. boys who gave our company a serenade. Got straw for tents today."

"Adjt. Gen. Sheridan stated to a Times reporter that no official orders were issued from headquarters yesterday," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on May 29, "and that the day had been one of the most uneventful yet at Gen. Brooke's camp. There were no volunteers arriving except troops I and M of Grigsby's cowboys. Consequently, there was less of a rush in all departments at headquarters. There was practically nothing going on at Gen. Wade's headquarters, and the general and his staff evidently appreciated the very pleasant interval. In many of the regiments there is complaint because certain supplies and equipment are not forthcoming. A great many of the volunteers, being unacquainted with the vast demands of such emergencies that exist in the park, do not appreciate the situation. They fail to take into consideration that every department is taxed to its utmost to accommodate all promptly, but there are unavoidable hindrances that no man could possibly foresee…

"Private Ernest Briggs, a member of Company B, Second Nebraska, was drowned in Chickamauga Creek Friday night about 8 o'clock. The soldiers in the regiment situated near the Chickamauga, are accustomed to bathe in the creek, and last night Briggs, in company with several other members of the regiment, repaired to the creek for their… swim. The soldiers had been in the water for some time when Briggs stated that he intended to swim across. He started, and when near the middle of the stream, the other boys were startled by a piercing cry of anguish from him, and looking toward him saw that he was sinking. They at once began to swim to his rescue, but before they reached the spot the water had closed over him. He did not rise, and the soldiers began to dive for his body. It was recovered shortly afterwards. Death was undoubtedly caused by cramps. Briggs was a young man, 21 years of age, and his relatives reside at Kimball, S. D. He was a well known member of his company and his untimely death has cast a cloud of sorrow over the camp. The remains were brought to Chattanooga yesterday afternoon and interred in the National Cemetery with military honors…

"Lieut. Col. Albert Hartsuff, chief surgeon on the staff of Gen. Brooke, was seen by a *Times* reporter yesterday afternoon relative to the hospital reorganization… Col. Hartsuff expressed himself as being glad of an opportunity to give the *Times* a detailed story of the hospital under the new regime. The reorganization plan, he said, grew out of an anticipation of actual battle between the military forces of the United States and Spain, and it is the purpose of the war department to be well equipped for any emergency that may arise on the battlefield as a means of insuring the best of care and attention to almost

any number of men that may be wounded in battle. Col. Hartrsuff said he is now acting under instructions from Washington which will provide for the new hospital service.

"Entering into detail, Col. Hartsuff said: 'The unit of the National Guard organization is the regiment. The unit of the hospital department under the new regime, will be the division hospital. A hospital and an ambulance corps, or company, will, on these new lines, be organized for each division. The medical proportion of the regimental organization will be reduced in proportion to the increase necessary to form the division hospitals, so that the strength will remain proportionally the same except that it will be concentrated. Almost all ambulance corps of the division will be concentrated and held as an ambulance company. In battle the hospital corps of the ambulance company will remove the wounded from the field to the hospital in the rear. The grand total of medical officers in an army corps of 25,000 is about ninety. The hospital stewards are eighty-three in number, the acting hospital stewards twenty-nine; privates 817. Under the new organization, one medical officer will remain with the regiment, also one hospital steward and one private. All the others mentioned will go to the corps and division hospitals and corps and division ambulance companies.'



Ambulance Corps.

"Col. Hartrsuff added that the work of forming these hospital and ambulance companies, owing to the limited amount of materials, tentage, transportation, etc. would necessarily be slow. For the reasons mentioned the work cannot be pushed rapidly. Col. Hartsuff will be much relieved if he can have all the regiments understand that he is anxious to provide for one and all as rapidly as they could wish for. The only reason that he has not is the fact that the supplies are not on hand. The first five chests of medicine,

arranged by government experts and sent out for the purpose of facilitating the distribution of medicine, arrived yesterday. Col. Hartsuff has been expecting a consignment of these chests for sometime, but was disappointed yesterday to find that such a small number had arrived, when he was expecting 200. If these chests arrive in sufficient numbers, the regiments can be much more speedily supplied with medicines…

"The facilities for handling mail for the great volunteer army at Chickamauga Park has been reduced to a splendid system under the direction of Chief Clerk A. J. Welsh, of the railway mail service. All the mail for the army is received and distributed from two mail cars which are situated on the siding near Battlefield Station. A large number of postal clerks have been placed in charge of receiving and dispatching the mail. One thousand letter boxes have been put in the system adopted to put the mail for each regiment in a separate sack, and in this way it is distributed to each separate command, the public has no adequate conception of the immense volume of mail being handled at the park. Chief Clerk Welsh estimates that fully 80,000 pieces of mail are received daily and an equal amount dispatched, making a total grand total of 160,000 pieces handled daily. This is over four times as much as is handled by the Chattanooga post office.

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote: "Sunday 29, Today I was detailed to do the cooking for today as the cook was sick I had roast beef & soup baked beans & potatoes for dinner & I had my fill."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote in his diary: "Whole company was vaccinated today. Frankel on guard duty."

"Yesterday was a quiet day at Chickamauga Park," The *Chattanooga Times* stated on May 30, "as far as the performance of duties by soldiers was concerned. Aside from dress parades in several of the regiments, all drills and inspections were dispensed with. Religious services were held in a number of camps, all of which were well attended. Thousands of people in all kinds of vehicles thronged the park roads all day, and hundreds of hucksters and peddlers did a rushing business with the soldier boys, who have not yet become accustomed to the rough fare of a soldier's life, and were eager to get something to remind them of the good things they got at home. With the arrival of the cowboys this morning, the numbers were swelled to nearing 42,000…

"Yesterday was perhaps the warmest day of the season at the Chickamauga National Park The sun poured down with a vengeance, running the mercury into the nineties. The situation was much relieved, however, by a constant breeze. Unusual quiet reigned at Gen. Brooke's headquarters, and there was nothing official to announce except the arrival of the cowboy troops. Gen. Brooke and Gen. Sheridan appeared to greatly appreciate the relief that Sunday brought. During the afternoon there were but few visitors at headquarters.

"Lieut. Col. Hartsuff, chief surgeon on the staff of Gen. Brooke, having read of the Red Cross movement as published in the *Times,* expressed his hearty approval. He stated in this connection he has received a good many letters from charitable people in

Chattanooga who were anxious to contribute something to the relief of the sick in camp. He said many of them were willing to send money. The money, Col. Hartsuff said, he could not accept, but if anyone sees fit to send good reading material or clothes, he is perfectly willing to see that these are properly distributed. For the present anyone who desires to send anything for the relief of soldiers who may be in need should send it to Col. Hartsuff.

Col. Hartsuff is the authority for the statement that every command is required to be thoroughly vaccinated. The chief surgeon has received within the past week or two 40,000 vaccine [units] about 30,000 of which thousand have been distributed. Col. Hartsuff made a large purchase of medicine in this city Saturday night, and the consignment has arrived at the park. If the surgeons of the regiments, who may be in need of medicine will apply at the chief surgeon's office now they will in all probability be promptly accommodated…

"There were two deaths from pneumonia at Camp Thomas yesterday. Henry C. Burnham, of Company D, Eighth Massachusetts regiment, resident of Lynn, Mass., and Pierce Collier, aged 18, of Company H, Fourteenth Minnesota regiment, Beaver's Falls, Minn. These men were taken sick the day of their arrival at Chickamauga, having contracted colds en route to the city, which rapidly developed into pneumonia. Young Collier enlisted into Company H when the President first called for volunteers, leaving his studies at the high school at Beaver's Falls, to take up arms in his country's cause. He was a very affable young man and the members of his company were fond of him. His father is county abstractor for Beaver's Falls and is well known throughout Minnesota. A few days ago, realizing that the end was near, Young Collier dictated a letter to his father, telling him that he could not live, and asking [him] not to grieve over his death. In this letter, he also told his father that he should feel proud that he had a son who had left a happy home and school to fight for his country. The remains of both soldiers will be shipped to their respective homes today.

"Ludwig Bohnert, of Company D, Fifth Illinois Infantry, died Saturday afternoon of blood poisoning at the camp of the regiment aforesaid, in Chickamauga Park. Bohnert, is a young man, 23 years of age, whose parents and relatives live in Springfield, Ill. His remains were prepared for burial by H. E. Chapman at whose establishment they are now lying. Just what will be done with the remains has not been decided by the officers of the Fifty Illinois, but it is likely that they will be sent to Springfield, Ill., today.

"Major G. Shiba, of the Mikado's service, will in all probability leave on Wednesday for Tampa, Fla., to study the regular army in all its phases, and if possible go with it to Cuba. Maj. Shiba has taken great interest in what he has seen at the park. Such a thing as a volunteer army is quiet new to him, coming as he does from a land where the only military force is a regular standing army. Maj. Shiba has taken particular interest in the battle exercises and maneuvers at the park, accompanying Gen. Breckinridge on his tours of inspection and observing every move with the keen interest of a chess player. Maj. Shiba has, during his visit here, been considerably annoyed by the attention he has attracted. The Japanese are naturally a very timid people, and Maj. Shiba has been

bothered more than a little by autograph hounds and inquisitive bores. One very funny incident of Maj. Shiba's visit occurred the day he arrived and went to pay his respects to Gen. Brooke. As he entered his carriage in front of the Read House, a red haired individual, wearing his hat on the back of his head and a cigar stump between his teeth, said to a Times reporter: 'Who is that durned Chinaman?'

"He is not a Chinaman,' said the scribe. 'He is from Japan.'

'Say he is,' quizzed the fellow with the Italian locks. 'Well, I'll be dad blamed if I knowed that they had a regymenta of them fellers out at the park.'"



Dinner at the 3rd Tennessee Infantry Regiment.

The paper was very attentive to news of the 3rd Tennessee Volunteer Infantry Regiment, a unit that contained a large number of local men. "The Third Tennessee regiment has received new uniforms for all its men, and they will be distributed today. A requisition has been made for new guns, and it is expected they will arrive in a few days. The camp of the Third is in fine condition, and while not so well located as some of their neighbors, the camp is as clean as a pin. The ground is well drained and being situated on a small elevation, the location is regarded as a healthy one. There are no sick men in the camp, and all are getting along nicely, and are ready to move to the front as soon as they are called… A large number of ladies from the city have visited the camp, and each time carried with them a number of sumptuously filled baskets, the contents of which the boys enjoyed very much. The boys have been the center of attraction for Chattanoogans since they have been in camp and an immense throng from the city visited them yesterday…

"The members of the regiment are much interested in the formation of their band. It is understood that the ladies of the city who have been wanting to do something to show their appreciation for the patriotism of their young friends, are going to raise a fund with which to equip the band with the proper instruments. The officers and men are contributing to the fund liberally, and it is expected to have the band ready for service in a comparatively short time. The regiment has a sufficiency of musicians who have had experience with military bands and all they need is instruments…

"The idea of erecting a gospel tent in the camp is meeting with great favor. The tent would be a great help to the regiment, meaning that a very high class of morals would soon pervade every quarter of the camp, and some friendly organization should see to it that the tent is furnished at once. Chaplain Wright is very enthusiastic over the plan, and every effort will be made to obtain the tent… Rev. Dr. Garrett, of the First Baptist Church, has offered to donate over 200 of the latest song books for the use of the boys if the tent is erected. The International YMCA will begin to work with the regiment in a few days, and Chaplain Wright also hopes to form a Christian Endeavor society…

"The water mains have reached the camp, and the Tennesseans now have all the water needed. It is very hot, however, and the boys say there is no need of boiling it, as in some of the other camps. They think it has gone through a sufficient heating process. Col. Coffman, yesterday issued an excellent order, it being that every man in the regiment should take a bath in Chickamauga Creek. The men were marched to the stream in companies in command of their captains…

"James Wake, an enterprising colored barber, of Dayton, Tenn., has succeeded in raising a company of Negro volunteers, 125 men all told, of which he is the recognized captain. Jim was in the city last night en route to Nashville to see Gov. Taylor. He stated to a *Times* reporter that Gov. Taylor did not seem disposed to recognize the Dayton company, nor grant the same form of legal routine in getting them into the service as he had in the case of white companies. What they wanted, he said, was to be mustered in on the second call. He said he had written a great many letters to the Governor in this regard, but had received no answer, and now proposed to see the chief executive in person and have his company accepted…

"A lot of drummers have also learned that they are useless in the army — drummer boys have been abolished in the service. The men with the sticks are now trying to be buglers so they can stay in the service...

"Today is Decoration day," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary for Monday May 30, "& I worked hard all day. I was detailed for steady cook this morning it is a perfect fright to cook on a camp fire under a hot sun."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote on the same day: "Nothing eventful. Harris on guard got stuck for 36 instead of 24 hours."

On Tuesday, May 31, 1898, the *Chattanooga Times* stated: "With the arrival of three regiments of infantry and two troops of cavalry that came in yesterday, there are now 45,000 soldiers at Chickamauga. Yesterday and order was received from the war department notifying eight regiments to proceed at once to Tampa, Fla., whence it is understood they will go in a few days to Cuba or Porto Rico. The departure of these regiments will still leave about 40,000 men at this point, to be added to today by at least two regiments now on their way to the park, namely, the First Mississippi and the Third Kentucky. Others will be here within the week sufficient to swell the number to nearly 50,000.

"The fund being raised by popular subscription for the purpose of purchasing a horse for Col. J. P. Fyffe, of the Third [Tennessee] regiment as suggested in *The Times* is growing rapidly, and the indications are that the gallant colonel will bestride one of the handsomest animals that money can buy. The sum subscribed for the purpose through Clint Thompson, who has been very active in bringing the matter to the attention of the public is now beyond the two hundred dollar mark, and the full amount needed will be reached today or tomorrow.



Colonel James P. Fyffe, commander of the 3rd Tennessee Regiment.

"A *Times* reporter yesterday afternoon in company with Recorder M. M. Hope made a full investigation of the charges against the two soldiers of the First New Hampshire volunteers, arrested and sentenced on the charge of being drunk and disorderly and insulting ladies, to pay a fine of $50 each, and which fine they have been

working out on the city rock pile. It appears that one of the men was slightly intoxicated, but he did not in any way insult ladies, according to the testimony of the ladies themselves. It appears also that one of the men did try to prevent the arrest of his companion after the police had been called. It was the opinion of the recorder as well as the newspaper man that the men had suffered enough for their offense, and the recorder decided that he was going to release them, and he gave an order to that effect last evening. It is believed that the prompt action of the recorder and the police in the case of these two young men, coupled with the prompt and cordial attention of Gen. Brooke, has deterred any other young over-joyful soldiers form imitating their example, as there has not been a serous infraction of the city laws on the part of volunteers since the arrest and punishment…

"A story went the rounds of certain army officers yesterday to the effect that Mrs. Joseph Leiter, of Chicago, wife of the wheat prince, has purchased the Chickamauga Park hotel and would give it to the government for hospital purposes. The report could not be confirmed…



The Park Hotel at Chickamauga, Georgia.

"Walter Cain, staff correspondent of the *Nashville American,* has the following description of the remarkable growth of Lytle, Ga., which was published in Sunday's *American:* Lytle Station, to which I have already referred in my series of communications, deserves more than the passing tribute of hastily written newspaper correspondence. It is located in Georgia, about nine miles from Chattanooga, and adjacent to Chickamauga park. Two weeks ago its population did not exceed fifty souls. Its structures consisted of a railroad station, a store with post office appendix, three very old residences, and a blacksmith shop. It was in no sense a wide awake and wide open city. In its characteristics, it was not different from a hundred other villages in the south. The people took a quiet interest in the world's happenings and in the long afternoons were wont to gather themselves together in the shade of the one commercial temple and

philosophize or discuss events. Lytle, as has every other aggregation of individuals, had its Gladstone, its Webster, its Bismark, all mute however and inglorious. It had its statesmen, its orator, its wit, and its authority in matters of science and religion. It had its periods of sorrow and gayety. It had, it seemed, its fullest development. The traveler as he wandered through or dashed by on a swiftly moving railroad train, would never have read behind the placid countenance of this demure village any evidence of hidden ambition on its part. He would never have seen in its lethargy any even incipient evidences of prosperity. He would have gazed long in vain for a future in which the energy of the hammer, the devouring teeth of the saw, or the restless activity of the jack plane were to play any part.

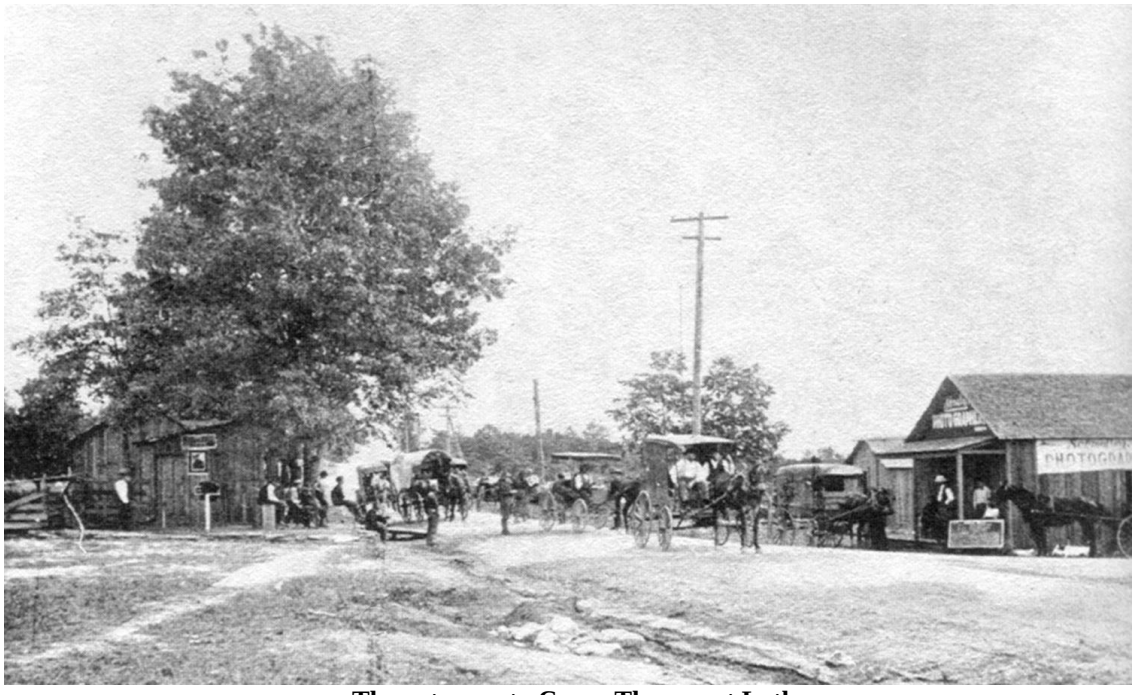


Eating establishments at Lytle.

"But all that has changed. Destiny's board of strategy has determined upon an invasion of Lytle. Today the little station, which I have described as it was two weeks ago, is hardly any more than a memory. The metamorphosis has been complete. It has hundreds of inhabitants. It has scores of houses. The postmaster who had been accustomed to handle not more than a dozen letters, post cards, and papers in a day, now handles tens of thousands of such consignments. There are avenues and streets. There is noise and hustle. The old inhabitant has become a promoter. The pretty yard of its principal residence has seen its roses trampled upon. Its honeysuckle vines made to move on, its lovely verdure a thing of the past, and itself usurped by lemonade, peanut, and stripped candy vendors who must aggressively hawk their wares before the visiting soldier and with Coney Island perseverance pursue the dollars with which Uncle Sam rewards the valor of the nation. The ram-shackled little old depot has given away to a gem of a structure of elaborate proportions, with commodious waiting rooms and all of the conveniences of the Union depot station in Nashville. A warehouse several hundred feet long is just verging on its completion. Water mains have been laid and a perfect system prevails. The one store has given way to emporiums under the management and direction of Chattanooga merchant princes. Metropolitan newspapers have opened up

branch offices, presided over by their most famous correspondents. A dozen or more skilled telegraph operators are kept busy day and night. Vacant lots in the center of this magic city rent for $1 per foot a month and they are only about twenty-five feet deep at that. The demand for such has not decreased. Every business house has its price. Some counters are presided over by women and girls who have allowed themselves to be caught up in this mad whirl of fortune, and in their struggle for the dollar, must listen to the coarse and vulgarity and tolerate the indiscretions of carousing and turbulent soldiers.

"The city of Lytle is in no shape magnificent. Its buildings are of rough pine; as a rule awkwardly knocked together and intended merely as shelter from the sun and rains. The streets are narrow and very dusty and crooked. The wares exhibited include any kind of 'soft' drink, candies, cigars, and tobacco, peanuts, popcorn, sandwiches, ices, battlefield souvenirs and the like. Georgia has a four mile law, like that of Tennessee, but there are well grounded suspicions that though Lytle has not been incorporated, its enterprising merchants think that it will be and are anticipating this event by selling liquors of the strongest character to the boys who wear the blue and are able to put up the long green. The same morals seem to prevail which characterize the mining camp of the west, which this village so much resembles."



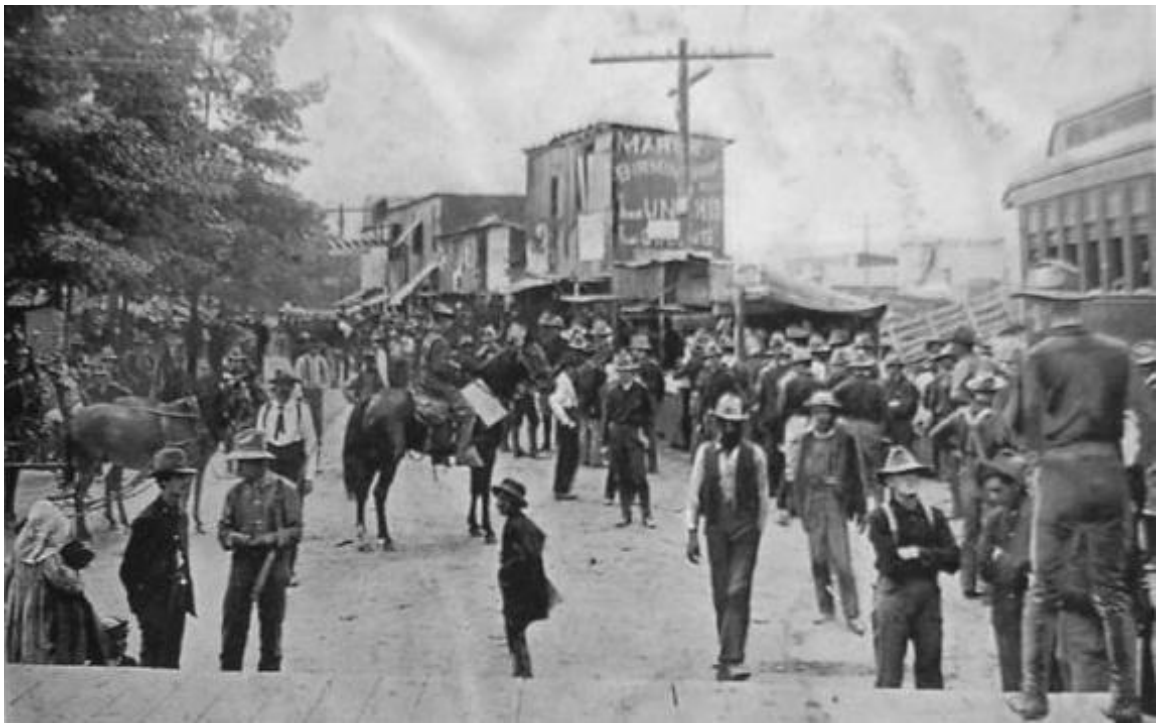
The entrance to Camp Thomas at Lytle.

"Teusday 31," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "This morning I drilled after breakfast from 7 o'clock to 9:30 o'clock today we received our saddles & bridles."

"May 31, 1898," Aubrey L. Whetton., 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote in his diary, "Started issuing to our Reg. new uniforms. "

Chapter III: June

"There were at this point last night," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on June 1, 1898, "of the volunteer army, something over 46,000 men. Of these, 3,000 will leave this morning, and about the same number tomorrow, leaving 40,000 men at Camp Thomas. These will be supplemented daily by new arrivals until the full complement of three corps have been filled. No definite conclusion was reached by Gen. Brooke last night as to the location of the camp of the Sixth corps, yet to be formed, but it is stated that either the east Chattanooga site, or one near Crawfish Spring will be selected, if it should be decided as best to go out of the park for a location. It is now definitely known that a provisional purchase of the Crawfish Spring hotel has been made to be tendered to the government for a hospital. The amount of money already paid and yet to be paid this week to the volunteers by their states for service before they were mustered into the government service, will reach nearly $300,000, a large percentage of which will be spent in this city. The order issued to recruit regiments to full strength of 1,307 men will largely increase the army here, so that Chickamauga and Chattanooga is destined to be the central point to which the department will send ultimately all its volunteer army before embarkation to Cuba….



The Lytle Midway.

"A *Times* reporter interviewed Dr. Nicholas Senn yesterday in regard to the report that Miss Leiter of Chickgo, Ill., had purchased the Crawfish Springs hotel, and had presented the same to the government for a military hospital. Dr. Senn. Admitted one of his friends had provisionally purchased the hotel for the purpose stated, but in view of the

fact that the government has not yet accepted the gift, he did not feel at liberty to divulge the name of the donor. He stated, however, that he felt certain that the war department would accept the gift, and that Col. Greenlee, chief field surgeon had gone to Washington, D. C., to formerly present the gift…

"Gen. O. O. Howard, who spent several days at Chickamauga Park was interviewed at Knoxville, and said: 'I have been spending several days at Chickamauga, and I find that the young men there form the grandest army that I ever saw. With few exceptions, they represent the best elements of young men of the country. They are rapidly being trained into the duties of soldiers and are eager and quick to learn. There is much that they need and are entitled to, but while the war department is doing its best, the mills cannot furnish the supplies fast enough. Gen. Brooke told me that the greatest lack was wagons and other necessities for transportation of the equipage of the army. There is much that is due to the soldiers at Chickamauga, and while I was there, I visited boys and officers and made lists of many things they need. I shall go to Washington, and for humanity's sake, lay the matter before the war department. The men should have more attention in many ways. Gen. Brooke is a fine man and soldier. I know him well, as he fought under me. When my arm was shot off, he came to me to render assistance. He asked me what was needed, and I replied that a certain point wanted to be strengthened, Gen. Brooke said: 'Shall I go?' and I replied "yes.' He went and saved the battle. He is a brave man.

"From all indications, the lawn fete to be given this evening at Mrs. Loveman's residence on Fifth Street by the Soldier's Relief Society, will be largely attended. The occasion promises to be thoroughly enjoyable and though the admission is small (25 cents) a good sum will doubtless be realized for the worthy purpose for which the entertainment will be given. The young ladies of the society have worked unceasingly for the success of the affair and will complete the arrangements today. A cordial invitation to be present is extended to all who believe that Chattanooga should do her part as host in contributing to the comfort of the gallant troops at Chickamauga, who have taken up arms at their country's call…

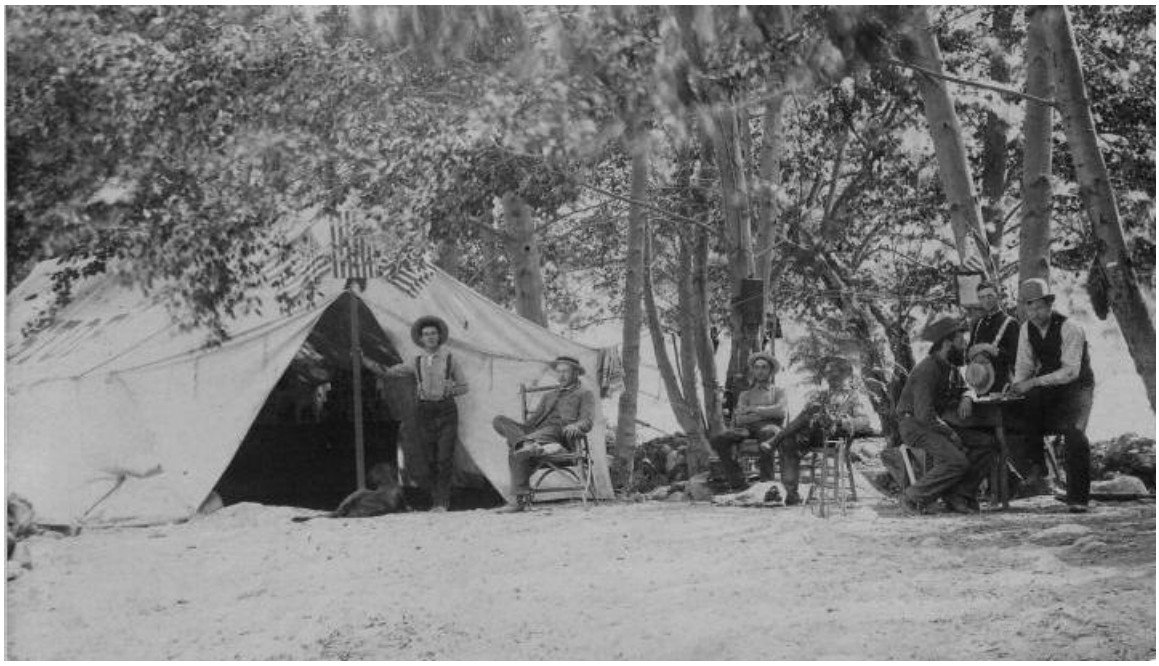
"The temperature at the park yesterday was mild compared with the several days preceding, and probably did not exceed eighty-nine at any time. There was a delightful breeze throughout the day, and this, added to the condition of subdued dust, made park life rather pleasant. The effect of this difference of temperature was manifestly appreciated on all sides. The soldiers felt much better and did their work more satisfactorily. There was nothing parched about the appearance of the park. On the other hand, there was an inviting aspect over the entire area of the park. To the animals in the park, it was almost as good as a day of rest. The government mules were not panting and sweating so much as usual, and the general movement about the great camping ground indicated an ease and comfort that might well be considered remarkable under the circumstances that have confronted the authorities since the rush of troops began…

"Mr. D. B. Loveman yesterday opened his department store in a commodious building near Gen. Brooke's headquarters at Chickamauga Park. The concession was

given to Mr. Loveman as a convenience to the army encamped at the park, and his well known reputation as a merchant conducting his business matters on the most correct business principles, was instrumental in his securing the concession. The establishment in the park will be in charge of Mr. Bernard Loveman, and Mr. John Twinam. It will carry every article that will be desirable or valuable to a soldier.

"H. L. Wolfe and N. G. Cunningham are raising a company of volunteers in Alton Park. They have already met with considerable success, and expect to fully organize the company in a few weeks. Mr. Wolfe is veteran of the Confederate army. He bears scars of many hard fought battles…

"The health of many soldiers has been impaired by eating food stuffs from hucksters' wagons in the Park. It was announced several days ago, that a general order would be issued from corps headquarters excluding these wagons from the Park. This has not been done yet. Gen. Poland, commanding the Second division of the First corps, yesterday issued an order directing the colonels of the regiments composing his division not to permit the sale of 'delicacies' in their camps. Regimental commanders acted accordingly. These orders say that as long as the men are to go to the front, it is best that they accustom themselves to bacon, bread, and beans. They are of the same opinion in this respect, all favoring the exclusion of the hucksters…



Some of the "hucksters" operating in the Park.

Colonel Grigsby had trouble obtaining necessary items from the quartermaster when his regiment first arrived at Camp Thomas. His adjutant, Otto Sues, later wrote: "The requisitions for Quartermaster stores were not always honored. Prominent in this particular may be mentioned the refusal to furnish lumber for hospital flooring; although the regimental hospital contained a number of patients who were suffering with measles and other diseases, and whose cots almost stood in water when it rained, which it did

quite frequently. It was understood at the time that the refusal was based upon the assertion of the Chief Surgeon, that there was no such thing as a regimental hospital, although in the division hospitals there was only room for the most serious cases. The other sick men had to be treated in camp; nor was the strain relieved until Leiter Hospital was opened and ready for business, which was some time during June. Perhaps it was the intention to let those measles patients remain in the troops with the other men. However, such a course would have exposed the entire command to infection, when the very first direction in the regulations of the medical department of the army requires isolation and a limited quarantine in such cases. After the men with the measles had been in this condition for about two weeks, and after repeated protests had been made, they were finally removed, tent and all, to some place near the Second Division hospital. No blame can be attached to the Surgeon General or the Medical Department of the army, as it has been shown that Corps Surgeons were unrestricted in the use of their judgment. That a number of our men did not die in the regimental hospital during June is due to the untiring efforts of Assistant Surgeon Wilson — then the only medical officer with the command - and not to any foresight or judgment displayed by the Corps Surgeon. It is but just to the Quartermaster General, Colonel Lee, to state that with the exception of the case quoted above, and in some minor matters, in which he refused requisitions, he proved himself a friend to the command and is thanked for many little favors that made camp life more pleasant." (Sues 23-24)

"Lieut. Barton, recruiting officer of the Tenth Cavalry, had twenty applicants for enlistment yesterday in his office in the Bates block, this city. Out of this number, he selected William Dixon and William Wright, laborers, both of this city. Yesterday morning, Lieut. Barton sent a party of twelve recruits to Fort McPherson, among them being Isaiah Sanders, the Negro who at first tried to desert."

"Wednesday, June 1, 1898," Private Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Today we received our first saber drill & allso our first drill on horse back & bear backed at that."

Aubrey L. Whetton. 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote, "First battalion drill without arms."

"Notwithstanding the departure of four regiments yesterday, "The *Chattanooga Times noted* on June 2, "there were 43,000 soldiers at Chickamauga Park at 6 o'clock last evening. Four regiments will leave this morning and one will arrive, which will leave at the park in camp 41,000 men this morning. The most interesting event at the Park yesterday was the sham battle between two divisions of the First army corps, reviewed by Gen. Breckinridge and staff. The young soldiers showed a wonderful aptitude for the professions of arms, and although they had never before engaged in division maneuvers they acquitted themselves remarkably well and were cordially complimented by the inspecting officers. The government has accepted the Chickamauga hotel property, which has been purchased by Mrs. Leiter of Chicago, and the building will be at once transformed into a modern hospital…

"The negotiations entered into on part of Lieut. Col. Hartsuff, chief surgeon on the staff of Gen. Brooke, for the purchase of the Park hotel for hospital purposes have been consummated and is now a positive fact that the hotel is to be converted into a government hospital. The possession of a hospital, says Col. Hartsuff, became so manifest that Col. Senn, surgeon general of the State of Illinois and chief surgeon for the Sixth army corps, in conference with Col. Hartsuff, proposed the direct purchase of the hotel and the presentation of the same to the government for hospital purposes. Acting upon this idea, Col. Senn notified Mrs. Leiter, of Washington, of the project and in return received a telegraphic reply from her authorizing the purchase of the hotel and stating that she could be drawn upon for the amount of the purchase, which is $10,000. The new hospital will be called the Leiter Hospital. Great credit is due to Col. Senn and Col. Hartsuff for their prompt and wise action in this matter, and also Mrs. Leiter is entitled to the kindest expressions of a patriotic people for her great generosity. The property was purchased from the Durham Coal and Coke Company, which has owned the hotel and grounds for the last year or two.

"With reference to the purchase, the *Chicago Tribune* yesterday said: 'The United States government will be the richer by a hospital at Chickamauga Park, through the generosity of Mrs. I. Z. Leiter. The illness among the troops there was brought to her attention some time ago, and she at once began a correspondence with Col. Senn, to see what might be done. Mrs. Leiter was told that a permanent hospital to supply more comforts than the ordinary field shelters was what was chiefly needed and the Chickamauga park hotel, located upon the grounds of Crawfish Springs, was thought to be most suitable. It is this building that Mrs. Leiter has purchased for the government. The hospital will provide accommodations for between 600 and 700 sick soldiers, and will at once be fitted up for that purpose. Dr. Senn will have charge of the necessary alterations and will devise the arrangements for caring for the patients. It is thought the hospital will be ready for occupancy within one or two weeks. Mrs. Leiter is in Washington at present, but Mr. Leiter, who is in this city, said the report that his wife had purchased the building was correct. Mr. Leiter understood, he said, that Dr. Senn is to see to fix the hospital up immediately, and that the government will accept it as soon as it is presented."



Private Edward Campbell, Company B, 5th Pennsylvania Volunteer Infantry Regiment, felt that his family and friends back in Lansford, Pennsylvania would not believe the kind of food they had in the army. He took a small army cracker, commonly called "hardtack," and wrote his home address across the top in the center, he wrote "Camp George A. Thomas, Chickamauga Park, Ga.," and at the bottom he wrote the date – June 2, 1898, and mailed it home.

"Private Stanley, of Company E, First West Virginia, surprised many of his friends yesterday with a bit of romance. A pretty and winsome young lady, who had

traveled all the way from the Keystone State, arrived at the park yesterday morning, and was drove to the northeast where the First West Virginia is encamped. Her name could not be learned last night, but it is a fact that she came to claim Private Stanley as her husband. The ceremony was performed by Chaplain Arbuthnot, and Col. Spellman acted as father to the young lady by giving her away to the soldier boy. Private Stanley is from Elkins. It is not known whether he expects to make a bridal tour, but it is expected that he will go to Cuba to return later to be the hero of the girl he loved and won…

"A C. Post, private, Company M, Fifth Illinois, died Tuesday night at the First division hospital of pneumonia. Deceased was one of the oldest members of the regiment and his home was at Canton, Ill. He was a member of the Knights of Pythias and always took an active interest in lodge matters at his home. The remains were escorted to the Union depot by several members of the local lodges, and shipped to Canton yesterday noon.



Division Hospital.

"The Fifth Maryland will leave for Rossville at 6 a.m. today. The whole regiment has been cast in a gloom over a most unhappy accident, which occurred to Private E. L. Thompson of Company I, Fifth Maryland. Thompson was taking bath in Chickamauga Creek about 4 p.m. when he was seized with the cramps and unfortunately drowned. He was found by Private McCann of Company H, Ninth Pennsylvania, but it was too late. The surgeons worked over Thompson for one hour in an effort to resuscitate him, but to no avail. The young man was 22 years of age. What has made the accident doubly unfortunate is that Capt. Thompson of, Company C, Fifth Maryland, is the boy's father. The body will be temporarily interred at the National Cemetery in Chattanooga.

"Major Aseoge Shiba, of the Japanese army, who has spent the past week at Chickamauga observing the movements of Gen. Brooke's army, left last night for Tampa. Major Shiba was very well pleased with the appearance of the volunteers. He said 'They are a very fine body of men, strong and healthy. I have never seen a better body of soldiers than those assembled at Chickamauga. Major Shiba will ask permission to accompany the invading forces to Cuba, and intends to go through the Cuban campaign if possible. He took a prominent part in the recent Japanese war.

One of the regiments transferred from Chickamauga to Tampa was the 157th Indiana Infantry Regiment. On June 2, 1898, a staff correspondent, who was traveling with them, wrote the following for their hometown paper: "On Train Leaving Macon, Ga., June 2. – The One-hundred-and-fifty-seventh left Chickamauga Park, Wednesday morning at 9 o'clock, and made the march to Ringgold, Ga., about ten miles, through terrific heat and dust, in comparatively short time, and in good trim. The thermometer registered about 95 degrees in the shade, and many of the boys dropped out from exhaustion and overheating, although it is thought by many that some of these only fell out to be picked up by the wagon train behind, and secure a "snap" way of getting to the station. Some who took the wagon trains, however, report a rough time in being thrown from the load, owing to its top heaviness and some frisky mules. But considering all things, the march was accomplished in good shape, over high hills and hard roads. The trip was made in less time than was occupied by the regulars, and in two hours less time than the Ohio regiment having the advantage in having a cool part of the morning in which to march.



Some of the men of the 157th Indiana Infantry Regiment.

"The regiment reached Ringgold at 2 o'clock in the afternoon. Water was in demand all along the route, but was easily obtained in some places from springs, which furnished some of the best water the regiment has had since it left Indianapolis. The afternoon was spent at Ringgold, while the Ohio regiment was started out, and while the wagons were being loaded onto flat cars. In this respect, also, the regiment made better time than any preceding regiment, including the regulars, partly due perhaps, to Col Studebaker's capability of handling men and to his experience in loading wagons, especially of the celebrated make of his own firm. The men spent the afternoon in the loading and in resting themselves and obtaining many little supplies, which they expect to need further south. The people at Ringgold seemed more sociable toward the boys in blue than those around Chickamauga Park, but a different spirit was noticeable at times. On one occasion a member of one company struck up a conversation with a young woman, in which she said: "If you wore the gray, I would pin a bouquet to your blouse." The young man answered: "I will not wear the gray, and you will not pin flowers to my blouse," and the conversation ended. Similar experiences are occasionally met with, but generally all express a common spirit in the cause, and wish the boys Godspeed. The stores at Ringgold did more business than at any other time in their history."



Pictured on the right is Lamoin N. Ulrey of Co. D, 157th Indiana Volunteer Infantry. The men are armed with the outdated Springfield rifle. Stuck in the stump between the two men are the rifle bayonets. Ulrey married Ida May Secor and had three children. The family lived in Elkhart, Indiana. The man at left is not identified.

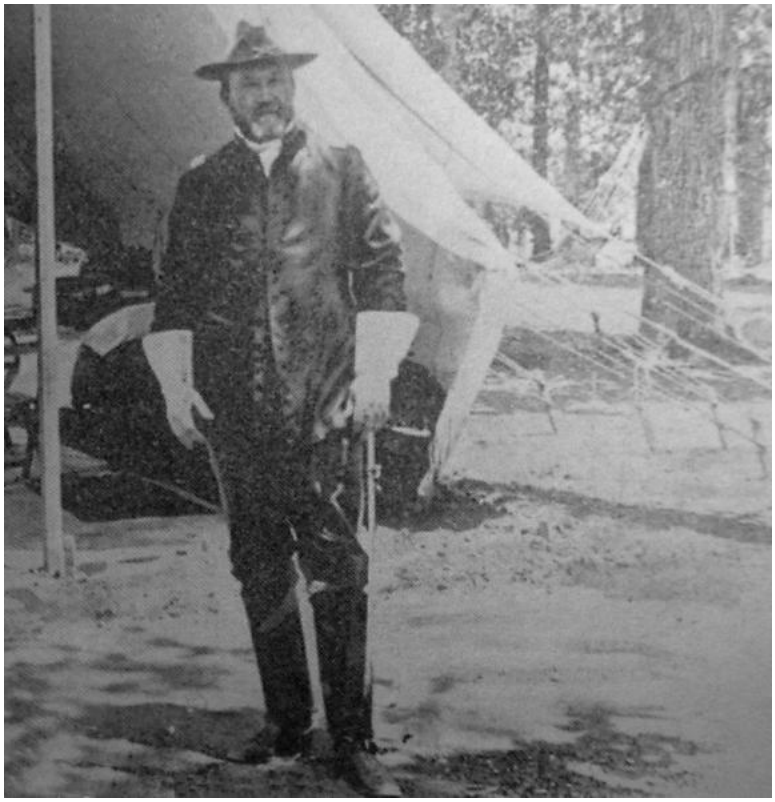
"At about 10 o'clock in the evening the boys of the One-hundred-and-fifty-seventh were boarded on the trains which were to take them to the South. The trains were three in number and were composed of Pullman tourist sleepers, accommodating about thirty men to each car. Every one turned into his berth almost immediately, and many were heard to remark that they were afraid they could not sleep after such a sudden change from the hard beds of Camp Thomas. But it was only a few moments until all was still.

"The men were awakened by the porter early in the morning to find themselves only a short distance from Atlanta. About this place the people were more enthusiastic than near the Chickamauga battle-field, although only few flags were seen floating. Near this place the men began to realize the changes in the country and vegetation from the mountains of Tennessee. Upon inquiry and request, a magnificent magnolia blossom was obtained, which was a curiosity to every one on the train, and was pronounced by all, the most beautiful blossom, with the finest odor, of any thing they had ever seen. A stop of some length was made at Atlanta, and the next station of importance was Macon. A stop

of some length was made there, and dinner was bought by several of the men. Coffee was also purchased for the companies. An old-time engine was attached here, one of the old wood burners, and the boys could leave the windows open with some comfort, there being no cinders flying. Some surprising speed was made with these engines.

"The boys are all behaving themselves remarkably well, and are not in the least boisterous. No liquor of any kind is noticed. This change may partly be due to the fact that the men begin to realize the seriousness of the situation, but is greatly due to the fact that they are "broke," having spent all their money on Camp Thomas. But be that as it may, great credit is due them for the respectable way in which they are conducting themselves. Owing to the energy which they displayed on the march to Ringgold and their quick work there, the regiment has been dubbed the "Indiana tigers" by the Ohio regiment, who also, added that this regiment would never know when it was whipped. The reply was "the One-hundred-and-fifty-seventh never expected to be whipped." The men are all fairly well and in good spirits."

Back at Chickamauga, General Fred D. Grant was sworn in, with a former Confederate soldier being selected to administer the oath. "Gen. Fred D. Grant took the oath of office yesterday at the little post office at Lytle, the oath being administrated by Judge Geo. A. H. Harris, of Rome, Ga., who requested the privilege of officiating. Judge Harris is an ex-Confederate, and Gen. Grant very cordially agreed to assume the obligations of his office from him. The incident created great enthusiasm and Gen. Grant made many new friends and admirers by his cordial and soldierly conduct. The first to congratulate him was Maj. Geo. T. Gillespie, of this city, who grasped the general's hand, saying, "I was with Lee when he surrendered to your illustrious father at Appomattox, let us shake hands, not across the bloody chasm now, but on the soil of a united country, with one flag. The incident was loudly cheered by a large crowd that had assembled to witness the ceremony….



General Fred Grant.

"Thursday 2," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary; "Today we received our carbins & pistols & were vaccinated."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote, "One of Co. M boys was drowned today. Cooks went out on a strike but went back upon request of Capt. Letters are coming for us very freely."

On June 3, the *Chattanooga Times* announced the latest news from Washington. "There is every prospect that there will be soldiers at Chickamauga Park all summer, whether the army invests Cuba and Porto Rico or not. It has been indicated by all the orders issued by the war department that Chickamauga Park would be the mobilizing point for volunteers, that from this point soldiers would be distributed to various assignments… The *Times* received last night, this important dispatch, which, if true, means great things for Chattanooga… An Associated Press dispatch states that the New York Evening World printed a Washington special containing the statement of the Mail and Express, and saying also that the news was official that 75,000 soldiers were to be mobilized here during the summer… There area now at Chickamauga Park 41,000 soldiers, to be supplemented this week by a number of regiments yet in their state camps. The subsistence depot now at Chattanooga is the largest and most important in the United States, in fact, it is the largest and most extensive known in the United States since the Civil War, and this immense depot will be maintained here, probably the entire summer. While all food supplies are not purchased in Chattanooga, farmers and truck men find a ready market for all their produce with the various regimental commissaries and business in general has been stimulated and augmented. The banks show increased business and the impulse given the city by the presence of the soldiers has been most gratifying and satisfactory. And with the assurance that we are to have this stimulus until fall, merchants, business men, and farmers should feel very comfortable over their immediate future…

"Col. Smart, chief of the commissary, said that the most important matter in his department was the completion of the government bakery at Lytle by Prosper Lasard and Co. 'This,' Col. Sharp said, 'was exclusively a Chattanooga enterprise.' He is strongly impressed with the immensity of the bakery, and thinks it an enterprise of which Chattanooga should be very proud. It was called forth to meet a great emergency and it has met it completely…

The editor of the *Chattanooga Times* was so impressed that he wrote a editorial titled "The Soldier's Friend," that stated: "Mrs Leiter's purchase of the Park hotel and presentation of its use to the army at Camp Thomas for hospital purposes is in the right line of aid to the government by rich citizens. It is idle to say the government doesn't need this and similar assistance offered by other wealthy citizens. Such help is needed in the same sense that the government needs the revenues derived from taxes. This is a time of extraordinary expenditure. All of the people must give more than usual, both in a voluntary and an involuntary way. The poor give their sons to the cause, and this takes of their manly store, and often reduces the family income. Associations are being formed in all of the states for the collection of delicacies for the hospitals, and for alleviating the

hardships of the camp and the march. There are many things that can be done with greater certainty, economy, and celerity through private means, than through the red-tape routine of governmental processes. And this provision of a hospital is precisely one of these things. Of course it is a noble and most sensible and timely use of the rich woman's bounty. She is doing her share in the right and graceful and gracious way, and while many other rich stand back and do nothing. Mrs. Leiter deserves the thanks of the people and the blessings of the sick soldiers, which latter she will have in full measure. The house is an ideal one for the use to be made of it: nothing could be better in location, accessibility, and appointments. It has a fine water service, it is lit by electricity, has an ample basement for storage—all that can be desired except the furnishings is already to the surgeons hand. The grounds round the place are delightful for putting convalescents under tents, thus making more room for the sick. The donation is another proof that our rich people are American patriots, generous, ready to do their share when the country is engaged in war or wrestling with any other emergency."



The Leiter Hospital.

"Those immediately interested in securing a horse for Col. J. P. Fyffe of the Third Tennessee, have not yet found a suitable animal. The subscription list is still climbing up and a horse will be purchased in the next two or three days…

"There were two deaths from pneumonia at Camp Thomas late Wednesday night. Clarence R. Steward, age 24, Company M, Eighth Massachusetts, residence Summerville, Mass., and private W. C. Spofford, age 22, First Vermont, residence Burlington, Vt. The latter, although a private at the time of his death, has been an officer

in Company K. He left the Vermont National Guard several years ago, but reenlisted as a private when the first call for volunteers was issued. Private Stewart was an old member of Company M, and one of the best known men in the Eighth Regiment. These young men contracted colds on their way to the city, and were sick on their arrival at Camp Thomas. The remains were prepared for internment by L. J. Sharp and Co. and shipped to Burlington and Summerville yesterday morning.

"The remains of Private E. L. Thompson, of Company I, Fifth Maryland, were shipped to Baltimore last night by H. E. Chapman and Co. Captain Thompson, of Company C of the same regiment, was granted a leave of absence before the Fifth departed for Tampa yesterday, and accompanied the remains of his son. Maj. M. H. Clift and other friends of the Maryland boys sent a number of beautiful floral designs, which were placed upon the coffin before it was boxed for shipment.

"The hospital of the First Division, First army corps, has sixty patients, of which twenty are ill with measles. These men are isolated… One of the physicians said yesterday that pneumonia was prevalent to a considerable extent. None of the inmates of the hospital are in a dangerous condition now…



Colonel Grigsby, mounted at left, with some of his 'Cowboys.'

"During June the horse details began to arrive," Adjutant Otto Sues, later wrote in his history of the 3rd U.S. Volunteer Cavalry, or 'Grigsby's Cowboys.' "However, the horses brought with Headquarters and the various troops were at once apportioned out to the command for which they were intended, and as far as possible the regiment was mounted. Later the horses necessary to fully mount the command were drawn from the

Quartermaster from horses purchased in the Southern market. Until the ordnance stores arrived there were only a few bridles in camp and they were private property, so that the horses had to be ridden to water with only the halter shank, which in some cases was a small piece of wire and entirely unsafe. As a number of these horses were bronchos that had never been under the saddle they had to be "busted" bare-back. In doing this many amusing things and many clever feats of horsemanship were witnessed; with the result that by the time the bridles and saddles arrived, almost all of the horses were broken to the saddle and were "bridle-wise." (Sues 24-26)

"Friday 3," Private Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Today we had a drill with our new carbins in the evening I went to Lytle Station."

Private Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "This morning we had about a three mile march for the purpose of inspection by Gens. Wade and Breckenridge and staff. Col. Grant and temporary brigadier-Gen'l Batdorf were also there. There were about seven thousand men on the field. Our Reg. had the post of honor to the extreme right of the division. Col. Grant and Lieut. Col. Cavender had a war of words. It is rumored Cavender was placed under arrest. Cody & Whetton did not go on parade stayed back to get dinner Cody upsetting nearly all the gravy from a nice roast. We had an elegant dinner today."

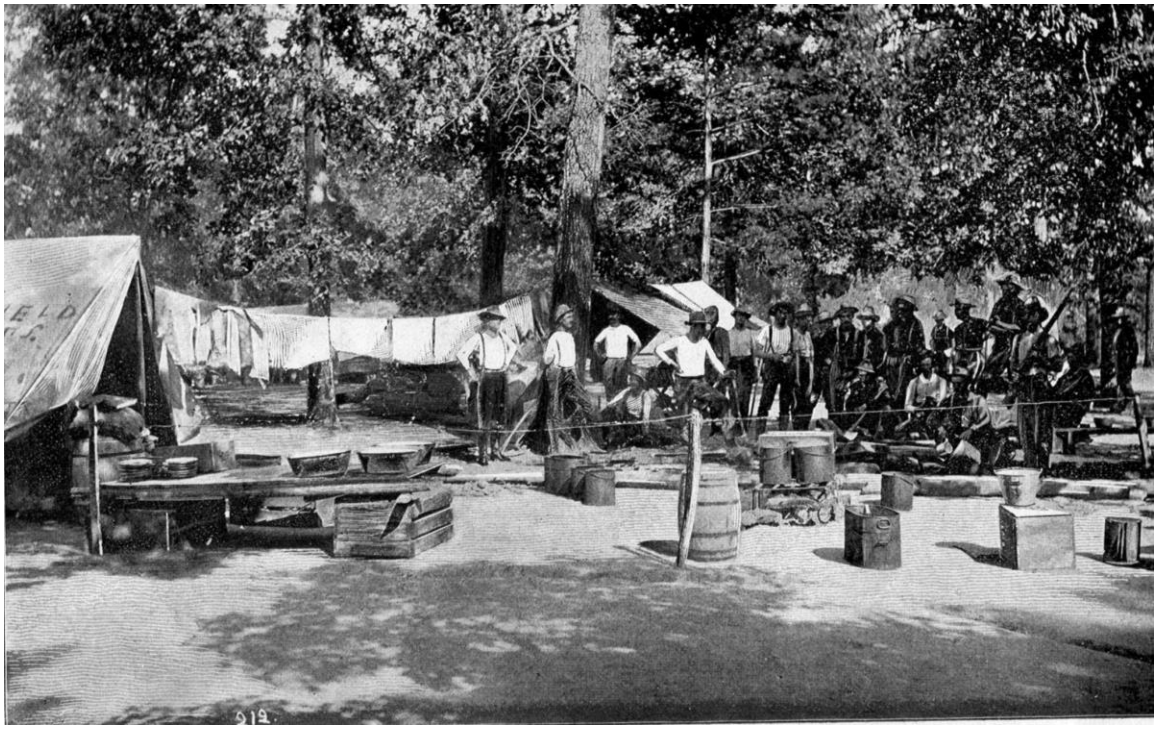
"The soldier boys are getting used to army life," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on June 4, "and there is not so much complaint of food, etc., as there was; in a word, they are becoming inured to the service in fine style and are taking the life now in the best of spirits. The most interesting feature of the day at the park was the review of Gen. Fred Grant's division of the Third army corps by Gen. Breckinridge and staff. It was a magnificent sight, and Chattanoogans may feel comfortable over the fact that the Third regiment, while not as handsomely equipped as some of the regiments, acquitted themselves like soldiers and won the admiration of all…

"Private Gottlieb Schmerer, of the First Pennsylvania, residence Philadelphia, married, died yesterday morning of typhoid fever at the hospital of the First division, First army corps. He was sick when his regiment arrived here, and he had been confined to the hospital for about two weeks. He lived at 1825 south Twelfth Street, Philadelphia. The remains were shipped to that place last night by L. J. Sharp and Co.

"The remains of Ronald M. McDonald, of Company M, First Missouri, who was drowned Thursday afternoon while bathing in Chickamauga Creek, are still lying at Sharp's morgue. No directions have so far been given the undertakers, but the body will probably be shipped to St. Louis today. Private McDonald lived at that place, and left a good position as a drug clerk to enlist in the regiment. McDonald is the fifth man drowned in Chickamauga while bathing."

Adjutant Otto Sues, of "Grigsby's Cowboys," or the 3rd U.S. Volunteer Cavalry Regiment, provided a lengthy description of food at Camp Thomas in his book about the regiment. He stated: "It is said that the Quartermaster fell upon his "stern determination"

and thus escaped unhurt. During the Spanish-American war, complaints of soldiers echoed from one end of the broad land to the other concerning their rations. They claimed that they did not get enough to eat; that they were "half starved." A number of these complaints were made in our regiment, not to the authorities who were in a position to investigate, but to the "home papers," in which letters from the boys were published depicting terrible tales of suffering. There were some of the boys who were not well, and consequently, to use the parlance of the camp, "off their feed," but it is not believed that there was any case of actual suffering, nor would such conditions have been allowed to exist. Let us analyze the army rations and ascertain whether the fault was with the government that issued the rations or the men themselves, who cooked and served it. In all these complaints we will venture to state, without fear of successful contradiction, that not one man mentioned how often, during the first days after issue (issues are made every ten days), the rations were most extravagantly used, much more being cooked than was eaten, and as a result there was a waste; and before the ten days had expired for which rations had been issued, almost everything had been used up, and until ration day came again the meals were scant and far between. This did not apply to fresh meat and soft bread, however, as issues in these articles were made daily; nor did it apply to any except a few troops in the command; the others were ably handled in this direction.



A camp "cook house."

"Paragraph 1252 of the army regulations defines the rations thus: "A ration is the allowance for subsistence of one person for one day, and consists of the meat, the bread, the vegetables, the coffee and the sugar, the seasoning, and the soap and candle components."

"Paragraph 1253, "the kinds and quantities of articles composing the rations for troops where cooking is practicable:"

Articles.	Quantities per Ration.	
Meat Components.	Ounces.	Gills.
Fresh beef.....	20	
or fresh mutton, when the cost does not exceed that of beef	20	
or pork.....	12	
or bacon.....	12	
or salt beef.....	22	
or when meat cannot be furnished, dried fish...	14	
or pickled fish.....	18	
or fresh fish.....	18	
Bread Components.		
Flour.....	18	
or soft bread.....	18	
or hard bread.....	16	
or corn meal.....	20	
Baking powder for troops in the field, when necessary to enable them to bake their own bread..	16-25	

Articles.	Quantities per Ration	
Vegetable Components.	Ounces	Gills
Beans.....	2 2/5	
or peas.....	2 2/5	
or rice.....	1 3/5	
or hominy.....	1 3/5	
Potatoes.....	16	
or potatoes 12 4/5 ounces and onions 3 1/5 ounces..		
or potatoes 11 1/5 ounces and canned tomatoes 4 4/5 ounces	16	
or 4% ounces of other fresh vegetables not canned, when they can be obtained in the vicinity of the post or transported in a wholesome condition from a distance.....	16	
Coffee and Sugar Components.		
Coffee, green.....	1 3/5.	
or roasted coffee.....	1 7/25	
or tea, green or black.....	8/25	
Sugar.....	2 2/5	
or molasses.....	16-25	
or cane syrup.....	16-25	

Seasoning Components.

Vinegar.....	7-25
Salt.....	16-25
Pepper, black.....	1-25

Soap and Candle Components.

Soap.....	16-25
Candles.....	6-25

“Thus we see that each enlisted man is entitled to twenty ounces of fresh meat or mutton, twelve ounces of pork or bacon, or eighteen ounces of fresh or pickled fish per day, eighteen ounces of flour or soft bread, or sixteen ounces of hard bread, two and two-fifths ounces of dried beans or peas, or one and three-fifths of rice or hominy and sixteen ounces of potatoes and onions, to say nothing about the coffee and sugar components and the seasoning. Surely this is more than sufficient for any robust man. Let any able-bodied person multiply the daily ration by ten and set the ten days' rations aside for subsistence and by using any ordinary judgment and reasonable economy, it will be seen that, while the fare may be coarse, it will be healthful and nourishing and more than sufficient to supply all the demands of nature. A slight surplus will even be found in coffee, sugar, pepper, beans and vinegar, that should sell to such an advantage as to supply butter and milk. The savings with but one ration would necessarily be slow, but in handling a troop mess of 810 rations every ten days, a “slush fund” can soon be created from the sale of surplus articles, and from which other required articles can be purchased. It is done every day in the regular establishment.



Serving dinner in camp.

"The whole secret lies in management — in housekeeping, if you please... That is where the whole trouble about rations arises with new troops. The handling of rations may be considered as the domestic problem of the army and in which the majority of National Guard officers are woefully deficient. Experience alone can teach the proper handling of this question. The talk of being half-starved with proper management in the troop messes, is absurd. For instance, as was possible at Chickamauga Park, a troop should draw six days of fresh beef, one day of mutton, two days of bacon and one day of fresh fish; six days of beans, two days of peas and two of rice; six days of potatoes and onions, four days of potatoes and canned tomatoes; seven days of coffee and three days of tea; eight days of sugar and two days of cane syrup; eight days of soft bread and two days of flour, and ten days each of vinegar, salt, pepper, soap and candles. These rations would supply a larder from which meals could be constructed that would satisfy even the most fastidious, with an ample sufficiency for all... The very first principle is good housekeeping. Each officer and non-commissioned officer should know the component parts of a ration and be on hand to see that the men get what belongs to them. No officer should, nor is he required to, accept spoiled or tainted meats or other articles of the ration. However, when once accepted it can only be disposed of, without loss to the recipient, by the proceedings of a board of survey, properly approved. In case tainted or spoiled meat is tendered, it should not be accepted, but the necessary meat purchased in the nearest open market and the matter submitted to the Commissary General for adjustment. This is the only method that can be pursued in case there is no good meat to take the place of the spoiled and to keep the men from being deprived of what the government has decided they should receive daily. When actually at the front or in campaign, these matters are, of course, regulated by circumstances more or less. If a command is well and properly fed, they are cheerful, energetic and more or less happy. The first principle of conducting a successful troop, squadron, regiment, brigade, division or corps, or a campaign, is to see that the troops are as well fed and clothed as the circumstances will permit. In such conditions the willingness, ability and efficiency of a command will never have to be questioned. The success in bringing about such a condition reverts to the officers and non-commissioned officers of the troops, to economy and good "housekeeping" and to the regimental Commissary officer, who, in time of war, as in time of peace, is as important as the most learned general and military strategist. (Sues 26-32)

Joseph Beiler 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote: 'Saturday 4: Today we had inspection at one o'clock P. M."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote on the same day, "Old uniforms inspected by U.S. Army officer. Quarters all cleaned up ready for inspection. All our labor was in vain as inspector did not even look at our nicely cleaned street and tents. Some of the company given blouses and trousers but some of the boys only got blouses. There were not enough trousers to go round. All had to give up their old uniforms and those boys who did not get trousers are in a sad predicament as there were only 16 pairs of old trousers not condemned and these were picked out hurriedly by those who came first. As a consequence Whetton is parading around camp with a blanket around him. Harris & Frankel were fortunate to get old trousers. Cody

got new ones. Capt. Kreidler of Co. "73" died at hospital at Chattanooga. F. P. Harris was sent to the guard house for non obeydance of noncom on the 2nd."

"Gen. Boynton spent the day at the Park with Engineer Betts," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on June 5. "The general returned last night and was seen by the *Times*. Speaking in general of the situation at the Park, and the possibilities for the future, Gen. Boynton said: 'The news contained in yesterday's *Times* concerning the mobilization of troops at Chickamauga was correct. I understand that all regiments—infantry and cavalry—will be recruited to 106 men to the company and batteries to the strength of 173 men. This will give probably 60,000 men, if the commands now on the field are filled to this strength. The understanding is that three corps will be formed at Chickamauga, which will mean 75,000 men at least. There is general satisfaction in Washington over the conditions of the Chickamauga camp, and over the organization of Gen. Brooke and his corps commanders. The army here is larger by far than any other two camps, and all of the conditions, while not perfect, are much better than at any other camp…' Gen. Boynton said that the water line has been constructed for a distance of about four and a half miles. The officials have placed about three miles of six-inch pipe, one and a half miles of four and five-inch pipe, while connection was held with the new stand pipe yesterday afternoon, which gives 150 feet head. Gen. Boynton now has three pumps in operation and extra boiler capacity for all in event of a break. All regiments west of the LaFayette Road can now be reached with water from Crawfish Springs, while there are twenty-three artesian wells and thirteen large springs supplied with force pumps. Gen. Boynton stated last evening that 50,000 men would now be comfortably supplied with water. Five well drilling machines are now in operation digging additional wells in various parts of the Park…

"Burt J. Lindell, of Company H of the Third Illinois Infantry, died at the First division, First army corps hospital at 4 o'clock yesterday morning of pneumonia. He had been in a precarious condition for some days. The dead man came from Rockford, Ill., and leaves a brother, John W. Lindell of Company H of the Third Illinois. It is not known yet whether the remains will be shipped home. Sgt. Robert Dyer, of Company H, Third Illinois is in a precarious condition and will probably die.

"Capt. Edgar A. Kreidlier, age 29, of Company B, First Missouri, died yesterday morning of malarial fever at St. Vincent's hospital, East Lake. Capt. Kreidler was taken sick shortly after the arrival of his regiment at Camp Thomas, about two weeks age, and was placed in division hospital, where he remained until last Thursday, when he was removed to St. Vincent's. During his illness he was visited by many members of the regiment, and the announcement of his death has had a depressing effect upon the whole command. He was a kind, courteous, affectionate officer. He had been in the National Guard of Missouri for a number of years, and was one of the first to answer the call for volunteers. He was unmarried and lived in St. Louis. His brother, who is a member of the First Missouri band, was with him when he died. The remains were prepared for internment yesterday by L. J. Sharp and Co., and will be shipped to St. Louis today.

"Private Ronald McDonald, of the First Missouri, who drowned while bathing in Chickamauga Creek Thursday, will be buried this morning with military honors in the National Cemetery. His mother arrived from St. Louis yesterday."

"About 9:30 o'clock Friday night there was great commotion and confusion at the regimental camp of the Fifth Illinois, and it is a wonder that several men were not injured. A young man named Walter Sibert was on the guard line for the night. Several men from Company I thought they would have some fun with the lad and test him as a guard. They started to run the guard line, and were halted by the sentinel. One man was arrested. Several others went to his rescue. The guard became greatly excited, and ordered his prisoner to stand against a tree, which he did. Quiet a crowd had collected by this time, and made demonstration toward Sibert. The young man stood his ground, stating that he would kill the first man who attempted to take the prisoner. Finally, it was apparent that he was temporarily deranged, and failed to respond to the orders of the Officer of the Day, who had arrived at the scene. It was feared that Sibert would do some person harm, and it was decided to disarm him. This task was not an easy one, for he fought desperately. Lieut. Mullen of Siebert's company was stabbed with a bayonet and injured in the abdomen. In the scrimmage that followed, young Sibert was also slightly injured. But was finally taken to the guard house. The regimental surgeon is of the opinion that the private is insane. Last evening, he was transferred to the hospital and is being treated.



Hospital ward room.

"Dr. Nicholas Senn, who has been detailed to take care of the Crawfish Springs hospital, has arrived at Chickamauga Park and will begin to discharge his duties at once. Orders were received this morning that twelve men from each division would be detailed to make all the necessary arrangements to receive the sick into the hospital. These men will push the work rapidly, and the hospital will be in active operation in a few days. The hospital is a valuable addition to the army stationed at the Park and is greatly appreciated by all departments. Lieut. Col. Hartsuff, chief surgeon, stated last night that patients were already being received at the Leiter hospital and that the work of rearranging the building would be proceeded with at once. The formal transfer of the property to Mrs. Leiter of Chicago, and from her to the government, took place yesterday. The difficulty about the water right was overcome, and the government will be in full possession of the spring. Mr. James H. Monroe, an attorney of Chicago, was in the city yesterday, representing Mrs. Leiter, paying over the purchase money, $10,000 cash to Paul Murphy, representing the owners."

Adjutant Otto Sues, of the 3rd U.S. Volunteer Cavalry Regiment, also called "Grigsby's Cowboys," later wrote the follow comical account of his regiment's introduction to guard duty at Camp Thomas. "No attempt was made at the ceremony of guard mounting until the entire regiment had arrived in camp and reported for duty. A running guard was maintained until May 31, when the first formal guard mounting was held. This first attempt at the ceremony will be an occasion long remembered by all who witnessed it, as it demonstrated how crude the majority of the cowboys were in matters military, and also how ludicrous a lot of untutored civilians can appear when attempting a military ceremony that requires proficiency in drill and maneuver. Acting Chief Trumpeter Murphy was in charge of the field music, consisting of twenty-four trumpets; but only seven trumpeters could sound a note on the trumpet. The guard was a motley aggregation, due to the fact that but few of the men in camp had uniforms, the others appearing in civilian clothes-some with broad-brimmed hats, some with narrow-brimmed hats; a few wearing a miscellaneous assortment of caps and here and there a derby or other stiff hat; some had on black boots and some tan shoes; some wore swallow-tail coats and others had no coats at all. Not a carbine was in the command except those in possession of Troops K and M, and they were the property of the states of Nebraska and Montana respectively. This condition, particularly of the clothing, was due to the abiding faith the cowboy had in Uncle Sam to provide him with a complete uniform as soon as he should have reported in camp, and not to any neglect he may have displayed in not being better provided. It was not a part of the cowboy's contract to provide uniforms or arms. Notwithstanding their unmilitary appearance, the men were just as attentive and sedate as though they had been in service for years, and mounting the guard was a regular thing with them. Each succeeding guard mounting was an improvement upon the preceding one, until about the last of June, when, in their brown canvas uniforms and campaign hats, the troops presented a uniform appearance and could go through the ceremony of guard mounting like veterans. The field music progressed as rapidly.

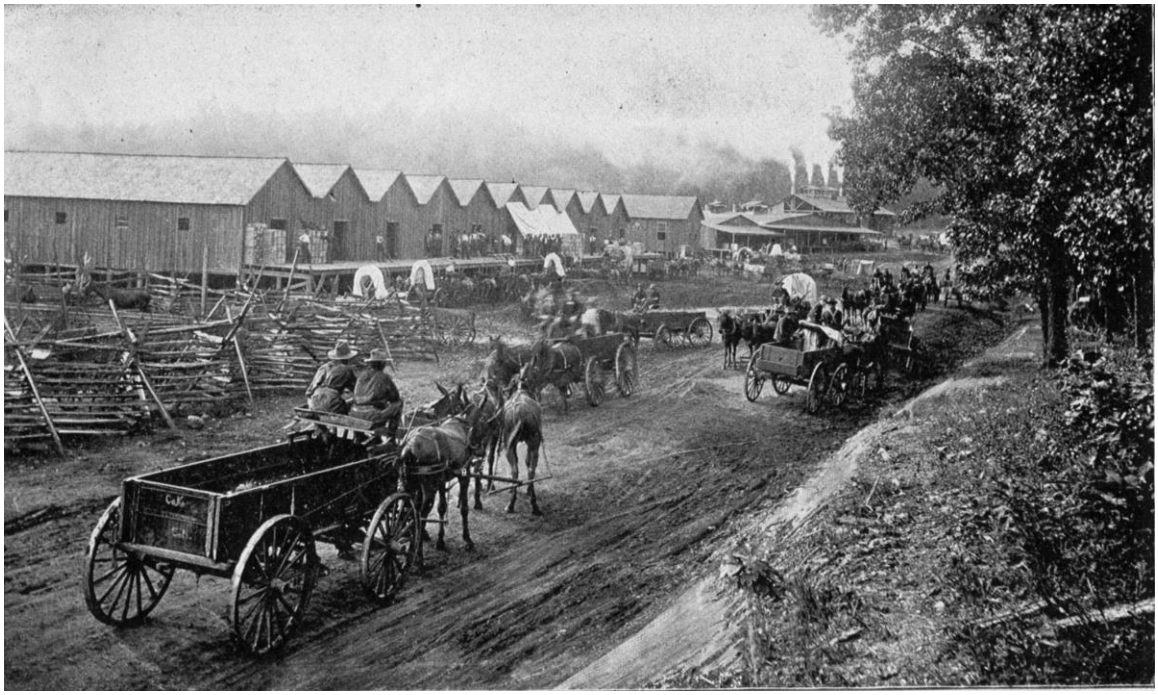
"As sentinels the cowboys proved themselves masters, because the duty was more or less in keeping with their former occupation. On account of lack of arms, the sentinels walked post with clubs until June 28, when carbines were issued. The club

would have proven a satisfactory weapon for the time being and would have a place of honor in this review were it not for one incident that indelibly blackened its record as an armament in time of war. The Sixty-ninth New York Infantry came to the park late in May and were camped very near our command. Some few days after they came the guard in our camp was mounted as usual and started on their rounds, flourishing their clubs much like a Broadway copper. The Sixty-ninth, it must be understood, was recruited in and around the Bowery in New York City, and the regiment to a man, with the possible exception of the Chaplain, hated a policeman for diverse and sundry reasons. Everything went well until about eleven at night, when our Cowboy sentinel was sighted by the flickering torch at the commissary tent by a new man on the guard line of the Sixty-ninth. Our sentinel was walking his post all unconscious of the fate in store for him. As he reached the farther end of his beat, and turned to go back, he was surprised to find himself face to face with the Bowery sentinel, who had his bayonet dangerously near the cowboy's solar plexus. Then the following ensued: Sixty-ninth-"An phwat arr ye doin' so closht fernist me posht?" Cowboy-"Why, I am on my own beat." Sixty-ninth-"Arrah, go way; yer no perliceman, though I'm er mind ta pinch ye fer lookin' loike wann." Cowboy —"I am a sentinel belonging to Grigsbv's Cowboys." Sixty-ninth-"Ha! ha! he! he! Oh, Pat (to the approaching corporal who had been disturbed by the loud converse), do ye moind ther blackguard prowlin' around here wid a shillalah, an' thin thryin' te tell us he's a sintinel " Both in chorus —"Ha! ha! he! he!" Corporal-"Pfwell, I'll have te assurt me 'taurity and runn him in." And our cowboy was taken off and confined in the guard house of the Sixty-ninth for being a suspicious character. All of his protests that he was in the discharge of duty when captured were met with derisive shouts of laughter. The innocent Irish boys could not realize how anyone could profess to be a soldier acting as a sentinel on post and not have a gun. In making his rounds at midnight, Lieutenant Anderson, of Troop D, who was the officer of the guard, missed the sentinel, and though a rigid search was instituted at once, and the Lieutenant personally inquired along the entire officers' line for the man who had stolen one of his sentinels, no light was thrown upon the dark mystery until shortly after guard mounting the next morning, when an officer of the Sixty-ninth brought over the missing man, explained the error and apologized on behalf of his regiment for the unintentional indignity. With all this to contend with, no arms, no uniforms to amount to anything, no saddles or bridles, and not even halters for their horses, the early days in camp were rather trying; but there was no complaint, no fault-finding, because the prospects of getting to the front were bright-the war was young yet. (Sues, 34-36)

"Sunday 5," Private Joseph Beiler 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Today we had a very fine dinner we had a roast beef with brown gravy beef tea or broth rice pudding with lemon flavor smashed potatoes light bread & coffee for supper we had a cold lunch we got done early."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "Fine dinner. Visiting day in camp. Church services held and attended by many of Co. E. Blankets issued to each man. Persistant [sic] rumors going the rounds that our Reg. and 14th NY are to leave Thursday. Sergt. Williams has been ill for three or four days and this evening was taken by ambulance to Division hospital. Frankel on guard."

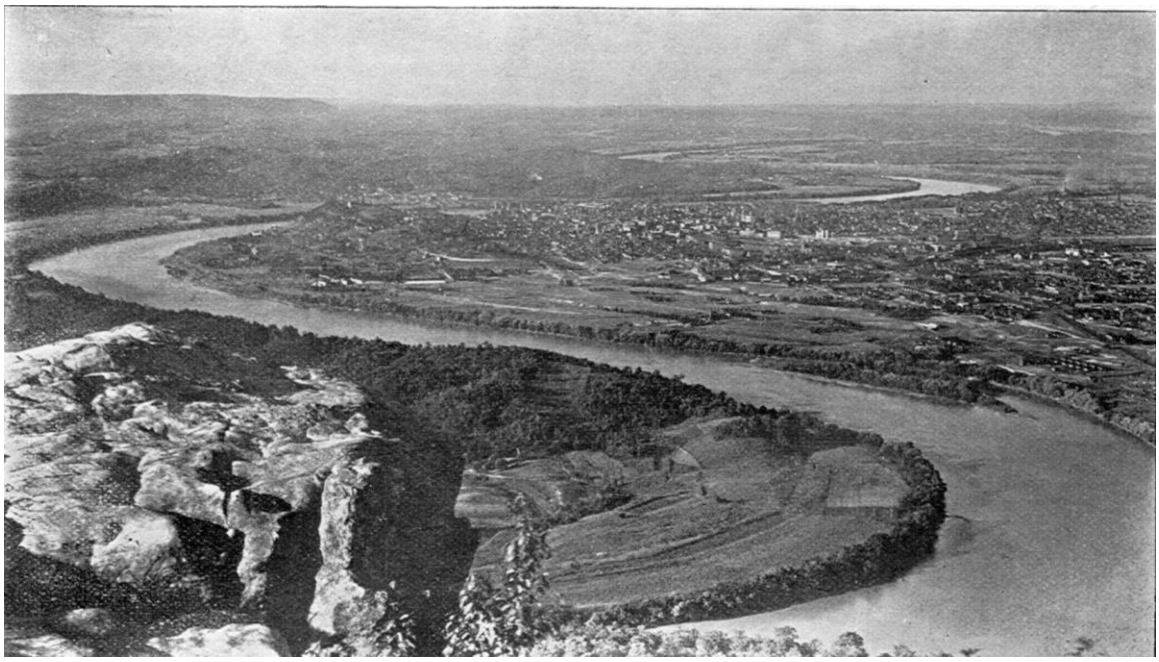
"The officers are congratulating themselves," reported the *Chattanooga Times* on June 6, "on the excellent appearance of all the camps, and the perfect success of all the sanitary precautions and the remarkable healthfulness of the men in the camp. It is a matter of most favorable comment on Chickamauga as the point of all others for the mobilization of soldiers, that in an army of more than 40,000 men there should be such little sickness, especially in view of the fact that the changes made by the men in climate, diet, and water have been so radical. Gen. Brooke, and his staff, have omitted no particular necessary to make the Park a model place in point of healthfulness. Everything is now in smooth working order, and the men are becoming thoroughly satisfied with their condition. The supply depot, has now over a million rations, and has provided ample and sufficient storage room for 5,000,000 to 6,000,000 more if it should be needed. Everything in this department is now in capital working order. In fact, it has been a cause for wonder that in so comparatively short a time, so complete and orderly arrangement of such an enormous quantity of supplies should have been made. There will be a most interesting sham battle between the two regiments composing the First Division of the corps, commanded by Gen. Fred Grant. Which will be one of the most interesting events of the week. The Third Tennessee is in Gen. Grants division and will take part in the battle…



Wagons going to the bakery.

"A large number of soldiers spent yesterday in the city, visiting Lookout Mountain, Orchard Knob, Mission ridge, Cameron Hill, the old military prison, National Cemetery, Oxley Zoo, county bridge, and riverview. In fact, they were everywhere, thoroughly enjoying the day, and the opportunity to inspect every quarter of the most interesting city in America. The arrival and departure of trains from the Georgia avenue station formed one of the liveliest scenes that has been witnessed in this city for some

time. The depot yard was crowded all day with soldiers arriving from and going to Chickamauga Park. The new schedule and arrangement between the Chattanooga, Rome, and Southern railroad and the Chattanooga Rapid Transit Company proved to be the cause of bringing this unusually large number of soldiers to this city. The soldiers themselves regard the new schedule as being little short of a blessing, as it gives them better opportunities to visit this city and return before nightfall…



Seeing Chattanooga from Lookout Mountain.

"Rev. John Fowler, the eccentric street preacher from Mobile, Ala., who has been holding curbstone revivals in this city for the past several days, tackled a congregation last night on the corner of Market and Ninth Streets who were too much for him. Fowler appeared, at the place aforesaid, about 7:30 o'clock, barefooted and in his shirtsleeves. He brought along a box, upon which he stood while delivering his rambling discourse, but he had not proceeded far with his sermon, when a crowd of soldiers came along and kicked the box from under him, bringing him down in a heap. The soldiers next tried to take up a collection to buy Rev. Fowler some socks, and made so much fun of him, that he was forced to postpone his labors in the moral vineyard until some other evening."

The men of the 52nd Iowa Infantry Regiment arrived at the Park. The men of Company K in this unit, before leaving home, had made arrangements with the local newspaper to send regular updates on their activities. Under the heading "Camp Thomas, Chickamauga Park, Georgia, June 6th 1898," they submitted the following: "When I last wrote the second battalion was in Nashville waiting to be sent forward to Chickamaugua Park. While in Nashville the boys were given the privilege of going about the city in squads and visiting places of interest. Most of them took in the capital building, from the veranda of which they had a splendid view of the city. The janitor of the building took great pains to show the boys about and point out to them the objects of interest in various

parts of the city. About three miles southwest are the hills upon which Gen. Geo. H. Thomas stationed his army when he annihilated the rebel army under Wood. In the state house yard is the tomb of James K. Polk, former president of the United States, and also a splendid statue of Gen. Jackson. The lawn is a scrawny looking affair and does not look much like the lawn around the Iowa State Capital. The usual sign of "keep off the grass" is up, but a fellow would have hard work to find any grass to tramp on. The building itself is not much for a state capital, but it has been built fifty-seven years and although old in structural design it is a substantial building. The battalion lay in Nashville until 9:30 a.m. when the train pulled out for Chattanooga, 150 miles distant. About 30 miles south of Chattanooga is the city of Murfresboro, in which Gen. Rosecrans drove Bragg from middle Tennessee. It was a bloody contest as is evidenced by the thousands of soliders that lie buried in the National Cemetery about one mile north of the city. It was Memorial day when we passed through and excursion trains were run from Nashville to the cemetery where the day was observed. The one peculiar thing about the excursion was that but few white people participated in it while there were several train loads of colored people went out to honor the memory of those who died to perpetuate the union and give freedom to their race.



"From Murfresboro to Chattanooga the road wound around among the hills and spurs of mountains, through a country made historic by the tramp of contending armies. The train crossed the Tennessee river at Bridgeport, Alabama, almost at the spot where the right of the Union army crossed when it went to aid the beleagured forces of Thomas, who was shut up in Chattanooga after the battle of Chickamaugua. From Bridgeport to Chattanooga the scenery along the route was exceedingly picturesque, for the train wound around hills with rocky cliffs rising on one side, while on the other was a valley dotted with the cabins of the settlers. The scene may have been a pretty one, but to a practical Iowan the question that continually arose in his mind was, how could any man make an existence out of such a rocky and barren land, let

alone the comforts enjoyed by those on the fertile farms of Iowa. Just before coming into Chattanooga the train passed around the foot of Lookout Mountain and as one gazed up at its precipitous sides he was struck with amazement and wonder at the audaciousness of the men that stormed its rugged sides in the face of a brave and determined foe, and drove their army from its summit. It certainly took the greatest skill and determination on the part of an attacking army and one wonders, after seeing the mountain, that such a deed should be given the foremost place in the annals of the war.

"The battalion arrived at Chattanooga at 4:30 p.m. and as it was extremely doubtful as to whether tents and camp equipment would be given the regiment that night the officers refused to be taken to Chickamaugua Park that evening. Subsequent events proved that the officers were right, for had the troops gone to the park they would have been compelled to lie on the ground without tents. As it was, the boys spent a very comfortable night in the sleeping cars and arrived at the park the next morning about ten o'clock. Dinner was gotten and immediately afterwards tents were issued and soon the tents of the entire regiment were up and ready for the night.

"The ground upon which the Fifty-second is camping was the position occupied by a part of the Union Center during the first part of the day's fight, and is directly in front of the position of Gen Bragg's headquarters. During the night the position was evacuated by the Union forces for one and one half miles west near the Lafayette road and was immediately occupied by the Confederates. In this latter position occurred some of the hardest fighting of the battle as for that matter of the war and the ground is covered by monuments erected by states where their regiments stood during the day or until they were driven from it to Snod Grass Hill about one mile farther northwest. It was at the latter place that Gen. Geo. H. Thomas held the field against desperate efforts of the Confederates to drive him from it. Charge after charge was made upon it, but Thomas stood firmly and justly earned his title, "The Rock of Chicamaugua." Speaking of Rocks puts one in mind that Pap Thomas was not the only rock on the field for the crest of every hill is so thickly covered with rock and stone but that little bare ground can be seen. Where our camp is located the rocks were so thick that the police force for several days kept busy picking them up and piling them around the trees. When you do strike ground it is a reddish clay that nothing will penetrate but a pick-ax or some kindred tool. Constant wear on this will grind up into dust and every tent is carpeted with this vest of natural down. With such a place to live in it is absolutely impossible to keep clean for now straw or wild hay is used, as the two latter are considered luxuries and are kept for the mules and horses. Our readers will naturally ask where is the green grass? Why when a fellow meets a blade of grass he instinctively utters and exclamation of delight and wonders how it happened to grow here. The only thing that thrives here is trees and darkies. The former grow tall and stately and there are some fine stately old oaks and gigantic pines in every direction. Indeed, when one goes through the timber he is lost in admiration and wonders why nature is so luxuriant in one direction and so destitute in the other.

"The health of the boys has not been so good as it was in Camp McKinley, but this is due to the change of climate and the drinking water. The days here are very warm,

the thermometer ranging up into the nineties. This, in connection with poor drinking water, has had the effect of producing a sort of dysentery, accompanied in many instances with severe vomiting. The attack except in severe cases only lasts about two days, when it passes away and the victim soon recuperates. The water for use is pumped from the Chickamaugua river and is brought to camp in pipes laid on top of the ground, not of an excellent quality in the beginning, it becomes almost nauseous by the time it reaches camp. There are several springs about a mile from camp and most of the drinking water is carried from them. This water, while not very cold, is palatable and seemingly agrees with the boys.

"Friday morning the division to which the Fifty-second belongs was taken out in an open field about a mile east of camp for the purpose of being reviewed by Gen. Grant. The regiment was drawn up in battalion front at the foot of a hill and for 2 hours it stood there in the broiling sun and then was sent back to camp. The time on the ground was enlivened by the music by the various bands. Dixie, Old Kentucky Home, Marching Through Georgia, and various other tunes were rendered and vociferously cheered. Finally the Fifty-second regimental band struck up the Star Spangled Banner. Instantly the air was rent with cheer, and none cheered more lustily than the First Mississippi that occupied a position directly west of the Fifty-second, commanded by Col. Govan who was a confederate officer and fought in the battle of Chickamaugua nearly thirty-five years ago."



A regimental band.

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary: "Monday 6,Today I sent a letter to A. H. Nieding."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, on the same day, wrote: "Nothing eventful."

"Chief Hartsuff, and his medical staff," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on June 7, "at Chickamauga are very much gratified over the healthy conditions of the camp, but they are allowing nothing to interfere with the enforcement of all sanitary regulations. Col. Senn states that the Leiter hospital will be ready for the reception of patients in a very short time… Dr. Senn has been instructed by Mrs. Leiter, who purchased the property for the government, to make all necessary improvements at her expense. Dr. Seen yesterday inspected the entire property, and at once will order any improvements he may deem necessary to fit the hotel as a hospital. The indications are that it will be made one of the handsomest hospitals in the country, as there is no limit to the amount of money to be expended…

"A very serious and probably fatal difficulty occurred in the camp of the Second Arkansas between two members of Company M, yesterday morning about 6 o'clock. The two participations in the difficulty were William Crumley and George Watts. The latter was detailed as the cook for the company, and the trouble arose over a very trivial matter, that of a burned biscuit. About 6 o'clock the company assembled for breakfast nd Watts began to issue the food. When he reached Crumley, he happened to place a partially burned biscuit on his plate. Crumley did not relish this, and asked for a better biscuit. Watts did not think the biscuit was burned badly enough to justify replacement, and the two men began to quarrel. The comrades of the two men did not have any idea that serious trouble was brewing, and therefore did not pay much attention to them. Watts and Crumley, however, were very angry and soon began to curse each other and to apply [insulting] epithets, and then the men each seized large hickory clubs which were lying nearby, and before anyone could intervene, struck each other a terrible blow on the head; each combatant delivered his blow at the same time. As the blows were delivered, both men reeled and fell to the ground unconscious. They were picked up and carried to the regimental hospital where an examination of the wounds was made. It was ascertained that Watts' skull was badly fractured, and the physicians, realizing that his condition was dangerous, sent him to the division hospital, where an operation could be performed and the skull removed from the brain. Crumley's condition was not so serious, and he was kept in the regimental hospital under guard. The physicians worked hard with Watts, but last night his condition was extremely critical and it was announced that he was not expected to live.

"Travel to and from Chickamauga Park seems to be increasing at a very rapid rate. On Sunday there was a greater number of soldiers in the city than at any time since the volunteers first began to arrive, owing to the new schedule of the Chattanooga Rapid Transit company. A larger number of citizens visited the park Sunday than for several months and the travel was greatly augmented. Last night, Mr. M. W. Devine, of the Rapid Transit company stated to a Times reporter that he had sold fully as many tickets yesterday as he had on Sunday, which shows that both citizens and soldiers are taking advantage of the new schedule to make trips to and from the park."

Colonel Grigsby continued to have problems in receiving necessary items for his regiment, as adjutant Otto Sues, later wrote in his history of the 3rd U.S. Volunteer Cavalry, or 'Grigsby's Cowboys.' "When the regiment was assembled in camp, it was plainly apparent that clothes were among the most urgent necessities, as only three troops, I, K and M, had anything like an equipment in that line, and even these lacked many articles to make the equipment complete. Instructions were at once sent to the various troop commanders to make requisition for the necessary clothing, which was done without delay and the consolidated requisition sent in at once to the Quartermaster General of Camp Thomas. For some reason no clothes could be obtained until about the end of June, and then not nearly what had been requisitioned for. By this time many of the men were barefooted, or nearly so, and their clothes in tatters. One instance in particular came under our notice, that of Saddler Sergeant Trask, who did not succeed in getting a stitch of clothes until after the fourth of July. When the requisitions went in the statement was made that there was sufficient clothing of all kinds in camp, but the fact remains that it was impossible to draw a full requisition until August, and the fault was not due to any neglect on the part of the regimental commander or the Quartermaster either. Another great disappointment was the matter of receiving ordnance and ordnance stores. A requisition had been made by telegraph for these supplies before Headquarters left Sioux Falls. The requisition was made in this manner because there were no regular blanks at hand, and in acknowledging receipt of the same there was nothing in the reply of the Chief of Ordnance indicating that the requisition was not entirely satisfactory. After we were in camp about ten days, inquiry was made as to why these stores had not been received, and then the Ordnance Department sent blank requisitions and insisted upon the technicality of having another requisition made upon the regular blank. This was done at once, and if it had been promptly honored the command should have armed prior to any of the engagements in Cuba. However, the complete equipments in this line did not arrive until about the middle of July. Whether the fault was due to neglect, rush of business, lack of stores or congestion of the railroads leading to Chickamauga, we are unable to state." (Sues 23-24)

"Tuesday 7, " Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Today we had our first mounted drill with saddles this evening I am very near played out I made saratoga chips for supper after supper I went to church."

Aubrey L. Whetton. 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote "Had another issue of clothing today. Shoes, underclothes and hats, equipment nearly complete now except rifles. Nothing eventful. Whetton's arm is growing very sore from vaccination."

"President McKinley," the *Chattanooga Times* announced on June 8, "will be formally invited to visit Chattanooga on July 4 and review the grand volunteer army at Chickamauga Chattanooga National Military Park, as suggested by the Times. The invitation will be extended by the Chamber of Commerce at the regular meeting Thursday night. A resolution to this effect is being prepared, and will be adopted by the Chamber, and at once transmitted to the President. If it is possible for him to leave Washington at that time, it is thought that the President will accept the invitation…

A priest wrote a letter to the paper saying: "The Catholics of the Second Arkansas were anxious to see a priest. If they will make themselves known to the chaplain of the Fourteenth Minnesota, they will be accommodated. I would be very grateful if you would announce to the Catholics of the different regiments through your estimable paper that on Sunday, June 12, Mass will be celebrated in the Fourteenth Minnesota at 6:45 a.m. Mass will be celebrated on the same day also in the First New Hampshire at 10:30 a.m. The Fourteenth Minnesota is situated on the Brotherton Road midway between the Alexander's and Jay's Mill road, about two miles due east from Lytle. The First New Hampshire regiment is about half a mile west from the Alexander house on Chickamauga Creek.



Mass at the Park.

"Col. Vann R. Hoff, chief surgeon of the Third corps, recommends that the senior medical officer of each regiment be directed to submit to the regimental commander the names of thirty suitable men to transfer to the hospital corps. This is in accordance with the new plan for hospitals, and indicated how many each regiment will be expected to furnish for hospital purposes. George Watts, of the Second Arkansas, who was struck in the head by a fellow soldier on Monday, was improving yesterday. The force at Maj. Hoover's hospital has been materially reduced, more than twenty men being absent yesterday on special detail.

"Since the inauguration of the new system of running Chickamauga Park trains over the Chattanooga Rapid Transit company line to Rossville, and from that point to Battlefield Station over the Chattanooga, Rome, and Southern railway, there has been quite an increase in travel to and from the Park… The first train over the new route leaves at 6 a.m., next train at 9 a.m., thereafter every hour excepting 12 and 4 o'clock, including 5 o'clock, the latter being the last train out until 11 p.m., which is the last train out. Returning, the first train leaves Battlefield Station at 7:44, the next at 10:44, thereafter every hour up to and including 6 o'clock, the last train leaving the Park is at 10:44. The rate is the same as over the old route, 50 cents for round trip tickets, or 25 cents for one way."

Joseph Beiler,1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary on June 8, "This morning I over slept myself it was half past four when I got up that was one hour later than usal this afternoon they assined horses I got a chestnut sorrel left hind foot white a white star on the fore head & a white stripe of the nose & light forelock a scar on the left front foot."



Joseph Beiler and his horse.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, simply wrote: "Had a hot, long company drill."

"Day after day passes," said the *Chattanooga Times* on June 9, "and still no rain at the park. The pleasures of camp life are greatly diminished on account of the parched and dusty condition of almost every nook and corner of the reservation. At headquarters, there was nothing going on besides the ordinary routine…

"There is a strong probability that the government will erect several branch offices of the Lytle, Ga., post office for the convenience of the troops. This morning the work of constructing a $500 building to be used as a money order department will be commenced. The lumber for the new building was received at the park yesterday morning and the work of construction will be vigorously prosecuted. Yesterday afternoon at 12:15 the Lytle post office ran out of 1 and 2 cent postage stamps. The postmaster had on hand a good supply of 4 cent stamps and many soldiers paid 4 cents on their letters. They are now selling over 30,000 stamps a day…"

The correspondent for Company K, 52nd Iowa Infantry Regiment filed another report for the hometown newspaper, saying: "The boys of Company K are all getting along pretty well. Quite a number have the prevailing complaint but all have so fare suffered but little. The first three days in camp the rations were slim in quantity and quality but this has been remedied so fare as quantity is concerned. Capt. Saunders was also quite sick for several days but at this writing he is able to be around once more. Sunday the boys were eager to town and as only ten were allowed passes the names were put into a hat and the first names drawn out were the lucky fellows. Some of the lucky ones sold their chance for one half dollar. The boys are all anxious to go to the top of Lookout Mountain. The boys have been the recipients of many letters from girls who

resided in towns through which they have passed while en-route here. They wrote their names and addresses on slips of paper, baskets, and other articles passed them out to girls who ad gathered at the depot to see the soldiers go through. Some of these letters are nicely written and the writers were evidently ladies of culture and refinement. Who knows what may grow out of the correspondence that may ensue. It may be that many a life's romance will spring from it. Many of these letters come from young ladies in Kentucky and Tennessee and all express sentiments of love and loyalty for the flag, but deplore the necessity of war. They seem to think that every northern man is going to die of heat for all are full of sympathy in that direction. J.R. Bigley and Dan Berry are the company's cooks and the boys are dishing us up pretty palatable grub considering what they have to cook."

"Thursday 9," wrote Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, "Today I did not feel very good we shot three horses to night that were sick"

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "Our chief cook went to town this a.m. to buy some extras for mess, money was our proceeds from profits from regimental canteen. While eating dinner, fire call was sounded and the regiment was sent to extinguish it. Ran about ¾ of a mile and stopped the fire from spreading over the fields but did not try to subdue forest fire. Sergt Williams returned from hospital. Boys gave him a hearty reception. Late in the evening several companies were again called out on account of the fire."

On June 10, the *Chattanooga Times* announced: "Yesterday was the hottest day yet at the Park. The maximum temperature was about a 100 degrees. The thermometer in Gen. Brooke's tent registered 104 degrees in the afternoon. This was not considered a fair test, owing to the fact that the thermometer was attached to a pole which imparted to it some heat that it would not otherwise have been taxed to measure…

"Sick men are already being sent to the new Leiter hospital, formerly the Park hotel. Sixteen patients have been sent from the First division, First army corps hospital to the new location so that they can be better cared for. In the future, all very sick men will be transferred to the new quarters to receive attention at once…

"The post office at Chickamauga Park is no longer a post office in the regular sense of the term, but is now a station of the Chattanooga office… The mail for Chickamauga station will be worked over and prepared for distribution at the local office, thus greatly facilitating the postal business at the park…"

Private Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary: "Friday 10: This evening I was unfortunate enough to be detailed to burry a horse."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, on the same day, wrote, "Had another hard regimental drill this a.m. Whetton's arm is no better, it is in very bad condition."

"Maj. Hoover, in charge of the hospital of the First division Third corps," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on June 11, "reported yesterday fifty-eight in the hospital. This is an increase in three or four days of over 100 percent, but while this is the case, the combined reports from the several hospitals show that the sick rate is on the decline. Col. Hartsuff views this as a most encouraging sign, in view of the fact that the summer is just now doing its utmost to make the park somewhat akin to the opposite condition from the bowers of Eden…

"Mrs. Fred Grant arrived from New York city Thursday night and went to the park early Friday morning, where she joins her husband at division headquarters. She manifested great gratification at finding Gen. Grant improving in health. Although she found him much better, as he expressed it, she advised him to remain quiet on his cot yesterday and take a needed rest as a preliminary step to today's event in which the general is to be conspicuous. Mrs. Grant was very enthusiastic in her praise of Chattanooga, and the park, and she thought her husband had delightful quarters. She will in all probability remain with Gen. Grant for some time. She did not ask his permission to come, but fearing that he might be seriously ill she left home rather in haste and without ceremony. At noon yesterday, Gen. Grant had all the brigade and regimental officers of his division assembled at his tent, and for the second time went over with them his battle problem which is to be exercised this morning. This is the problem the execution of which, Gen. Grant hoped to have General Breckinridge and Col. Aster witness…

"Lieutenant Barton, recruiting officer for the Tenth Cavalry, had twenty applicants yesterday in his office at the Bates block, out of this number he was successful in securing the following recruits, a larger number in fact than he has enlisted in several days: James Russell, of Knoxville; M. J. Mullen, of Walker County, Ga.; Ben McAfee, of Marietta, Ga.; and Albert Calloway, of Chattooga County, Ga. Tomorrow morning, Lieut. Barton will send fifteen recruits to Fort McPherson, Ga., he having that many now on hand at the Lovell boarding house on Georgia Ave. A great many Negroes from surrounding counties are flocking into Chattanooga just now for the purpose of enlisting or securing work as commissary roustabouts or cooks at Chickamauga Park. It is estimated that during the past week, fifty to one hundred have arrived in this city daily. All have been successful so far in getting into the army, or in getting work here or in the park…

"The new theater at Camp Thomas, located at the junction of the LaFayette, Brotherton, and Dyer roads will be opened on Tuesday under the management of Paul R. Albert, the well known manager of the local opera house. That such is the case insures those who attend the performances at Camp Thomas that nothing will be presented that can offend the most modest. The Camp Thomas Theater Company is composed of several well known citizens, and while their object is to make some money out of the venture if possible, yet it will be a great aide in furnishing the soldiers refined amusement without having to leave the camp or interfering with their duties. The time and manner of conducting the performances will be entirely under military control, and for this reason perfect order will be maintained."

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary: "Saturday 11,This morning I received a letter from Burton Neiding & at one P. M. we had inspection."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "Sham Battle. Two divisions taking part. 18,000 men engaged.

"Yesterday was another quiet day at Gen. Brooke's headquarters," the reporter for the *Chattanooga Times* stated on June 12. "No orders were received and none issued… The battle formation and review in the Third corps, under the command of Brig. Gen. Fred D. Grant took place yesterday morning, beginning at the appointed hour, and was successfully carried out, with the exception of the last portion… This feature of the exercise was omitted because of a slight indisposition… Mrs. Grant was with the general again yesterday, having arrived at the park at 10 a.m. She is very careful about her husband's health and has forbade him leaving his tent until he is entirely well. He continues to gain in strength, but is so deeply interested in his duties that he is hardly willing to remain in his tent…



Vaudeville place upper right, restaurant in middle, "Soldier's Home" bar to the left.

"A large force of workmen was engaged all day yesterday, hastening the completion of the new theater being erected at the intersection of LaFayette, Dyer, and Brotherton roads. Manager Albert, who is in charge, says the opening performance will take place on Tuesday night. The hour for the evening performance is 6:45, which continuing to 8:45 will give the soldiers ample time to reach the furtherest camps before taps… The general admission is to be 25 cents, and 50 cents for reserved seats. Box seats, $1.00.

"A large new building is being erected within a hundred yards of Battlefield Station, which is to be used for post office purposes. It will be only a temporary

structure, but will be provided with the necessary equipment for prompt and speedy distribution of mail. A portion of the building is to be used as a warehouse.

"Private J. C. York, Fifth Illinois, residence Springfield, Ill., died yesterday at the Leiter hospital after a lingering illness. He will probably be buried today in the National Cemetery…

"Bicycles must hereafter keep off the road near the First Main camp. The Fifty-second Iowa is situated just across from the Main camp, and the rule also applies to it. Of late one or two runaways have occurred on account of the wild government mules not being able to comprehend the meaning of a person sailing along on two wheels. Orders have also been issued that all bicyclists dismount when they come in sight of a government team."

In his history of "Grigsby's Cowboys," the 3rd U.S. Volunteer Cavalry Regiment, Adjutant Otto Sues describes some problems with mules: "Another representative of the equine family was introduced soon after the command arrived in camp, viz., the "army mule." Quartermaster Parliman was the master of ceremonies at the function; turning over eight to each troop, together with two "escort" wagons. Twelve teams of four mules each were intended for regimental headquarters. Now, the Quartermaster is a man who never hesitates to tackle any proposition arising before him in the line of duty. When he drew the first two teams they were hitched up by the "corral gang," and, as only one driver could be found with the detail then with the Quartermaster, he concluded to drive the other team himself. For about eighty rods everything went well, although the frisky prancing of the mules and their cocked up ears would have denoted the rising storm to the more experienced mule director. Parliman did not realize the coming danger until the mules broke into a sharp trot, which increased at every step until they finally broke into a gallop, and ended in a mad run. The Quartermaster was perched high upon the hurricane deck of the spring seat, with grim determination and several very bad thoughts pictured in his countenance. The noise made by the aggregation warned several teams in the road ahead, who managed to get out of the way just in time. The climax came when the little stone bridge was reached, just before arriving at the Brotherton road, when mules, wagon and driver went over into the ditch together. This stopped the team. Strange to say, a broken wagon tongue was the only result of the runaway." (Sue 24-26)

"Sunday 12," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Today at half past eleven o'clock just as I was about to serve dinner it commenst to rain something awful & kept it up all day till late in the evening."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote "Quiet Sunday except heavy storm in the afternoon. Tree struck by lightning in rear of Col. Tent. One sentry knocked senseless and two mules killed."

On June 13, the *Chattanooga Times* reported on false statements being made about Camp Thomas. "Enemies of Chattanooga and other cities that have been disappointed in securing troops area turning heaven and earth by misrepresentations and

downright falsehoods to prejudice the war department against Chattanooga. The appearance of yellow fever at McHenry, Miss., has given these people another chance to misrepresent this city, and they are swarming about the department in Washington, representatives of Atlanta being in the lead. But fortunately, the department is not easily rattled, and they know their business and are not to be diverted from the sensible course… Dr. Sternberg, and Gen. Boynton, who are in a position to know the situation, may be relied upon to maintain Chattanooga's reputation for healthiness.

The same issue, carried an interview with General Boynton, who made the following remarks concerning the matter: "A few sensational newspapers of the east have recently asserted that the soldiers here are suffering for food. These statements have been paraded in startling form, and the friends of the volunteers have been made miserable. The whole business has been deliberately manufactured falsehood. Yesterday I took occasion to obtain the issue of rations for ten day past for each of the regiments specified in these newspapers as suffering. In each case it turned out that not only had full rations been issued for this whole time, and no separate article making up the rations had been short, but that two vegetable rations, in addition to the rations, had been issued to all. Not only this, but the whole issue had been in good condition. This whole attack upon the very faithful, competent, and energetic officers responsible for the issue of stores seems to have been devised to bunco the public and fix its attention upon stories of supplies with which these sensational newspapers now propose to proceed to the 'relief' of the soldiers at Camp Thomas. It is both an infamous and transparent game, and, as stated, based on unqualified falsehood. One of the men drawn into this affair is a minister in Washington, who a week ago, in a most sensational sermon, attacked the government for its cruel neglect of soldiers here. If he had been in the service of the devil or the Spaniards, rather than the Lord, his sermon would have been all right. As it was, he was simply the victim of sensational newspapers, and undoubtedly believed he was playing the part of a patriotic American. Among the other charges against the camp, it is denounced as sickly. The fact is, the sick rate has been steadily declining ever since the camp was established. Gen. Brooke's order stopping the sale of pop and other slop in the park caused the sick rate to go down 20 percent in four days. Yesterday the rate was 3.03 percent, and 1 percent of that was 3,000 vaccinations, leaving only 2.03 percent of legitimately sick cases. This is less by considerable than regular army posts, where the troops are established with every contingency. First, for the cruelty to the friends of the soldiers at home, secondly, for its injustice to the able commander and his staff, and lastly, for the implied attach upon the war department, the whole business is diabolical and those engaged in ought to be treated as public enemies and driven out of camp…'

"A serious accident happened on the line of the Chattanooga Rapid Transit Company near Rossville, Ga., yesterday morning, in which three soldiers were more or less injured. About 10 o'clock a train made up of a locomotive and two passenger coaches left Lytle for the city. These two coaches, which ordinarily accommodated about sixty men each were crowded to suffocation, many soldiers were on top of the coaches and riding on top of the pilot of the engine. Before leaving Lytle, the soldiers were informed that it was against the rules of the company for them to ride on the locomotive or on top of the coaches. They paid no heed, but one after another, climbed on top of the

coaches and on the engine, fairly taking possession of the train, and the train was covered with blue-coated boys when it pulled out for Chattanooga.

"While passing along near the belt crossing in Rossville, a telegraph wire fell across the top of the train. The wire caught Pvt. Judd Sharpe, of the Sixteenth Pennsylvania regiment across the neck, dragging him from the top of the car. While falling, he seized Pvts. C. H. Amos of the Third Illinois regiment, and Thomas Barrett of the Fourteenth New York, I his efforts to prevent a fall. All three men rolled from the roof of the coach, tumbling down a slight embankment. The fall was at least fifteen feet. The conductor did not see the men fall, and before the train could be stopped, it had run some distance up the track. At this juncture, an out going train came along and picked up the men. The train going to Chattanooga stopped, and over a hundred soldiers ran to the assistance of the injured men. The three men were picked up in a semi-conscious condition. They were all suffering greatly, and were placed in a baggage car and returned to the park. When the camp was reached a heavy rain was falling, and the men were placed in the depot. Later they were taken to the corps and Leiter hospital. Barrett's face was badly lacerated, while Amos was cut in the neck and suffered a sprained hip. Sharpe was badly cut about the neck and suffered from shock. He refused to give his name, and it was some time before he was identified. He said his parents would hear the news, and he didn't care to frighten them. The men are more or less injured, while it is feared that Barrett and Sharpe are injured internally. The train was running at the rate of about ten miles an hour when the men fell off…

'Through Paul R. Albert and I. Nor, the soldiers at Camp Thomas will have an opportunity of worshiping together every Sunday. The gentlemen have tendered the use of their new park theater to the army commission of the Young Men's Christian Association, which is carrying on a good work at the park. Services will be held each Sunday by the various chaplains and noted speakers from the north and east…

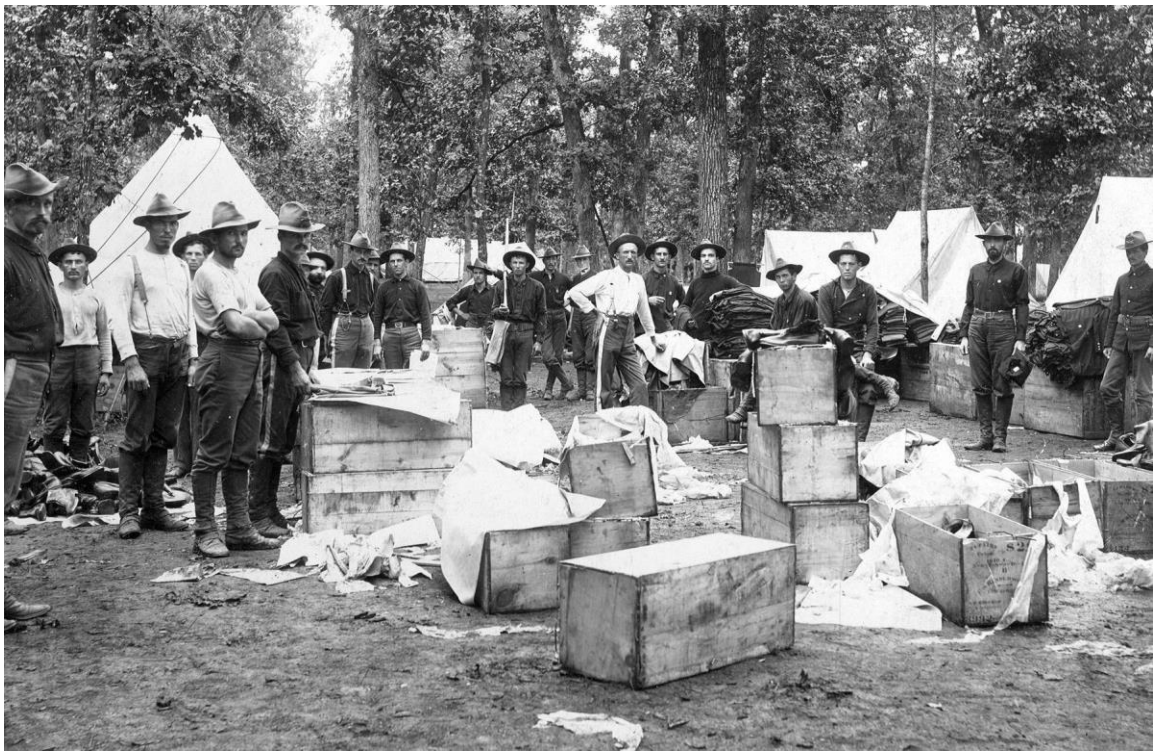
"Charles Wilson, a private in Company B, Sixteenth Pennsylvania was arrested yesterday afternoon and lodged in jail on the charge of stealing a gold watch from a Negro woman named Handley, which was found in his possession. Wilson was arrested by Patrol Guard Carlson as he was passing police headquarters. He admitted to the theft.

"Engineer Betts states that a curious thing occurred at the Park yesterday at about 2:30 o'clock. The men engaged in laying the new pipe line from the existing pipe line on LaFayette Road to the horse corral at Bloody Pond, were compelled to desist owing to the constant electric shocks they received in handling the pipe. This happened just as the storm of yesterday afternoon was gathering, and the first drops of rain laying the dust, at which time the atmosphere and surface of the earth were surcharged with electricity. The line of pipe formed an excellent conductor for this current, all of which the men discovered, several receiving very lively shocks.

"The new theater opens tomorrow night with amusing vaudeville. The company that will furnish the evening's entertainment at the New Camp Thomas theater tomorrow night will arrive this morning and immediately proceed to rehearse with Prof. Loveland's

orchestra. The program rendered will be diversified and of a refined, yet amusing, nature. The theater will be neatly and comfortably arranged, the scenery and accessories entirely new. Private boxes, numbering three on each side of the stage, will seat eight persons each. The reserved seats are to be cushioned. But what will add to the greater comfort of the audience is that an abundance of ice water will he on hand at all times. The audience and stage will be lighted by electricity. After tomorrow night, there will be two performances daily, the matinee starting at 12:45. The evening performance commencing at 6:45. A large party from the city have already signified their intention of attending, among which party will be a number of ladies.

"Capt. Zalinski, who has charge of the clothing and equipment department of Gen. Brooke's army, is a hard worker. He has plenty of work to occupy his time. Yesterday, Capt. Zalinski showed a *Times* man through his warehouse. The warehouse is 300 x 24 feet and is fairly packed with clothing, including uniforms, underwear, campaign hats and shoes. He has a very large stock on hand and issues to the regiments as rapidly as possible. Two men are at work constantly meting out the clothing. Yesterday the First Mississippi regiment received a large supply of clothing. Col. Grigsby's cowboy regiment has just been equipped with new uniforms."



Clothing being issued to Grigsby's Regiment.

Adjutant Otto L. Sues, described the first death among the men of the 3rd U. S. Volunteer Cavalry, better known as 'Grigsby's Cowboys,' in his later book: "On June 13 occurred the first death in the regiment, that of Herbert Lawrence, of Troop E. It had been known for some days that his life was despaired of, but, notwithstanding that, his death

came like a shock, as it brought the realization that there was an enemy in camp; in the shape of the typhoid microbe, that could not be combated with shot and shell, and an enemy that was working incessantly day and night to turn a flank or gain a strategically advantage over an army that had nothing but a robust constitution for a defense, and which, in the case of Lawrence, had been shown not to be impregnable." (Sues 36)

The correspondent for Company K of the 52nd Iowa Infantry sent another article to the hometown paper stating: "The second week of camp life in Chickamaugua Park has passed away with little of interest to break the routine of the usual drilling. It seems strange with nearly fifty thousand men on a comparatively small space of ground that men should get lonely; yet it is true, and we doubt if there is a man in the Fifty-second regiment who, if he will speak the truth, has not felt a feeling of loneliness steal over him as he sat in the passing twilight and allowed his thoughts to turn on the busy activities of the life that he left behind. This is especially true when a person is a little under the weather, for then it seems to be harder to throw it off.

"The weather has been intensely hot and considerable discomfort has been felt on this account. The thermometer has ranged from 95 to 110 in the shade, and it seems as though the sun would bake a man-its rays strike the earth so straight. It reminds one of what Mark Twain wrote concerning a hot day in Marsailes, France, and getting out into an opening is about like plunging into a fiery sea and swimming for life to the nearest strip of shade. No rain has fallen since we came and dust reigns supreme. The trees and tents are covered with it and even the air is so thick with it that a man gets a peck of dirt in one-half day, let alone in a life time. On Wednesday, Major Hile, commanding the second battalion, took it to Crawfish Springs about five miles southwest of camp. The day was intensely hot and the sun beat down on the dusty road with its most intense rays, without a passing cloud to alleviate its heat. The boys were pretty hot and tired when they arrived at the springs, but they felt amply repaid for their march, for upon arriving at the crest of the hill overlooking the springs such a beautiful sight met their gaze that voluntarily an exclamation of surprise and delight escaped from all. Right below them lay a small lake of the clearest water that one ever looked upon, and to their right a stream of water eight feet wide and two feet deep gushed as it were from the solid rock. A shout of delight rent the air, and soon every man was turning the cool, pure water down his parched throat and filling a long felt want. It did not seem good to drink one's fill of water without a thought of disease germs it contained. On the hill above the springs a large hotel is, or rater was, located- for it was recently purchased by a lady and given to the government and is now being used as a hospital in which the worst cases from Camp Thomas are placed. It is a beautiful spot and it is being put to an excellent purpose. We have heard veterans of the civil war belonging to the Ninety-third Illinois speak of the spring. They passed it on their way from Chattanooga to Atlanta when Sherman moved out to attack the latter place, early in May, 1863. There is talk of piping the water to Camp Thomas, and it is hoped that it will be done in the near future, for with pure water the only serious defect at Camp Thomas would be remedied.



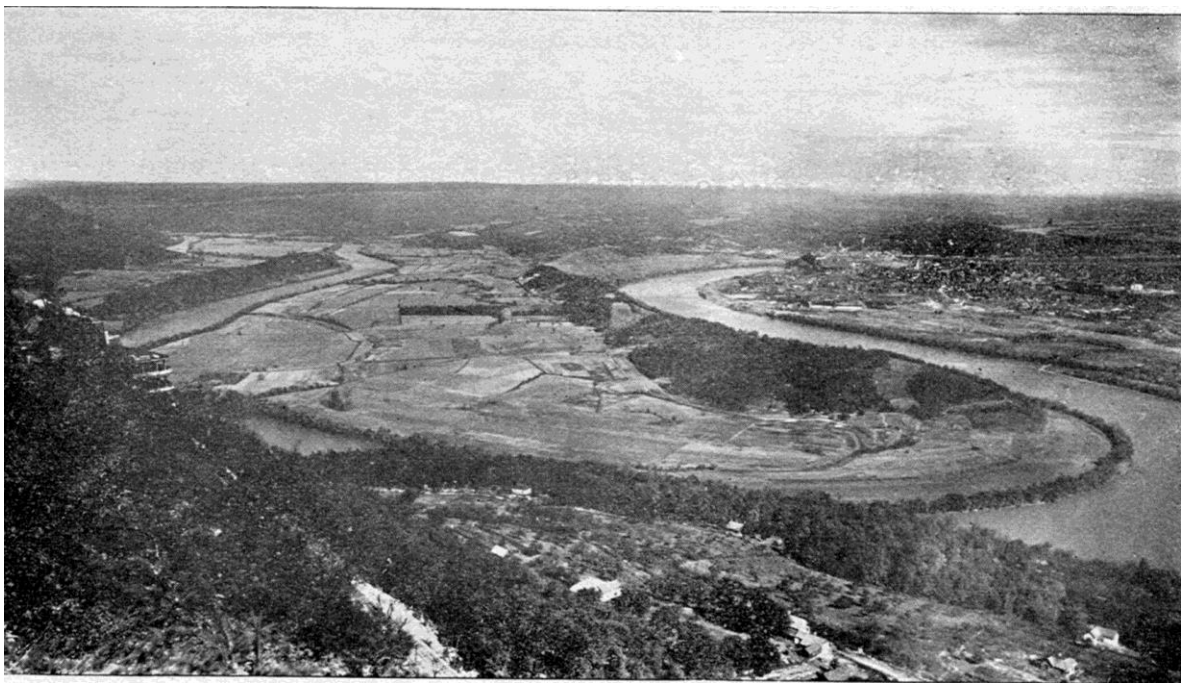
Crawfish Spring and Lake.

"We notice that some of the daily papers are continually harping on the poor rations and sanitary condition of Chickamaugua Park. Even the death rate is magnified to a wonderful extent. It is true that several deaths have occurred since the Fifty-second came into camp, but in many instances those who died contracted the disease previous to reaching this point. Six deaths have been the result of drowning. Outside of these six the deaths have not averaged three a week. This is certainly a low rate when you take into consideration the number of men in camp, and the additional that all came here from other states, and in many instances from northern states where the climate is much cooler. Take the Fifty-second regiment for instance, it has been here two weeks and out of the nine hundred men in it but two are seriously ill, and one is a pneumonia case and the other a case of typhoid fever and it is pretty safe to say that both cases were contracted outside of Chickamaugua Park, for both were taken down immediately upon arriving in camp. It is true that a number of the boys are sick, but at every militia camp that we attended in Iowa as many of the boys of company K were sick as are sick today at Camp Thomas. Of course there are some kicking on the rations, but every regiment has sufficient to eat, such as it is. So far the diet has consisted of bacon, bread, potatoes, beef, beans and canned tomatoes. The variety is not great but a sufficient quantity is issued so that no man need go hungry.

"A little ripple of excitement was created in the middle of the week by the announcement that recruiting officers would be sent home to recruit the companies up to 106 enlisted men each. Instantly all was qui vive as to who would be the lucky men to go home. It was decided to send a commissioned officer, a non-commissioned officer, and three privates from each battalion. The ones selected from the second battalion were Captain P.O. Refsell and Private Hancock of Company K, a sergeant from Company C, and a private from company H, and company F. Merritt Turner of Bancroft was the one selected from Company F. They left Sunday noon and by the time this reaches Emmetsburg they will be in God's country once more.

"The Fifty-second Iowa was fortunate in securing such an excellent Chaplain as Rev. Johnson. He is an eloquent talker but better than all, his sermons are earnest, practical appeals to the men for the best possible development in christian manhood. He is exceedingly practical and pointed and does it in such a nice manner that none can take offense. He is genial and pleasant to meet, and all the boys like and respect him.

"To those who are historically inclined the battle field upon which they are encamped furnishes a never ending source of interest. It would take a month's of hard study and work to go over the entire battle-field and view the points of interest and follow out the various movements of the contending forces. Last Sunday we visited the site of Widow Glenn's house where Rosecrans had his headquarters during he first days battle. This site is also remarkable from the fact that it has a monument erected in memory of a private who was the only enlisted man killed at this point. To the north about one-half mile is the site of Rosecrans headquarters the second day of the fight. Here, also, was where Gen. Lyth fell in the vain attempt to stem the tide of battle that finally overwhelmed Rosecrans on that eventful day and drove his right wing and right center from the bloody field in disorder. We have not yet visited Snodgrass Hill where Thomas made his gallant stand and successfully repelled five fierce onslaughts, made by the confederates on his lines."



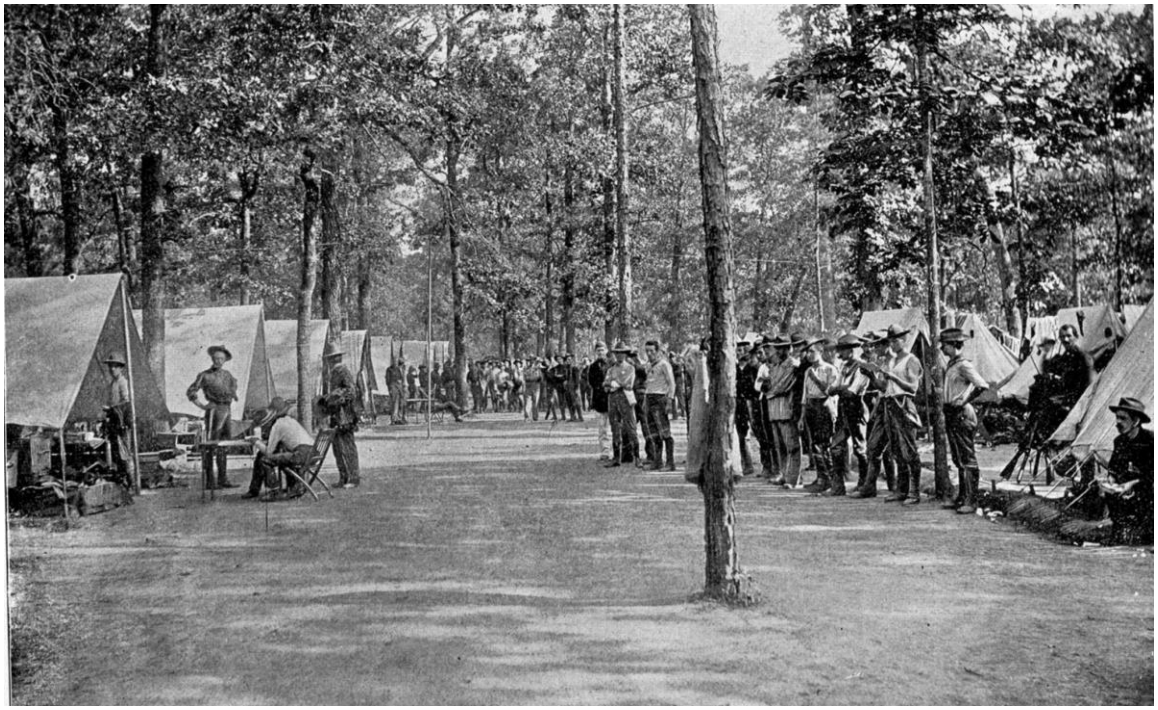
View of Moccasin Bend from Lookout Mountain.

"The boys of the second battalion are looking forward to spending a night on Lookout Mountain sometime during this week. The plan is to have the men take a couple of days rations and march up the mountain one day and spend the night and then return the next day. It will make a pretty good days' march but then it would break the monotony of camp life and enliven things up a little. It has been our observation that

anything that breaks up the monotony of camp life is of great benefit to the boys, as it tends to interest them and take their minds from some real or fancied ills that are always attendants of camp life. It is to be hoped that Major Hile will carry out his design and visit Lookout Mountain."

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Monday 13: This morning we got up we had no wood & the kindling wood was wet & the fire hole was full of mud & water & we had a great time getting breakfast ready in the afternoon a Captain of one of the other troops came over to our picket line & claimed my horse & the stable Sergeant give him the horse now I have no horse in the evening we had a regimental inspection."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote "Nothing eventful. Rain."



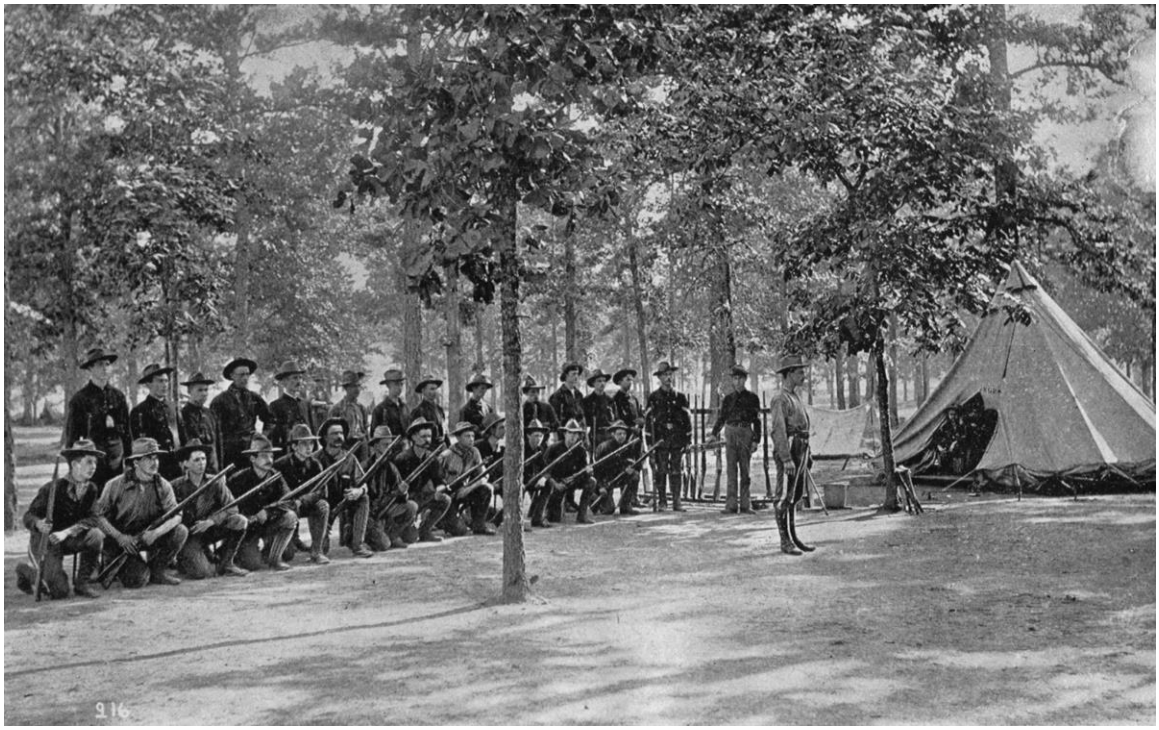
Camp of the 1st Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment.

"Gov. Hastings, of Pennsylvania," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on June 14, "who has just paid an official visit to the camps of the Pennsylvania regiments at the park, thoroughly discredits the sensational newspaper correspondents who, having little else to write about, have been sending false and misleading stories to their papers about Camp Thomas. Gov. Hastings was both satisfied and pleased with what he saw, and so very much convinced was he of the falsity of the rumors that have been sent out, that he sent to Gen. Brooke the following telegram before leaving the city yesterday morning:

> "'Having visited all the Pennsylvania commands excepting Battery B, the rain preventing my getting there before dark this evening. Am very sorry that the rain

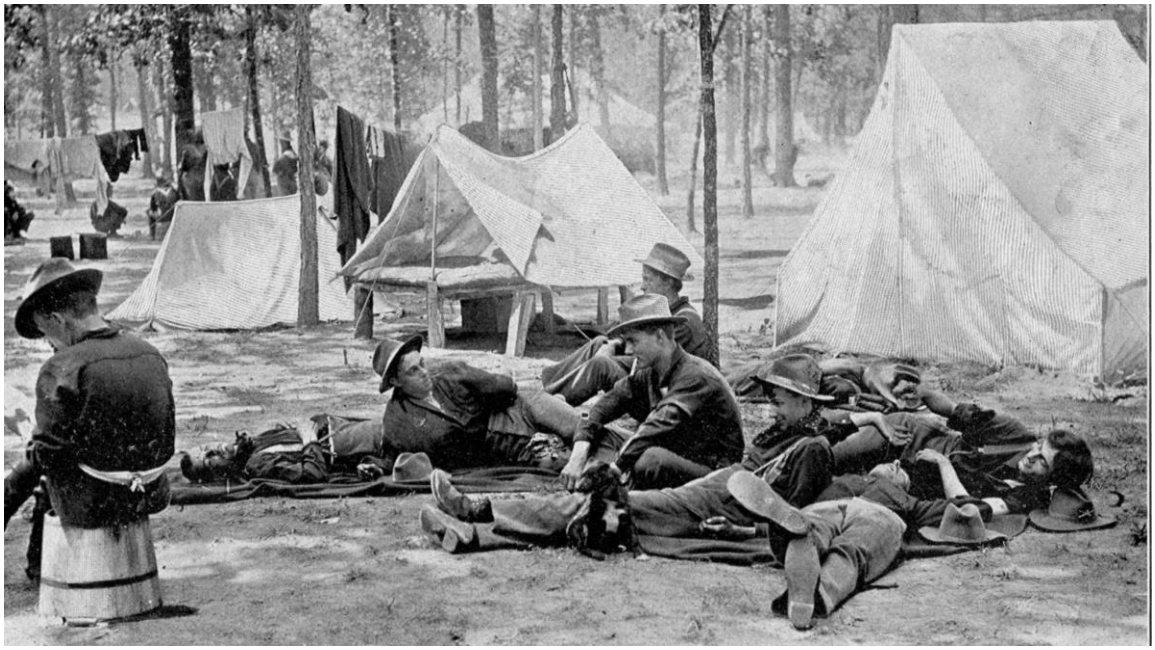
prevented me from paying my respects to Mrs. Brooke and yourself. Find on reaching car that arrangements are completed to start at 8 o'clock for Newport News. I desire to thank you for the care you are taking of the Pennsylvania troops. Our men have nothing but words of gratitude for you. Their rations have been very satisfactory, and I was unable on inquiry to find a single complaint. For your great courtesy I thank you in behalf of the troops and the people of Pennsylvania. — Daniel B. Hastings.'

"This notice from the governor of a great state should satisfy everybody that the men at Camp Thomas, in Gen. Brooke's army, are receiving the very best attention, and so far from suffering they area enjoying the best of health and at the same time are fairing excellently in the way of food and supplies…



Pennsylvania Guard detachment at Camp Thomas.

"[On] Sunday night, rain fell in torrents at Camp Thomas, and tents located in low places were flooded. After 7 o'clock the wind blew a regular gale, and in several camps tents were blown down but no one was hurt. During the night it is estimated that over an inch and a half of rain fell. The rain had thee effect of cooling the atmosphere, and a pleasant day was spent at the camp yesterday. The men did not suffer from the heat. Early yesterday morning, the soldiers were up bright and early, and went immediately to work laying out their blankets, many of which had been exposed to the rain. After breakfast, they dug trenches about their tents to prevent a further in-flow of water, (while in many regiments a detail of men had to clean the debris which had washed into the company streets. All the park roads were white yesterday morning. Before night they were well dried off…



Resting in Camp.

"Lieut. Barton, recruiting officer for the Tenth Cavalry, sent a squad of eighteen recruits, whom he had previously uniformed, to Fort McPherson at 6:30 yesterday morning. This is the largest number of recruits that Lieut. Barton has ever dispatched at one time to his regiment. Yesterday he had twenty applications for enlistment, out of which number he selected John Rosh, a laborer of South Chattanooga, and Gideon Long, a laborer of Bushtown. Lieut. Barton, will, in the event he receives a large number of applications this week, send the next squad of recruits to Fort McPherson on Saturday...

"Postmaster Robert S. Sharp, of Chattanooga, spent yesterday at Chickamauga Park, and said to a Times reporter that he would be found there for some time to come. A great deal was accomplished yesterday toward the completion of the new post office, or rather putting it in a condition to be used while the details are completed. Postmaster Sharp thought it would be ready for occupancy by this afternoon, when he will move into it…

There was a death in the Eighth Massachusetts regiment early yesterday morning. Timothy O. Lamprey, company B, of Amesbury, Mass., died at 5:42 of appendicitis. The dead man was 28 years old land leaves a wife and four young children. He was a carriage trimmer by trade, and was one of the new recruits. Last Thursday, Lamprey was a member of the guard, and was taken suddenly ill. He was placed in the division hospital and died there yesterday morning as stated. The physicians did not exactly understand the cause and did an autopsy, the remains were placed in a casket, escorted to the railway station by a guard, and shipped home…

"The initial performance at the new theater at the intersection of La Fayette, Dyer and Brotherton roads occurs this evening at 6:45. From the interest manifested by the

soldiers during the erection, the management looks for a large house tonight. It is claimed that the patrons will be in no wise disappointed in the performance to be given as some of the best vaudeville talent of the country will appear. Among the 'headliners' are Miss Hilda Thomas, who ranks as the peer of any singing comedienne now before the public. She will be assisted by Frank Bang in a sketch entitled 'Master and Pupil.' Milt G. Barlow and the Dixie quartette will be featured, as also Mille Berlin, Miss Veronee, and others, in novel and pleasing acts. Loveland's orchestra has charge of the music. The enterprise of Manager Albert and his associates will be carried on in the same manner as the opera house in the city, and no need fear to see or hear anything risqué…

"[Georgia] Gov. Atkinson has been asked by several prominent citizens of Walker county to take cognizance of the rowdyism which they claim is prevalent at Chickamauga. On last Thursday night, it alleged, the officers of the Chattanooga, Rome and Southern railroad called on the civil authorities for protection, stating that without it they could not continue to transact business. They also called on Gen. Brooke for protection and a provost guard was placed on the depot platform at Chickamauga. Gen. Brooke, it is said, has offered to furnish a regiment, if necessary, to assist civil officers in making arrests. Recently a party who keeps a store there offended the soldiers, and according to the story which has reached the Governor, they put a rope around his body, dragged him out, and looted his store. Gov. Atkinson said tonight he would investigate the matter, if the facts prove to be as represented he will communicate with the President or the war department, insisting on order at the big camp."

The editor of the *Chattanooga Times* added the following to the above: "The greatest trouble complained of grows out of the failure of Georgia authorities to do their duty. They permit open and flagrant defiance of law when they allow the 'blind tigers' and gambling dens to live and thrive at Lytle, and the Times is informed that these places are at the root of the whole evil. There being no police authority at Lytle, these places are not combated, and the young soldiers who are filled full of the liquid poison at these places, commit abuses that it is next to impossible to prevent. — Ed. Times."

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, wrote in his diary, "Tuesday 14, Today we had squadron drill in the afternoon it rained today. I received letter from my sister.

June 14, 1898 Aubrey L. Whetton. 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote "Inspection. Co E had cleanest and neatest camp in regiment. Regimental parade in afternoon. Rain inteferred [sic]."

"The grave abuse of the law at Lytle," the June 15 issue of the *Chattanooga Times* stated, "likely will be settled today, the matter having been called to the attention of Governor Atkinson in a strong telegram addressed to him by Gen. Boynton, elsewhere printed. The trouble at Lytle is not so much with the soldiers as with the saloons and gambling houses that have been running there openly in defiance of the law for weeks past. It is believed that Gov. Atkinson will act in the matter at once. If the matter is

settled satisfactorily to Gen. Brooke and Gen. Boynton, there will be no more disorders at Lytle…

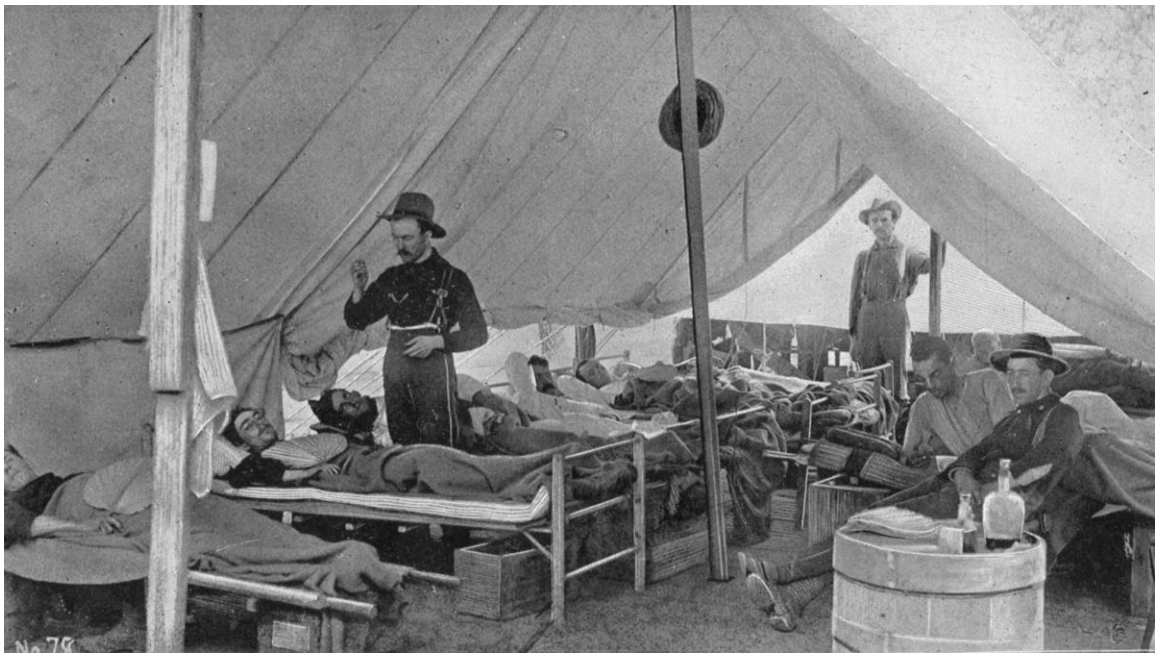
> "In an interview with the *Times* last evening Gen. Boynton said:
>
> "'An unprecedented and lawless condition exists in the land immediately surrounding Camp Thomas. The *Times*, in its comment this morning, placed the responsibility exactly where it belongs, namely upon the county authorities. The attempt in afternoon dispatches from Atlanta to place the responsibility upon the soldiers and Gen. Brooke is without justice and reason. Gen. Brooke offered every assistance that the county authorities might ask for in suppressing illegal traffic and gambling. An official of one of the counties called on Gen. Brooke last week with the chairman of the park commission and disclosed the purposed of his board to be to stop gambling at Lytle, to stop liquor and beer selling, and Sunday traffic, all of which he declared was either a flagrant violation of county or state law, or both. The officer said he would, if necessary, call on Gen. Brooke for help, and was promised every needed assistance, which the general could legally give, if the request was made. Instead of taking any step in that direction, yesterday a number of county officials appeared at Lytle and proceeded to license liquor dealers and others there, the rates mentioned being $1.00 for a yearly county tax, $1.50 for a yearly state tax, or half these sums for six months. The understanding is that Lytle is in a probation county, and all these stands selling liquor are within the legal school house lands. Some of the best citizens of Walker county have called on Gen. Brooke to abate the nuisance, but without requested by civil authorities, he is powerless to act outside the park…'"
>
> The paper cited the Associated Press and quoted the Governor of Georgia as saying:
>
> "'What those people up there need is nerve. It is not my duty to interfere until a warrant has been sworn out. Behind the Sheriff of Walker county is the militia and Gen. Brooke, I am sure, is ready with a federal force to aid us, if necessary. Let the people there swear out the warrants. I will enforce the law.'"

"Lieut. Barton, recruiting officer for the Tenth Cavalry, had only six applicants for enlistment at his office in the Bates Block. Out of this number he failed to secure a single recruit. The Tenth Cavalry recruiting office has been open for business since the second week in May, during which time Lieut. Barton has secured sixty recruits up to yesterday. The local office has, in the respect of securing recruits, been much more successful than the recruiting offices at Knoxville, Louisville, Nashville, and Atlanta…."

"When the volunteer army first arrived at Chickamauga Park, many of them were sick and ill of measles, ague, and other complaints that had broken out in the state camps. The salubrious climate and excellent water of Chickamauga have simply worked wonders with these soldiers. Last evening Col. Hartsuff's sick report for the entire army of 43,000 men showed that the number of sick soldiers amounted to 2.07 percent of the entire army,

or less than two out of every 100 men sick. This includes all that were temporarily disabled by vaccinations, which latter amounts to about 1 percent of the total number. This is a remarkable showing. In this report all soldiers that are in any way indisposed are counted as sick, and the number of these who are actually sick out of the entire 43,000 men will amount to about 150 men…

"Private Hamilton D. Paul, of Company H, 160th Indiana, died yesterday morning about 3 o'clock of congestion of the brain at the division hospital. This young man had been sick for nearly a week and his death was not unexpected. He was an old member of the company and enjoyed the confidence and esteem of his superior officers. The remains were shipped to Warsaw, Ind., last night by L. J. Sharp & Co.



Regimental Hospital.

"Ralph E. Warden, corporal, company H. Twenty-first Kansas, died yesterday afternoon at 2:30 o'clock of meningitis at the regimental hospital. He was a son of T. I. Warden, a prominent citizen of Syracuse, Kan. He was taken sick some days ago with the measles, after which meningitis set in and he continued to sink until death ended his sufferings at the time mentioned. Several hours before his death, Taylor Williams, who is an acquaintance of the family, reached the hospital and read a pathetic letter to the young man from his mother. He was twenty years of age and was one of the first in his regiment to enlist at the President's call. He had been previously connected with the Kansas guard, however, and soon won promotion. During his illness, he received careful attention at the hands of Chief surgeon Armstrong, Assistant Surgeon Bittle, and Capt. A. D. Smith. The remains were brought to the city yesterday afternoon and prepared for internment by L. J. Sharp & Co. The body will probably be shipped to Syracuse, Kan. Today. Chaplain W. D. Woodward held services over the remains of Corp. Warden at Co. B's headquarters at 2 p.m. The sick of this regiment have been transferred to

division hospital, except several cases of measles. Yesterday's death was the first to occur in this regiment, and there was manifest much sorrow…"

The representative for Company K, 52nd Iowa, submitted the following: "The boys of Company K are all getting along pretty well. Most of them have been ailing some, but so far none have been seriously ill. In fact the health of the company is better than it was a few days ago. The boys are still receiving letters from maidens fair from the towns through which they passed coming here. Judging from the language of some of these missives matters have progressed rapidly and things will soon wear a serious aspect.

"Harris Hemstreet enjoyed a visit from his father the latter part of last week and the first of this. He is a resident of New Orleans and came up to spend a few days with him. He was a member of the 12th Wisconsin during the rebellion and participated in the battle of Chickamaugua. Several of the boys have been remembered by friends in Des Moines since coming here. These remembrances came in the form of what is termed housewives, and come in mighty handy in sewing on buttons and such work. L.H. Bauck also received a box of paper and stamped envelopes from Paul Schendal, of Emmetsburg.

"A Y.M.C.A. tent has been put up in close proximity to where we are camped and the boys find it pretty handy to slip down and write home. The Y.M.C.A. are generally foremost in work among men. As I finish writing this the long wish for rain arrived, and for a few minutes it came down in a torrent. Many of the tents were flooded, but this will dry up in a short time, and the air is refreshing and the dust laid, so that for the next few days life will be tolerable."

Wednesday 15," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Today Captain Corning came back it rained again this morning

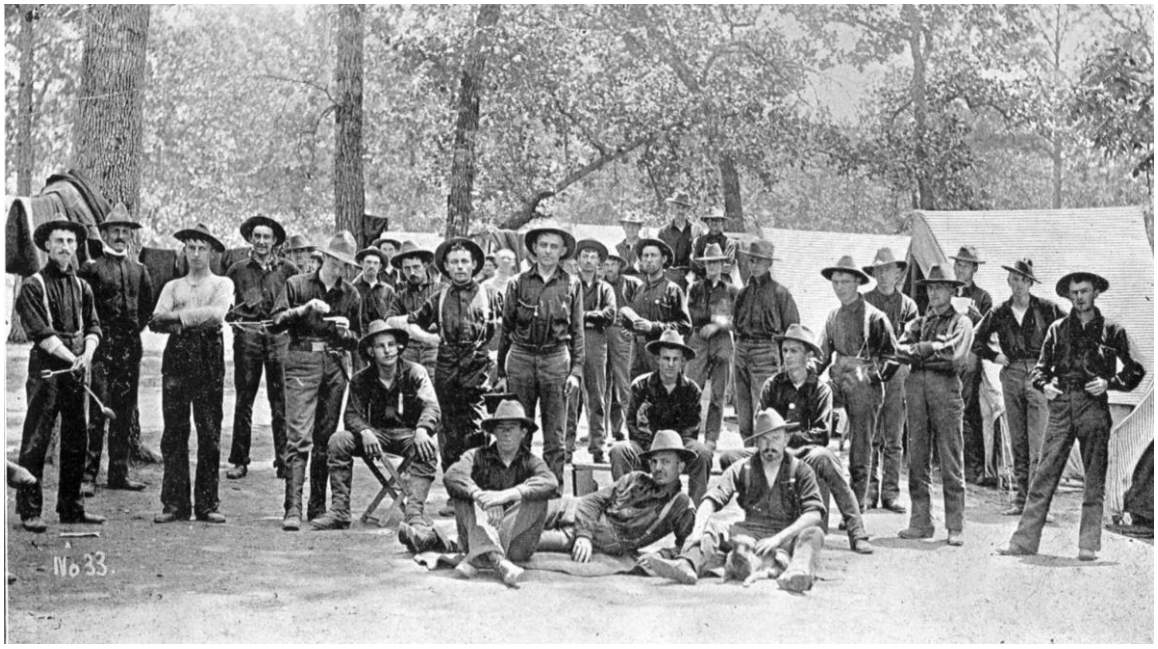
June 15, 1898 Aubrey L. Whetton. 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote, "Regiment received word that Battallion[sic] adjutants appointed by Gov. Stephens would not be recognized by the War Dept. 2nd Battallion [sic] changed to the Third. Co. E holds extreme left of line and in battle will be on the left flank. 3rd Batt. is under Major Fuller of the 8th Cavalry. Rain."

"Gen. Boynton," The *Chattanooga Times* stated on June 16, "yesterday received the telegram printed below from Gov. Atkinson of Georgia. Gen. Boynton speaks in the most cordial terms of the Governor's prompt and decisive action. Gen. Brooke has been ready to assist the civil authorities at any moment when he was legally called upon. The park commission can be relied upon to co-operate to the fullest extent in enforcing every state and county law inside the Park, as well as adjacent to it. All Sunday selling is a direct violation of Park regulations, as well as contrary to county law. The chances of abating the nuisances at Lytle Stayton are now believed to be very good.

> "'Gen. H. V. Boynton .. Will do all in my power to suppress the lawlessness of which you complain, but will need active co-operation of yourself and military

authorities. Send me names of witnesses whose evidence will sustain charges in your message to me, with names of parties accused, and I will furnish it to judges and solicitor-general, who can be relied upon to do their duty. — W. T. Atkinson, Governor…'

General Boynton also continued in his efforts to counteract the negative reports about Camp Thomas. This issue of the paper printed a copy of his letter to the war department, in which he stated: "Please say to the secretary of war that published statements that New York troops, or any others, are short of rations at Camp Thomas are deliberately manufactured lies. Not only do all troops have full rations, but extra rations of two vegetables. There is plenty of good drinking water and an abundance for washing. The sick rate is remarkably low and rapidly decreasing. Yesterday, exclusive of sore arm cases from vaccinations, it was only 2.3 percent, or considerably less than the regular army sick rate when established in permanent barracks. There is scarcely room in the extensive storehouses for the food supplies on hand…'"



Soldiers resting.

"Capt. Stang, of the Norwegian royal artillery, was found in the colonel's tent of the Twelfth Minnesota busily writing. Upon request, he very kindly consented to state the particular objects of his visit to our army and to give some of his impressions concerning it. The captain said that he is in this country to study the features of war preparation, particularly the volunteers — to see how well and how quickly they can be turned into good soldiers. He is to accompany the army to Cuba, and notice the endurance of the volunteers as well as the fighting qualities they display. He is also to inspect the gunnery, especially that of the dynamite guns because the government of Norway has not yet introduced the dynamite guns into their army…

The editor of the *Chattanooga Times* was aware that other newspapers, particularly the *Memphis Scimitar*, were expressing criticism of the African American soldiers in the army. He wrote the following editorial: "We have observed the conduct of Negro troops at close range. The *Scimitar* has not. It is our unbiased opinion that the four regiments we had here, for a few weeks, as a whole, behaved very well. Not more than twenty of them all were in any sense, 'disorderly.' The same is true of the same troops at Tampa and Key West. The natural prejudice against the Negro has led many to attribute to the whole offenses that were committed by a very trifling minority. We care for nothing in the mater but justice and fair play, and that we shall contend for in the case of all God's creatures, however humble or even degraded they may be. We favor giving the Negro his fair share in both our military and civil life; but what the fair share is, must be determined by circumstances, and the immediate surroundings of time and place…

"General Grant's headquarters were quiet yesterday, except that, as usual, there appeared to be a rush of routine work. The general continues to grow stronger, and Mrs. Grant is quite happy over the prospects of his rapid recovery. Gen. Grant is especially anxious now that the regiments of his command are well drilled, that target practice shall be taken up. To bring this about he has requested permission from headquarters to establish a range. If he is favored in this, the Fourteenth New York, Eighth New York, and the Second Nebraska will begin practice in firing within a few days."

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary: "Thursday 16: Today we were called out twice for boots & saddles because we were to slow the first time. A lot of recruits came in this evening more rain today."

Aubrey L. Whetton. 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "Nothing eventful. F. P. Harris and Cockran sent to guard house for not answering roll call. Rain."

"The commanding officers of the army here," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on June 17, "have been taking advantage today most actively of the fine weather to put their commands through various and instructive exercises and every regiment at the park was in the field today, from three to five hours. Maj. Gen. Brooke is greatly pleased with the progress being made and now feels confident that as soon as thoroughly equipped his army will be ready for almost any duty…

"Pvt. Charles Snure, aged 19, of the Twelfth Minnesota infantry, residence Winona, Minn., was drowned late Wednesday afternoon in Chickamauga Creek. It seems that the young man, with others of his regiment, went to the creek for the purpose of bathing and washing their clothes. Snure could not swim, and his companions cautioned him not to venture into deep water. While his companions were some distance away from him, he ventured too far, and when they saw him, he was sinking for the last time. The body was recovered at 7 o'clock and was brought to the city yesterday morning by L. J. Sharp & Co. The remains will be shipped this morning to Winona. Snure is the sixth soldier drowned in Chickamauga Creek…

"Yesterday morning, Capt. P. Lisle Weaver, representing the Philadelphia Inquirer, received a large box of goods to be distributed among the boys of the Pennsylvania commands. The box was shipped to Camp Thomas by Mrs. W. Hinkle Smith, of Philadelphia, and it contained 412 small packages of needles, buttons, soap, tobacco, towels, bandages, and in fact almost anything [for which] one could wish. In addition to the articles mentioned, a number of Testaments neatly put up in small cloth cases were found in the box. The cases were made by society ladies, schoolgirls and others. The packages were distributed yesterday by Capt. Weaver, and will be very useful. In addition to this large box, the boys received a good supply of smoking tobacco…

The paper printed the following letter from President McKinley to the Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce regarding his invitation to the city. "The President requests me to acknowledge receipt of your favor of the 10th instant, enclosing a copy of a resolution recently adopted by the Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce, joining in the invitation of him to review the troops at Camp Thomas on July 4, 1898, or at some other time. While the president sincerely appreciates the cordiality of the invitation thus extended to him and would be very glad to visit Camp Thomas and review the troops as suggested. His official duties are so exacting nowadays that he does not see how he can leave Washington, even for a brief period. The president wishes me to express his regret at his inability to send an acceptance of this very kind invitation. With best wishes…



President McKinley.

"Friday 17," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "More rain today seven more recruits came in this morning the old troop A fellows got States pay nineteen dollars.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote "Rain. Nothing eventful. 66 recruits arrived from St. Louis. Co. E got 2 of them."

"No orders of any character," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on June 18, were received or issued yesterday at Camp Thomas, and the day was one of persistent work by the soldiers. Regimental drills and brigade exercises were the order of the day, and the pleasant weather made the drills pleasant…

"Lieut. Barton, recruiting officer for the Tenth Cavalry, received only two applicants for enlistment yesterday in his offices in the Bates Block. Both, however, were up to the standard of physical excellence required by the government, and they are now soldiers. Their names are Daniel Cree and William Welm, laborers, both of this city. Owing to the fact that very few applicants for enlistment are coming forward, Lieut. Barton will on Monday go to Roam and Dalton , Ga., where he will remain as long as he can secure recruits in reasonably large numbers. He will be accompanied by Corp. Edwards, colored, of the Tenth Cavalry. The local Tenth Cavalry recruiting office will

remain open for business, notwithstanding Lieut. Barton's departure on Monday. Sergt. Phillips of the Tenth Cavalry will be in charge and enlist all parties who desire to join the army and who fit the requirements…

"Privates Markley, Albright, Sullivan, and Grubb, Company K, of the First Pennsylvania command, have been reported as deserters and will be tried by a general court-martial board. Last Sunday Privates Markley and Albright left their camp on a six-hour's leave of absence. That night they failed to return to camp, and Capt. Torr instituted an investigation, but nothing cod be learned of their whereabouts. On Tuesday, Sullivan and Grubb left the camp, and they, too, failed to return. They had secured no leave, it is said. Capt. Torr leaned that the men were in this city, and was about to send a detail of men to arrest them when the quartette returned to camp. They have since been placed in the guard house. Before their return they were reported as deserters and will be tried by a general court-martial on the charge of being absent without leave. They will be severely dealt with. The officers will make an example of the men."

Joseph Beiler 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Saturday 18: Today it rained very hard about noon so they had no inspection."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote Division review postponed. 11 new tents given to each company. We four have tent No. 13. Harris in charge. Rain. Ponchos issued."

"Gen. Brooke's great army," The *Chattanooga Times* reported on June 19, "at Chickamauga Park is rapidly filling to war strength… There are now about 45,000 men in the Camp and this number is increasing at the rate of 500 a day by the arrival of recruits…

Gen. Grant has been expecting an order to enter upon his new duties in the First corps, to which he has been assigned, but, instead, he received yesterday morning and order from headquarters rescinding the former order, and directing him to remain in command of the First division of the Third Corps. Gen. Grant will, therefore, pursue a work — which he had most heartily entered upon — that of making the First division of the Third Corps the peer, if not the superior of any division in the Park… Gen. Grant was serenaded at his headquarters Friday night by the band of the First Missouri. Col. Batodorf, brigade commander, and the officers for the First Missouri, accompanied the band. The delightful music was quite inspiring and called from Gen. Grant an impromptu speech…

"An exciting runaway occurred on the Brotherton road near the Twenty-first Kansas regiment yesterday afternoon. A six-mule team, detailed from the First Virginia to haul equipment of the Georgia troops got the start of the driver and ran furiously. The driver jumped for his life. Lee Rayfield, colored, 53 years of age, who came from Macon, Ga., with D company, was thrown violently from the wagon and sustained serious injuries. It is thought no bones were broken, but he probably was internally hurt. He was carried on a cot to the hospital of the Twenty-first Kansas, where he received

kind treatment. The wagon was torn to pieces, but the mules escaped uninjured. As the wagon rolled over, it struck a carriage, pitching it over on its side, and throwing two ladies out. The names of the ladies could not be ascertained, but they were not injured, except that one of them received a slight abrasion on the arm…

"Lieut. Barton, recruiting officer for the Tenth Cavalry, had only one applicant and secured only one recruit yesterday, at his office in the Bates block. The man's name is Charles L. Taylor. At 6:30 o'clock this morning, Lieut. Barton will send a squad of six recruits to Fort McPherson, Ga., over he Georgia division of the Southern railroad. Tomorrow morning, Lieut. Barton and Corporal Edwards leave for Rome, Ga., at which point the former will open a recruiting office and remain as long as he can secure men for the cavalry service. The local office will remain open for business, in charge of Sergt. Phillips…

This issue of the paper reprinted an article from *The Knoxville Journal,* that stated: "Gov. Atkinson and the military authorities at Chattanooga seem determined to disperse the gang of buzzards who have squatted just outside Chickamauga Park. They are there for a vile purpose and should be driven away. Away from the refining restraints of home, our soldiers should be protected from those who would debauch them for the sake of filthy lucre, and it should be done with delay or ceremony. Clean out the whiskey shops and the gambling dens. Enforce the laws of Georgia, and if that is not sufficient, proclaim martial law over the territory contiguous to Chickamauga Park. Let there be a prompt and general cleaning up.

"Sunday 19, Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote, "Today troop B went on guard I went on guard to & left the second cook do the cooking."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote, "June 19, 1898, Rained slightly. Good dinner. Many of Co. E attended church services at 2nd Nev. Whetton stabbed in the back by Hasselle during quarrel over a belt. Wound very painful but not dangerous. Hasselle put under arrest and charge of assault to do great bodily harm made against him. Whetton's wound dressed by Dr. Crosby at regimental dispensary. Feelings very high against Hasselle among the company. Threats of lynching prominent. Eight new rookies assigned to our company."

On June 20, the *Chattanooga Times* wrote: "Yesterday was an exceptionally beautiful day at Champ Thomas, and a cool breeze continuously astir made park life a delight. It was significantly a day of rest among the soldiers. All drills were omitted and the Sabbath was generally observed. In this respect the day was somewhat in contrast with many of its predecessors. The chaplains of the various regiments held services, and the Y.M.C.A. and evangelistic cohorts were actively at work. The reverence to which these services were listened to and the general good order which prevailed among the camps were significant of a high moral tone, which pervades the entire army.

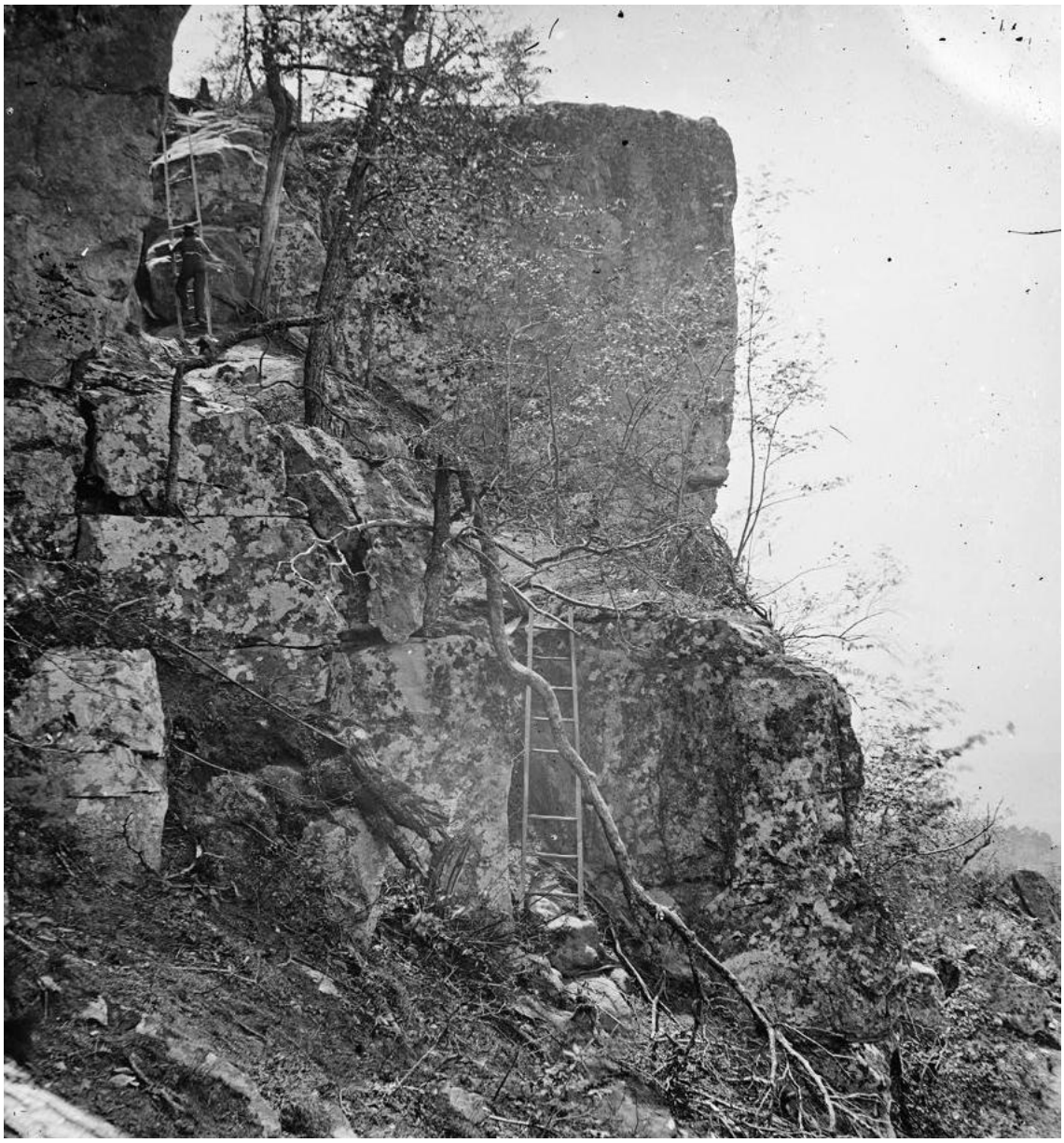
"The soldiers were forbidden to congregate at points of amusement and practically all remained in camp, with the exception of a considerable number who had

permission to spend the day on Lookout Mountain. The efforts of Gen. Boynton and the Georgia authorities to restore order at Lytle and rid the outskirts of gambling houses has been productive of good results. This was epically noticeable at Lytle yesterday, where all saloons and gambling houses were hermetically sealed, and no soldiers were allowed there during the day…

"Four hundred and sixty-five recruits from the states of Pennsylvania and Ohio arrived in this city at 9 o'clock yesterday morning in a special train of eleven coaches over the Cincinnati Southern road. After remaining at the Central depot for about thirty minutes they left for Chickamauga Park where they will be divided up among the various Pennsylvania and Ohio regiments at that point…

'The midway at Lytle presented a deserted appearance yesterday, in marked contrast to the rush and hustle that obtains there during the week. There was a provost guard of Capt. Pitcher's company on duty all day, and besides patrolling the streets in front of the stands, they prevented soldiers from going on the Midway without passes properly signed. A portion of the guard was stationed about 200 yards from the Chattanooga, Rome, and Southern depot, and hundreds of soldiers were not allowed to pass the line, which extended from below the extreme southern end of the Midway. A number of the shopkeepers shut up their stands and came to the city to spend the day with their families. Soldiers returning to the park from the city with passes were not allowed to saunter on the Midway, and no effort was made to override the authority of the guard. [On] Saturday night the Walker county authorities raided the gambling den and saloon on the Midway, and arrested the two men who were in charge of the places. The proprietor had heard of the contemplated raid and skipped out before it was made. He probably will be arrested. The officers confiscated the gambling paraphernalia and destroyed the beer they found in the place. It is understood the men will be tried today. This probably will put a stop to the practices that have caused so much trouble on the Midway. Saturday night, before the raid, a crowd of drunken soldiers took possession of the saloon and served free beer until the provost guard appeared.

"A large number of soldiers visited the city yesterday, arriving early yesterday morning from Chickamauga Park. They spent the day at East Lake and Lookout Mountain, enjoying themselves greatly. No incidents or fights occurred yesterday, although a much larger number were in the city than on the Sunday previous. The feature of the day at East Lake Park was the delightful concert given by the 1st Kentucky regimental, or Louisville Legion band. This band is one of the finest in the volunteer army, and drew a large crowd to the park. Strangers who visit East Lake Park are completely astonished by the Oxley zoo, and the fact that it was built, stocked, and is being maintained at no expense to the city. James Thomas, a prominent business man from the Mississippi coast, who visited the zoo yesterday, said: 'Your zoo shows plainer than words what can be done by a real live newspaper like the Chattanooga Times. Chattanooga now has a zoological garden that New Orleans, a city three times the size of Chattanooga, with four daily papers, might well be proud of. As it is, New Orleans is without any such an institution, when it might just as well have one as this city…'



Many of the soldiers enjoyed exploring the cliffs of Lookout Mountain.

"Although Col. Melvin Grigsby's cowboys come from the far west and are considered by some people to be rough, they have shown themselves to be gentlemanly and chivalrous on all occasions. A recent incident illustrates this fact very plainly. There are several Salvation Army women who work among the soldiers. Two or three days ago, the ladies were walking along in the park, when they were accosted by a party of infantrymen, who rudely and outrageously insulted them. The occurrence took place near the cowboy's camp and they soon learned of the insult. They were very indignant and in a few minutes a crowd of the cowboys went to where the soldiers were congregated and without waiting for an explanation, seized the toughs who had offered the insult and it is stated that the position at that time was anything but enviable. To use the street vernacular, 'What the Cowboys did for the insolent men was enough.' The rough riders

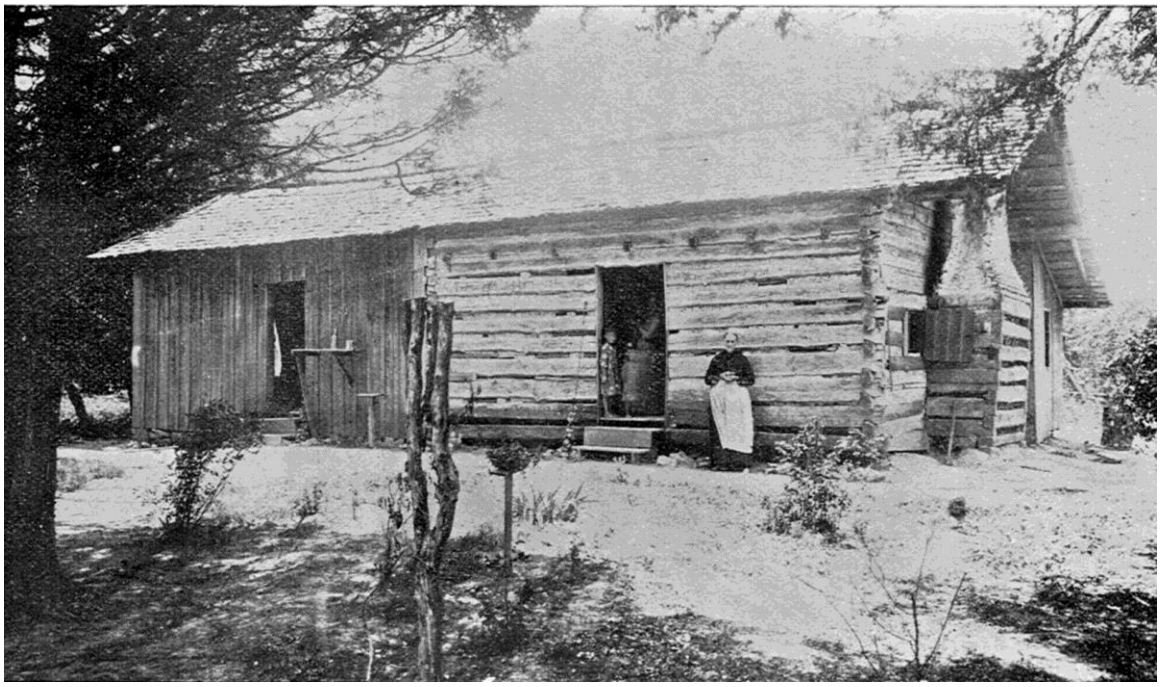
certainly handled the situation very roughly. They then escorted the ladies to the train to see that no further insult was offered. Everywhere the incident has become known, the action of the cowboy has been loudly applauded… There are two quarter blood Indians enlisted with the cowboys. Hicks Beach, of troop B, is a quarter-blood and the grandson of Sir Michael Hicks Beach, the famous Englishman. Pvt. Yeates of Troop D is also a quarter-blood Cherokee Indian…"

A man who simply signed himself as "A Soldier" sent a letter to the *Times* in which he complained about a recent article in the *Atlanta Constitution* concerning the lawless situation at Lytle. He stated: "The whole tenor of the article is in line with this paragraph, and would have the public believe that every soldier in the park is a visitor to these dens and dives, and that their combined 'viciousness' is something most horrible. Now I venture to say that there are not 2 percent of the 45,000 men at this camp who visit these places at all, and of those who do, there are not 2 percent who are 'vicious' and disorderly. The *Atlanta Constitution* has made it a point to nag and belittle this camp ever since it was established, presumably for the reason that the government did not select a site near Atlanta. This is all wrong, and I protest against it in behalf of the young patriots here, who are ready to lay down their lives for their country. Disorders there are, because the Georgia authorities have failed to do their duty, but that the soldiers in the park are all vicious is a vile slander."

"Gen. Grant's headquarters were very quiet yesterday. The general remains at the park, but performs no duties in connection with his office. Gen. Grant has purchased him a new horse. The animal is a fine bay, he chanced to find among the horses purchased by the government…"

The correspondent for Company K, 52nd Iowa Infantry sent the following to their hometown paper: "In our last issue the fact that the long drought in northwestern Georgia was broken down briefly mentioned. On Sunday, the 13th, the rain came down in one vast sheet for nearly half an hour, and in a short time the small creeks, rivulets and gulches were pouring a perfect torrent of water toward the Chickamaugua river so that the stream was swollen far above its normal condition. All the refuse and excrement in and around that part of the park sloping toward the river was washed into the stream, so that its water, (none the best at any time) was made turgid with the filth and debris that had been gathering for weeks. This stream is the course of the water supply of the southern part of Camp Thomas and its waters were rendered so dirty and nauseous that none would venture to drink it or even to use it for cooking purposes. The water for cooking and drinking was carried over by the boys from springs over a mile distant before and after drills. Fortunately the mules for the regiment were assigned to the wagoners the fore part of the week, and now the greater share of water used is hauled in barrels from Crawfish spring, a distance of five miles. The rain has continued the greater share of the week, coming in showers and has been a great blessing and in our opinion has warded of some malignant disease. In the first place it washed the camp clean of filth which would have been sure to breed some such disease as typhoid fever. Then again the heated spell was broken and almost every day a nice cool breeze has blown and put new life and vigor in the boys. This was made manifest by their actions on Monday evening,

for hitherto after the drills of the day were all over all were listless and sat around and moped or else tried to find a cool spot to brood over real or imaginery [sic] evils. Now a new spirit came over their dream and part of their old rollicking ways returned and as parade was formed shouts of laughter and merriment rang throughout the camp of Fifty-second Iowa and even invaded the camp of the First Mississippi that lay first south. The effect of cooler weather is also seen in the decreasing sick-list, and another such week as the past one will so improve the health of the camp that but a few of the worst cases will be left in the hospital. The measles still cling to the regiment and several cases are now in the hospital. The first of the week the entire regiment was marched by companies to the hospital and vaccinated for smallpox. It seems strange, yet it is a fact that three were several of the men who actually fainted away when they were being vaccinated. Thus far none of the boys are laid up with sore arms but it is pretty safe to say that this week will find many of them yelling, "O my sore arm!" when some other fellow thoughtlessly gives him a slap on it.



The Snodgrass House.

"Tuesday forenoon Major Hill commanding the second battalion took it to Snodgrass Hill, about three miles distant, on battalion drill. This hill is the most celebrated part of the battlefield of Chicamaugua, as it was here that Bragg's hitherto victorious progress was arrested and his army held in check by Thomas until the remainder of the army had time to retire to Chatanooga. On the summit of the hill the government has erected an observation tower seventy feet in height. The hill itself is the highest point on the battlefield and from the top of the tower one gets a splendid view of the topography of the entire field and surrounding country. In brief, the battlefield might be described as a triangle with the shorter lines on the west and north with the Chickamaugua river approximately as the hypotenuse. In the apex of the triangle stands Snodgrass hill rising above the plateau below, with quite a precipitous ascent. Away to

the southeast across the Chickamaugua, lies the line of hills in which Bragg's army was posted before the battle. Just to the north, and extending to the northeast lies Missionary Ridge, which was the scene of one of Grant's most brilliant victories, while seven miles to the northwest Lookout mountain towers aloft with it jutting and precipitous cliffs overlooking the Tennessee flowing placidly onward around its base. It was certainly a grand view and he who looks once will look again and become lost in wonder at nature's marvelous works.



Monuments at Snodgrass house.

"Snodgrass hill is covered with monuments erected to the memory of the various regiments that stood on its fated crest that memorable day. Just to give an idea of the stubbornness of the fight we will give the percentage of the loss sustained by the three regiments that occupied a position on the right center of the union line. First came the Second Minnesota with a loss of killed and wounded (none missing) of 47 per cent. The Eighty-seventh Indiana came next with a loss in killed, wounded and missing of 51 per cent. The Thirty-fifth Ohio of the same brigade sustained a total loss of 50 per cent. Here, then, was an entire brigade in which the loss was practically one man out of every two failed to answer the roll call that night. The living and the dead who took part on such a congested field well deserve to be classed among the bravest of the brave.

"As one stood and gazed upon the grim reminder of such a gory field he instinctively wondered if the sons of the participants in such a sanguinary contest who are now tenting on the old battle ground, would render such a glorious account of themselves when once the minions of Spain were met on the field of battle. If they do (and we

believe they will) no army that senile and decrepit old Spain can put in the field will stand long before them.

"A sort of rivalry has sprung up between the Maine Canteen and the Y.M.C.A. tent as to which will be the greatest attraction. The Canteen was the first on the ground and for a few days had everything its own way. Beer was dished out at a great rate but it often occurred that it was stale and hot and the boys tired of it. The Y.M.C.A. tent was then pitched close to the Canteen and as it has all sorts of games, and furnished tables and writing material free of charge it soon outstripped the Canteen as a popular resort. We can't say that it will do so permanently, but are awaiting a pay day to mark the effect this will have on the crowd at each place, for we are uncharitable enough to believe money has something to do with the matter. However, the Y.M.C.A. is doing a good work among the boys and should receive encouragement of all true men and soldiers.

"A little incident in connection with the above came under our observation the other day. One of the boys got paper and envelope and wrote a letter. He then stepped up to the man in charge and asked him to loan him a postage stamp. He got it. This was all right, but the same fellow a day before had money to squander on beer and whisky and to throw away in a game of poker. He should have gone to the Canteen or to the fellow who won his money to borrow his postage stamp.

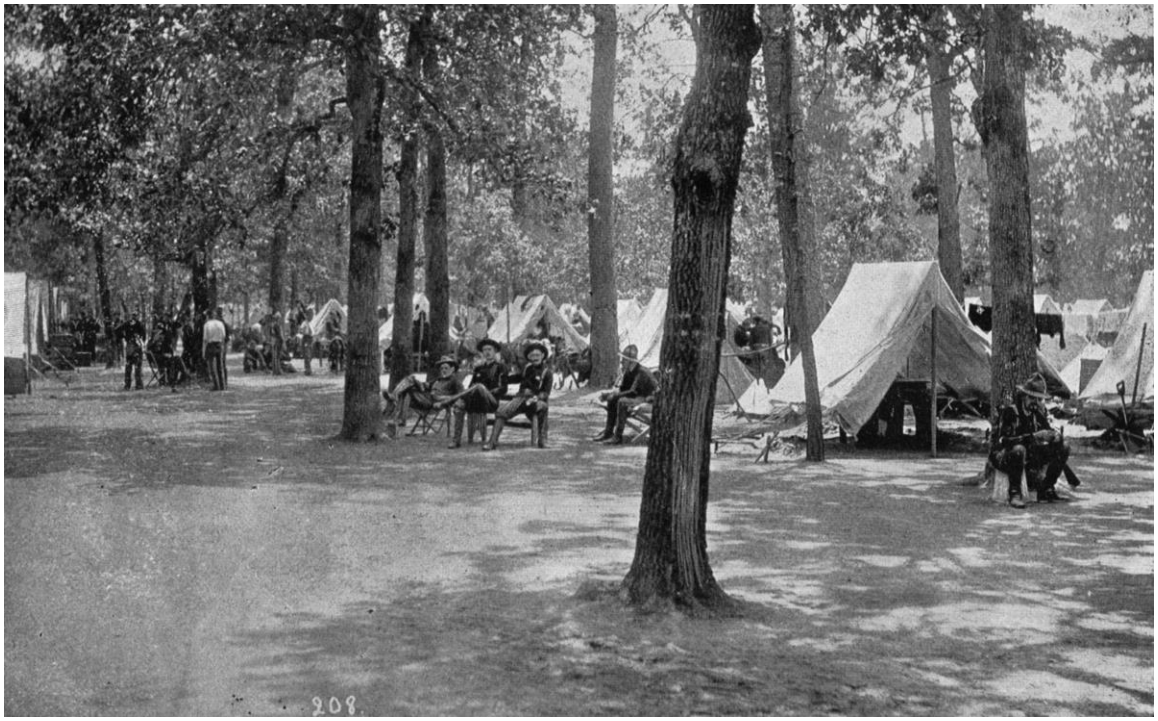
"The Fifty-second has no Canteen owing to the fact that Col. Humphrey refused to sanction one in the regiment. He has been repeatedly pressed to give his consent but thus far has positively refused to do so."

"Monday 20," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Today we got a lot more of our equipments I got a bridle carbin scaboard saddle bag spurs & a canteen in the evening we went on dress parade we were presented with a Regimental flag."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote "Whetton passed very restless and painful night. Frankel, Harris and Cody kept watch by turns during night. Dr. Crosby dressed wound about eleven o'clock and injected morphine to ease pain and cause sleep. Continual visits and inquiries to our tent by boys of company each trying to do the most for Whetton. Whetton better but unable to talk much on account of pain in right chest. Shows a little difficulty in breathing and can only rest in one position. Visited by Dr. Crosby who examined dressing on wound and promised to return later and put on fresh dressing. Some talk of sending Whetton to division hospital but finally kept him in tent. Brigade review. Only 14th NY and 1st Nev. took part. First drill with guns since leaving barracks as guns were only issued Sunday. Capt. Marquardt traded our new rifles which were Springfield models of 1873 for Springfield models of 1884, a number of which were brought from St. Louis by two different companies."

"Yesterday at Chickamauga Park," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on June 21, "was quite in contrast with Sunday. The regiments were in a great state of activity and the drill grounds were enlivened by company, battalion, and regimental drills in all

portions of the park. Recruits continued to arrive, though not quite in such large numbers as during the three preceding days. Up to last night there had arrived for the First army corps 1,507 recruits, but no record was received up to last night for those arriving for the Third corps…

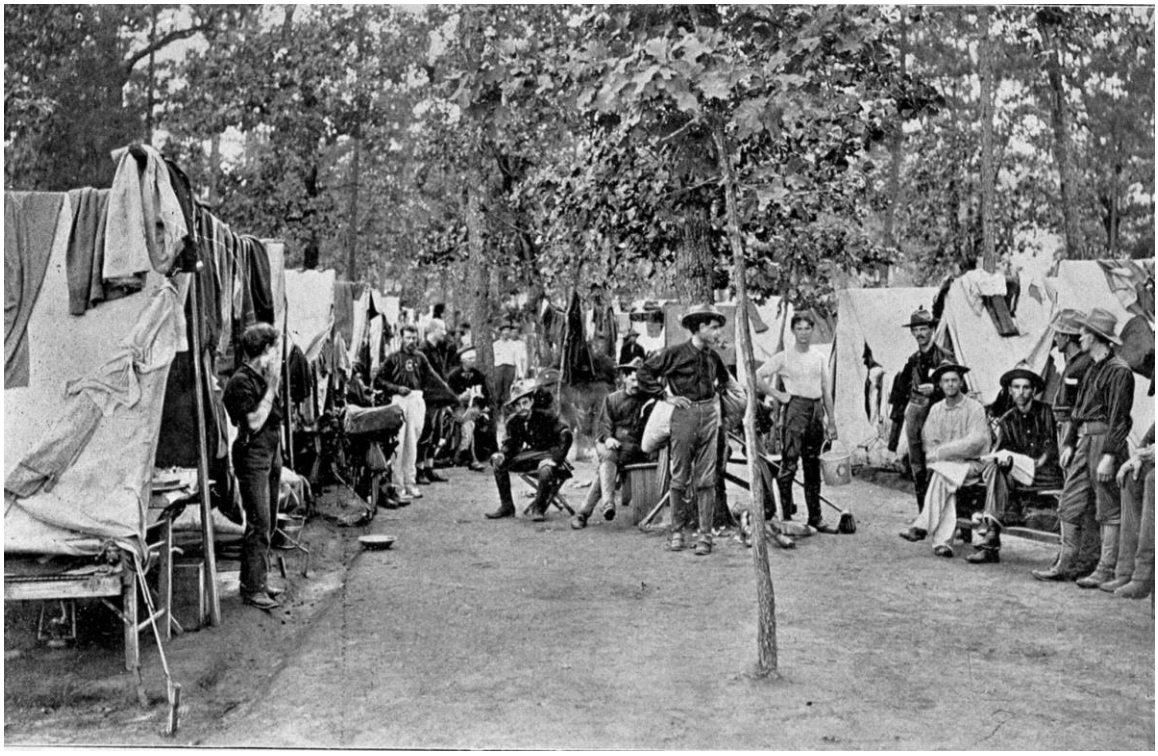


The original camp site of Colonel Grigsby's cowboys.

"The camp of Col. Grigsby's cowboys was removed yesterday 100 feet back from the LaFayette road, so to give the outposts more room in order to guard the stock of the regiment. All the Colt revolvers for the use of the regiment were received and distributed at the camp yesterday. It is not known when all the equipment will be received as no word has been received in regards to them in several days. Col. Grigsby spent Sunday afternoon on Lookout Mountain, in response to an invitation, and he says that the people seem disappointed that he did not appear with a sombrero, long hair, an ugly looking revolver in his belt, and dressed in the remainder of the cowboy outfit."

A delegation of former military men in the Illinois Army and Navy League came to Camp Thomas to inspect the facilities. "When asked what they found specially to criticize," the Times reporter wrote, "Dr. Wines, who acted as spokesperson for the committee, said that perhaps criticism would be unfair, considering all the circumstances, but the weakest point in the administration is the medical service. Continuing, Dr. Wines said: 'The quartermaster and commissary departments are rapidly overtaking their responsibilities, but the medical department lags painfully behind. The regiments are inadequately supplied with necessary medicines, and they cannot get them. The requisitions of the regimental surgeons are not promptly filled, and are only filled in part. It is to be presumed that this is because there is an insufficient supply on hand, but this is a fault that calls loudly for a remedy. The lack of proper surgical instruments is still more

obvious. There are regiments which have no instruments other than a pocket case for minor surgery. The larger instruments in the possession of other regiments are antiquated and inefficient. Of course where medicine and surgical instruments are lacking there is a deficiency of other things needed in sickness. The supply of ice and eggs, for example, is almost shamefully inadequate…' Fortunately, the Red Cross has made its appearance in camp, in the person of Dr. Gill, of New York, who is about to organize a medical supply depot, which will be centrally located. He has already arranged for an increased supply of ice and milk for those who are sick, and he will be able to furnish medicines promptly when the response to the requisitions of the medical staff is, for any reason, delayed… It is understood that the Army and Navy League will allow each regiment on the field from $800 to $1,000 a month to be used in purchasing ice and hospital supplies…



Camp of the 1st Illinois Cavalry Regiment.

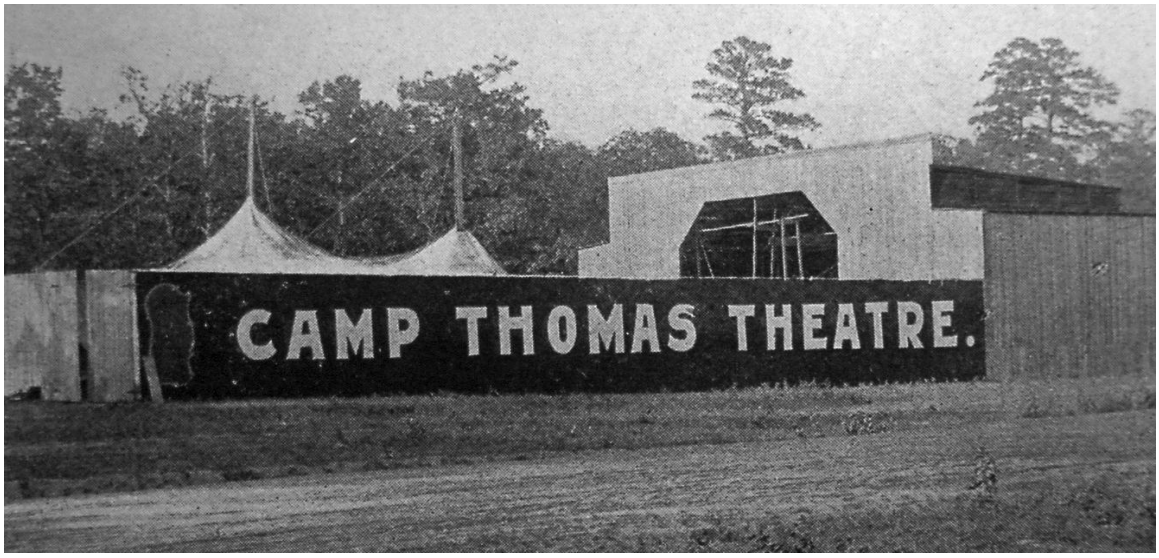
"There will be an interesting and romantic wedding consummated at Lookout Inn this week. The contracting parties will be Maj. Ward, medical officer of the 12th New York, and Mrs. Edith W. Clarke of New York city. All details for the wedding have been completed, it is understood. The prospective bride has arrived and is stopping at the inn. It appears that the young couple have been engaged for some time, and Mrs. Clarke agreed to come here to marry Maj. Ward before his department for the front. Both are said to be prominent in New York social circles…

"The office of Capt. McCarthy of the quartermaster department, was a busy place yesterday. All day the captain, with a large corps of assistants, were busy issuing tools of every description. Each regiment in the field is to be supplied with a full blacksmith outfit, with tools for the repair of harness and wagons. Capt. McCarty was busy

yesterday giving out these supplies. An official of the army said yesterday afternoon: 'We expect to place every regiment on an independent basis. Each regiment will be provided with a full line of repair tools, so that it will not be dependent on any other organization.'"

'Teusday 21," Joseph Beiler 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "This morning we got ten days rations we had oat meal for breakfast with milk & sugar."

Also on June 21, 1898, Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote "YMCA tent erected and services held in the evening."



The Camp Thomas Theatre.

"The volunteer soldiers at Camp Thomas," wrote the *Chattanooga Times* on June 22, "passed an uneventful day yesterday, except that the usual drill work was engaged in throughout the command… The matter of target practice for the regiments apparently remains in an indefinite state. Nothing has been heard from the plan, which was submitted by Capt. Rockwell three weeks ago. Neither ammunition nor targets have arrived, and many of the regimental commanders are at a loss to know when they will have an opportunity to train their men in this most important feature of the drills. Col. Richardson, adjutant-general of the First army corps, thinks it will be a hazardous undertaking to establish ranges in so public place as the park. The matter of finding a suitable place, he considers [to be] a vexing one.

"Lieut-Col. Hartsnff, chief surgeon of the command, is making an inspection of the various hospitals. He thinks there is no excuse for the complaint made by Dr. Wines of Chicago about scarcity of medicines, and he says there has been an abundant supply for all the divisions. Col. Hartsuff says the present army hospital plan is not in fact a new plan, but is similar to the plan in vogue at the close of the civil war. Its purpose is more especially to accommodate the army in action, and with this end in view that ambulance

companies of such large numbers of men were formed. The plan is not necessary in camp, except for the purpose of training…

"Stephen E. Barton, chairman of the Central Cuban Relief committee, says the New York World yesterday received a letter from Dr. Chas. R. Gill, of Brooklyn, who was sent last week as the representative of the American National Red Cross to establish headquarters at the government camp at Chattanooga… 'I have just returned from Camp Thomas, Col. Hartsnff introduced me to Gen. Brooke, commanding officer of the camp, who gave the necessary orders to establish the Red Cross at Camp Thomas… There is a little local society in Chattanooga…

"The rations which the soldiers are now receiving are entirely satisfactory, and the only kick to be heard is from the fellow who is sore because he has nothing to kick about. Lieut. Thomas F. Clifford, commissary of the Third Brigade, Third division, First corps, gave a Times reporter a list of the most important items of food issued in a ten days rations to his brigade. They follow: Fresh beef, 24,555 pounds; bacon, 6,300 pounds; soft bread, 28,040 rations; beans, 3,900 pounds; potatoes, 22,500 pounds; onions, 5,600 pounds; roasted coffee, 2,100 pounds; sugar, 4,200 pounds; salt, 1,200 pounds; vinegar, 250 gallons; pepper, 73 pounds; soap, 1,400 pounds; candles, 420 pounds…

"Geo. M. Bradt has made arrangements to distribute old magazines, newspapers, and other periodicals among the troops. There is a deficiency of reading matter in the camp, especially in the division hospitals, and Mr. Bradt believes he can supply the wants of the troops in this particular, if persons having old magazines, newspapers, books, etc., will contribute them for the use of the boys. Those desiring to make such contributions are requested to bundle the papers, etc., and send them to Mr. Bradt at Sixth and Market streets, and he will see that they are distributed among the various regiments.

"Yesterday, Gen. Brooke detailed Cos. S and C, 9th New York to act as provost guard at Lytle. The boys are now camping in shelter tents in rear of the railway station, and will patrol the town and adjacent country at night. It appears several small houses have been broken into, and it is hoped that these acts may be stopped by the presence of the guard. The boys have been detailed to this duty until next Monday…

"J. W. Worthington, an officer of the 4th Ohio, and Miss Georgia Beckwith, both of Cincinnati, O. were married at the home of Dr. H. H. Garrett at 2:30 yesterday afternoon. At the hour named, the couple appeared at the home of Dr. Garrett and requested that the ceremony be performed and the nuptial event to be kept a profound secret. Dr. Garrett agreed to this and without delay they were made man and wife. News of the wedding leaked out last night. At the courthouse, the gallant officer, said to be a lieutenant, told the clerk that he must say nothing about the license, because if the boys knew he was married, they would tease him. Mr. And Mrs. Worthington are stopping at a hotel in the city. The bride is about 19 years of age and very pretty…

"Following is an extract from a letter written from Chickamauga by a staff correspondent of the *Minnesota Evening Journal*, of Minneapolis, June 17. One of the

letters from the camp is signed E. B. Smith, and it is presumed that this same Smith penned the malicious and slanderous paragraph quoted below. If Mr. Smith's identity can be certainly discovered and he makes his appearance among any gentlemen of the south, he will discover that in addition to making 'an excellent breeding place for niggers and yellow dogs' the south is also an excellent breeding place for a peculiar tow-legged animal of the homo genus, liberally supplied with feathers adhering by a coal product known as tar. The paragraph is as follows: 'The sunny south is a good thing in several ways. It is an excellent breeding place for niggers and yellow dogs; it is good to write poetry about; and it is the best place in the world for a northern man who is dissatisfied with his surroundings to tarry a while. But it isn't a fit place to live in. Almost everyone who has tried to reside here permanently has eventually died.'"

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Wednesday 22, Today we traded of 300 lbs. of salt pork 100 lbs. of beans two cases of bakeing powder for 50 lbs. of rolled oats 4 hams once case of prunes 20 cans of milk 4 buckets of jelly two bottles of tomatoes sause."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote, "Frankel and Harris on guard. Five new recruits Arthur Locke among the number."

"Recruits continue to pour into the park," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on June 23, "in squads of 30 to 150. About 700 arrived yesterday from the various states and went directly to the regiments for which they were recruited… Bright, cheerful weather continues to prevail at the Park, and the vast body of soldiers is apparently in the best of spirits. The sick rate is gradually diminishing, and the regiments from the most northerly portion of the country now feel that they are thoroughly acclimated and that they could not have had a more healthful camping-ground. The rations have improved until there is no further complaint from any quarter. In addition to the articles included in the rations a week ago, canned salmon and certain cereals are issued now. The men are now satisfied that the government did not intend them to be without fresh meat. Speaking of this, yesterday a member of Gen. Brooke's staff said the vouchers for fresh beef aggregate more than $70,000 per week…

"The chaplains of nearly all the regiments now encamped at Chickamauga Park have begun a very vigorous crusade against the many regimental canteens, or saloons. The fight is as yet in its incipiency, but it promises to be waged with un-relenting vigor, and if the chaplains can obtain the co-operation of the army officials the canteens will soon be a thing of the past. However, a very surprising fact connected with the fight, and one that has created a great sensation throughout the camp, is that a number of the chaplains are very much opposed to interfering with the canteens. This fact was forcibly demonstrated on Monday, when the chaplains of the different regiments met together and formed 'The Chickamauga chaplains Association.' During the meeting the canteen question was introduced by one of the members, and it was then that a difference of opinion was noted. The question was discussed in all of its phases, and many evils which result from the sale of beer were brought forward in a very plain manner. A resolution was introduced by one of the chaplains condemning the canteens and resolving that a

petition be presented to Maj. Gen. Brooke asking his aid in breaking up the traffic. Five of the chaplains voted to table the resolution, and Chaplain Easterbrook, of the 1st Maine, arose and made an address in which he expressed himself as favoring canteens. This statement exploded with the force of a bombshell in the meeting. Those who voted against the resolution, gave as their reason for doing so that it would be overriding the authority of their colonels after they had granted permission for the canteens to be operated. The meeting then adjourned without any action being taken in regard to the resolution…



Training to load a wounded man into the ambulance.

"For the first time in the history of the army of the United States an ambulance corps is being organized as a new adjunct to its efficiency. England, Germany, and France have such a corps in their armies, but it is a new undertaking for our government. The object of this organization is to facilitate the proper of handling of the sick and wounded on the field. The corps will have attached to it skilled physicians, surgeons, and stewards, which with a full supply of attendants, will number one hundred and fifty. They have just formed their camp yesterday and were cleaning up when the Times representative came upon them. They have twenty-five ambulances, twenty-eight horses and seventy-six mules, together with wagons and harness for moving their equipage. There is a driver and an orderly for each ambulance. When a battle is in progress the first station immediately to the rear of the battle line is called the first end. At this station the wounded are brought in of the field, and if the cases are so dangerous as to require it, such as instant application of bandages to prevent bleeding to death, such attention is given them and they, with all other cases not so urgent, are hurried on to the second station, called the dressing station. Here the wounds receive proper dressing, and then sent on back to the third station, which is the ambulance station. This is really a hospital on wheels, and here every attention that medical skill can arrange for under the circumstances is given the suffering ones. From this station they are then taken to the

general hospital for proper nursing. The medical officers in charge of the organization are men of wide and varied experience — such experience as insures the utmost efficiency to the corps…



Training in first aide by the men of the 12th New York Infantry Regiment.

"The time has arrived for the boys of the 52nd Iowa to begin to suffer with vaccinated arms. A large number of the boys are now almost completely disabled and very little work is being done in the regiment. All of the privates in the regiment have been transferred to the regimental hospital, and all sick men are now sent to the division hospital. The regimental hospital is to be made into what is knows as a field hospital…

"Maj. Fish, the new chief surgeon of Grigsby's Cowboys, has arrived at the camp and assumed charge of his duties. Dr. Fish has been overlooking the hospital with a view to improving the system, and several changes may be mad within the next few days. Lieut. O. W. McMichael, who has charge of the brigade supply depot, is doing a rushing business now. The commissary is one of the most thoroughly systematized and one of the best operated departments in the park. Lieut. McMichael is giving almost all his time and attention to the up-building of the department and the business has now grown until two expert bookkeepers and six men are kept constantly busy all hours of the day selling goods and keeping the books in shape. The commissary contains almost every article known to the trade and they are sold to the men at an unusually low price. Another feature which makes the commissary very popular is the fact that the boys are allowed to buy anything they desire on credit, the amount being charged against their salary. Twenty-four mule teams were recently required to carry the rations for ten days from the depot to the camp. This will give some idea of the magnitude of the commissary."

Adjutant Otto Sues, in his history of the regiment, titled Grigsby's Cowboys, made the following comments on the food situation. "We have already stated in a preceding chapter the component parts of the government ration and have touched upon the general and widely circulated complaint against "army grub." We have also given our opinion as to the causes and the remedy. In addition, it should be understood that the brigade commissary and the officer acting as regimental commissary of subsistence, in order to be successful, must be efficient and possess a thorough knowledge of the law governing issues of rations; because, if the brigade commissary accepts spoiled or unwholesome stores, or the regimental commissary takes tainted or putrid meat, or halfbaked bread, it is likely that the supplies will get into the troop kitchen before they can be condemned. Before a board of survey can be convened, and the proceedings pass through the regular military channels, that might entitle the troop to another issue of fresh meat or bread, or their equivalent in other stores, the meal hour for which the meat was intended will long have passed, and as a consequence the men in the command will be the sufferers unless there is a ready substitute at hand. The drawing, handling, inspecting, weighing and issuing of rations should always be superintended by a competent officer and never trusted wholly to a subordinate, for the reason that an alert officer clothed with authority to reject improper rations would not receive or even be asked to receive what his subordinates are compelled to take under protest. It requires hard work and strict attention to duty. While a kicker is not to be generally commended, a little kicking, at the right time, by the right person, to the right official, will save many a board of survey and insure a meal of fresh meat whenever it is intended for the command. The position of regimental commissary is one that requires common sense, quick judgment and a fair business education. In Captain Orville W. McMichael, First Illinois Volunteer Cavalry, the brigade had a very competent, alert, painstaking commissary officer, whose aim it was to get what be longed to the command in wholesome rations, and he usually succeeded… Lieutenant Sunderhauf was a capable, efficient, energetic officer, who was fully alive to every opportunity to assist his command, if hard work could do it. He was out long before reveille in the morning hustling his teams and details together to be the first at the refrigerator cars where the meats were issued, and consequently to receive the choicest meats. He was somewhat of a diplomat, too, as was shown by the manner in which he cultivated the friendship of the depot commissary, being thereby able to make many little changes in the meat issue that perhaps were not in strict accordance with the regulations, but he was working for the benefit of the command, and the fact is undisputed that the regiment was the gainer by his energy and diplomacy. There were some cases of spoiled and tainted meat that got into the troops, but in each instance there was a board of survey called at once, which convened and promptly condemned the unwholesome meat within a few hours after it came to camp. There were also several instances where the troop or troops were compelled to go without fresh meat for dinner because the issue for the day had been condemned, but the instances were few and far between. The blame for these occurrences must revert to where we first placed it. There was no canned roast beef issued at Camp Thomas, so far as we know-certainly none in the regiment-and the hue and cry raised over this article of food during the war does not pertain to our regiment nor the First Cavalry Brigade. What canned goods we did receive were generally first-class, and we know of but eleven cans of miscellaneous canned goods condemned in the entire brigade and they were detected by the brigade

commissary and promptly condemned by a board of survey called for by him. At the brigade commissary, which was situated immediately in rear of our regiment, a general commissary store was maintained, just as is done in every military post. Here almost anything could be purchased that is handled by the Commissary Department of the United States Army. Some of the articles that could be purchased there were: Canned pears, canned peaches, canned apricots, canned plums, blackberry jam, strawberry jam, grape butter, canned corn, canned tomatoes, canned sweet potatoes, canned succotash, canned pork and beans, canned chicken soup, canned ox tail soup, canned tomato soup, canned vegetable soup, canned mock turtle soup, canned beef broth, deviled ham, deviled chicken, deviled turkey, cigars, chewing tobacco, smoking tobacco, pipes, matches, candles, toilet soaps, hair brushes, combs, blacking brushes, shoe blacking, sugar, coffee, bacon, salt and in fact everything that is kept for sale in a first-class grocery store. These articles were all purchasable at exactly what they cost the government in great quantities, plus freight. The soups, which could be purchased at a reasonable sum, something like twenty cents a quart, proved especially beneficial and nourishing to those who had some slight stomach trouble, but were not sick enough to go on the sick report, or did not care to be reported sick, and to those convalescing. While it is not expected that a soldier should spend his entire salary, or even the better portion of the same, for something to eat, when the government is supposed to furnish the board, we have already shown that the government furnishes amply, so that it is not necessary to purchase any thing; however, as stated, the food is coarse, and man always has been and always will be inclined to epicurean ways when something good is obtainable; besides, the expenditure of a small sum for commissaries would have made the government ration very presentable to those who "could not go it straight." In a great many troops the boys clubbed together and formed messes, and from their joint fund purchased extras from the commissary that made their spread very palatable. It may be argued that a soldier did not always have money with which to purchase commissaries. It was not required that he should have. Captain McMichael did not require the cash from the men of the cavalry brigade; all that he wanted was that an order be drawn upon him for what was wanted and indorsed by the captain. Of course there was a limit to the credit, but any reasonable demand was not denied. The amounts were charged on the pay-roll against the soldier at the first succeeding pay-day. The commissary department had a most keen competitor in the vast army of hawkers that infested Camp Thomas with their wagon loads of fried chicken, hard-boiled eggs, ham sandwiches, pies, doughnuts, fruits of all kinds, lemonade and soda pop. Some even brought in large quantities of "moonshine" whisky hidden under their wares; but of this we can only speak from hearsay, as we never used it nor had the proper password to obtain any. In the opinion of the medical authorities, a great deal of the sickness in camp was due to the indiscriminate use of over-ripe fruit, lard-encrusted pies, greasy doughnuts and other articles purchased from the camp venders. In fact, the origin of a number of stomach diseases was claimed by the same authorities to be directly traceable to said causes, to such an extent that General Brooke issued an order prohibiting the sale of eatables within the reservation limits, except by permission from division headquarters in the infantry divisions, or from headquarters of the cavalry or artillery brigades, which limited the sale to the command the officer had jurisdiction over, and then only after a rigid medical inspection of the wares. The provost guard confiscated and destroyed tons upon tons of unwholesome fruits and other wares offered for sale in

violation of the above order. As the brigade surgeon has already touched upon the matter of beer sold at the canteen, and as that is a question that is largely viewed from whatever standpoint a person occupies on the temperance question, we will only say, after a lengthy service in Arizona, Mexico, New Mexico, California and Lower California, where we had ample opportunity to observe the effects of beer in a hot climate, that we concur fully in the opinion of Major Fish. We believe that it will not be denied, after closely following the detailed description of the commissary department given above, that any man who went hungry at Camp Thomas, especially in the First Cavalry Brigade, was a mighty poor hustler and one who would likely starve to death the first day out on actual campaign. If a man was sick enough to be sent to the hospital, he was insured not only the best of medical treatment, but also a share of the many delicacies furnished the hospital by the National Red Cross Society, and by loving, sympathetic hands of our lady friends in every town where the regiment was raised, from Nebraska to Montana. If "Sherman's Bummers" or any of the other old campaigners of the civil war had dropped into Camp Thomas, they would have thought they had struck paradise as compared to their days in the field." (Sues 115 –119)

"Thursday 23," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Today it was very warm we got 14 more recruits today just before dinner which makes a total of 94 troopers."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "Nothing eventful."

On June 24, the *Chattanooga Times* stated: "Two car loads of medicine arrived yesterday for the hospital department. While other shipments will be arriving from day to day, Col. Hartsuff, chief of the department, says that the supplies on hand are ample for any demand that is likely to arise in camp. In fact the daily health report shows that the demand for medicine can hardly increase, for the percentage of decrease in the number of sick from day to day will easily balance the increase of men by reason of the arrival of recruits. Perhaps there was never a command of such large proportions enjoying such an excellent state of health. The men have every cause for the high spirits which they possess. While their duties are on the increase, causing them to be more and more exposed to the weather, the death rate has decreased during the past two weeks by more than 100 percent…

"A love romance was consummated in the yard of the historic old Alexander house at the park, at an early hour Wednesday night. Lieut. Edwin K. Slater, Co. D, 12th Minnesota, and Miss Clara Santee, a pretty young lady from Fairmount, Minn., were married, Rev. E. C. Clemens, a cousin of Mark Twain, officiating. The marriage was celebrated near division headquarters, and was witnessed by Gen. Haynes and Gen. Wiley, whose invitation to dinner was accepted by the young couple. The young couple had been courting for three years, and were to have been married on the 28th of this month, but the presence Miss Santee who was called here to visit a sick brother, resulted in a speedy and economic consummation of the affair. The young wife will go back to her home, while the groom will remain at his post in the regiment…

"Colonel Melvin Grigsby's cowboys have received 1,020 Krag-Jorgenson carbines and 1,020 Colt revolvers, which is the supply for the entire regiment. Word has been received at the camp that the saddles and other horse equipment were on the road and they are now daily expected. The fact that the horse equipment has not been received is not affected the drilling in the least. The boys are drilling with bareback horses. It makes no difference with them. Col. Grigsby's wife is expected to arrive at the camp in a few days from South Dakota. She will spend several days visiting at the camp…

A man who signed himself as "an officer of the 14th Minnesota," sent a letter to the *Times* in which he strongly repudiated the earlier E. B. Smith letter. He stated: "To the *Chattanooga Times* and our most Loyal and Generous Friends of the South. I scarcely know how to begin this communication, as many conflicting emotions are crying aloud for expression. But to the point: I have just read in your esteemed paper the brief write-up of E. B. Smith, who, I am sorry to say, is a correspondent for the two Minnesota regiments, quartered with the 14th. The only fault we officers have found with the article is its brevity and the fact that you might have made it 'warmer' considering the provocation. We trust that the people of Chattanooga especially will recognize and appreciate the fact that while E. B. Smith represents the Minnesota Journal, he does not represent the sentiments of the 12th and 14th Minnesota Volunteers, and especially is this true of the officers. Coming as we do from the farthest point north and west of any infantry troops in camp, we find a marked difference in the people and their ways. But we have not found the people nor their ways unpleasant or disagreeable in the slightest degree. In fact, from the hour of our arrival, you have showed us every courtesy, and though we are more cold-blooded and perhaps less demonstrative than you, still should the opportunity arise to show our appreciation of the people of the south, we would welcome it most heartily. In business and society you have expressed the same generous and hospitable spirit. In every regiment, no matter from what state they come, there are to be found a few of the 'baser' sort. Their natural instincts will lead them astray in spite of themselves. But we are glad to know that in this case, the culprit proved to be one who does not wear the United States uniform. In fact, I doubt that among the 2,000 North Star troops there would be found one so ungrateful as to send that paragraph home, much less publish it. It is a matter of some surprise that the Minnesota Journal printed it, but I think that it can be truly said that it was an oversight on the part of the editor, who usually allows 'correspondence' to go through as it comes from the camp. Possibly Mr. Smith has been spending his time with the 'yellow' outfit, therefore knows little from personal experience concerning the people who go to make up the chivalry of the south. It is just as likely that he was writing a space-filler, and therefore cared little what he said, just as it brought the price. However, whatever was his motives, I trust that the people of Chattanooga, and the south, will accept this public letter as a denouncement by officers and men of Mr. Smith and his write up of the south, and as a heartily endorsement of the article in the Times of June 22. Whether our stay will be long or short, we trust that this unpleasant incident shall be forgotten, and the north and south may be as brethren, Yours respectfully, an officer of the 14th Minnesota.'"

The correspondent for Company K, 52nd Iowa Infantry Regiment, wrote the following: "The health of the boys of the company has improved during the past week and on Thursday and Friday last every man in the company was reported on duty. Saturday, however, a couple were again laid up with the usual complaint. Saturday afternoon was inspection of arms and every spare moment the boys had was put in cleaning up the guns and belts and as a result everything was in a very creditable condition. Sunday came the inspection of quarters by Col. Humphrey and the tents were about as neat and tidy as they could be made under the circumstances. Private Sophus Richards has been transferred to the division hospital corps much to the regret of the company. He is considered an excellent hand with the sick, hence his transfer.

"D.E. Berry has resigned his position as cook and his place has been filled by F.E. Letson. We presume Dan's time was so occupied by his extensive correspondence with the fairer sex in the various towns through which the company passed while en route that he was compelled to give up cooking and devote his time to the more pleasing occupation. Several of the other boys devote much energy in this direction and several romantic alliances may result from their efforts. Judging from the description that some of these correspondents give of themselves of loveliness and no one could resist their charms.

"Friday 24," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Today I went out to drill we went away about six miles a cross the country

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: Hasselle tried by general court martial. Cody and Whetton gave testimony. Harris and Frankel not needed. Court reached a decision but will not give it until Monday, June 27, at 9 o'clock. Entertainment given by Co. M. Meeting held at YMCA tent. Four new recruits."

On June 25, the *Chattanooga Times* reported a distinguished visitor at Camp Thomas. "Gen. James A. Longstreet and his young wife of Georgia, were visitors at the Park yesterday, and paid their respects to Gen. Brooke and staff…

"The hospital department is rapidly carrying its plans into effect. The reserve ambulance company is complete, and in good running order, while the nuclei of a number of division ambulance companies have been formed and will be complete organizations as soon as they have been recruited to their full strength…

"Col. S. S. Knabensbue, editor of the *Toledo Blade*, who has a son in the 6th Ohio, and who has spent several days in Camp Thomas, said last night: 'Chickamauga Park is the ideal location for our greatest military camp. It's ample area of fifteen square miles affords room for an army of 100,000 men without crowding. The surface is sufficiently rolling to insure perfect drainage, while it is level enough for camp purposes. The portion in open forest, the underbrush having been removed by the park commission, affords perfect conditions for regimental camps, while the open space is both sufficient in

area and in number to furnish ample room for evolutions in mass. There is no better spot in the United States for a great camp of instruction…

"The rough riders [Grigsby's men] yesterday received the blue uniform for the entire regiment. As soon as they were received the quartermaster began the work of distributing them to the boys, and by night, the regiment was clothed in the regulation uniform. This regiment will be supplied with a special white duck uniform for service in Cuba , but this has not yet arrived. The white uniforms, however, are expected in a few days, and the cowboys will then probably make the finest appearance of any regiment in the Park. Col. Grigsby and Lieut. Col. Lloyd received a most pleasant visit yesterday by several ladies, who were shown over the camp by the two colonels."



Ladies visiting the camp.

"Saturday 25," Private Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Today there arrived seven more recruits we had inspection at 3.30 o'clock."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "Whetton improving. Walking around. Had a sham battle this a.m. Left camp at 4:30 a.m. and marched about 5 or 6 miles where our regiment, the 14th NY and the 2nd Neb. engaged with others against other regiments of Wade's Div. Our side won. Our company took extreme left of firing line but were not engaged in action. Got back at 10:30 a.m."

"The chief event at the Park yesterday," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on June 25, "was the battle exercise by the First division, Third corps, under the command of Brig. Gen. Fred D. Grant. The exercise consisted in putting into execution a most interesting battle problem. The six regiments participating were divided into two columns. The first column… formed along the Viniard and Alexander roads at 6 a.m. At the same time, the second column… formed on the Thedford road. The first column marched… in a

northeasterly direction toward the observation tower, which was the objective point… The second column marched toward [the same objective]. It was part of the problem that the first column arriving at the tower, would take possession and disperse its forces to hold that point. On the other hand, the column last arriving would disperse its forces so as to capture the point. Neither column had any means of knowing in advance whether its operations were to be of an offensive or defensive nature… To Gen. Grant the credit is due of inaugurating these battle exercises. His division is in splendid condition, both as to drill and discipline, and these battle exercised only demonstrate his capacity for military generalship…

"Col. Senn, surgeon in charge of the Leiter hospital, was injured in a runaway accident yesterday morning. His carriage was turned over, and he was thrown violently out. He received painful bruises, and his injuries are reported to be somewhat serious. Col. Senn had just received telegram requesting him to report to Washington…

"This morning we had fried mush and oat meal milk and sugar for breakfast," Joseph Beiler 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote on Sunday, June 26, "this afternoon it rained this evening they had out the report that we were going to move a way from here."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote "Sunday – Nothing eventful except Reg. Army Officer inspected our arms and it seems they are alright and we will keep them. Capt. Marquardt told Whetton and Frankel we would be away from here by Thursday."

On June 27, the *Chattanooga Times* stated: "It is no longer a question that a large body of troops are about to be ordered from Camp Thomas to the front. An order was issued by Maj. Gen. Brooke yesterday which virtually amounts to an order for the movement of fifteen regiments. In accordance with this order, the First division of the First corps, and two brigades of the Second division, First corps will form an expeditionary force and are ordered to be immediately prepared and equipped for active field service…

"Ensign Hamilton, age 21, private, company A, First Mississippi, residence Jackson, Miss., died at the hospital of the Second division, Third corps, of Typhoid fever yesterday afternoon. The young man contracted a cold while en route to the city, and soon after the arrival of the regiment at Chickamauga, he was taken sick with the fever. He was an exemplary young man and a good soldier, and by his death, the regiment looses one of its best men. The remains will be shipped to Jackson today by L. J. Sharp & Co."

On June 27, 1898, the correspondent for Company K, 52nd Iowa Infantry Regiment, wrote the following: "Another uneventful week in camp life has passed away and life at Camp Thomas has flowed smoothly on. For the greater share of the week the weather was cool and delightful. Indeed some of the nights were rather cool, and in the morning a few of the boys were glad to get their coats, while others put on overcoats. This, however, was changed on Friday, and since then old Sol has shot down his most

intense rays and as a result the thermometer has been ranging away up close to the hundred mark.

"The health of the Fifty-second is not so good as it was last week; but the greater share of the sickness was the result of vaccination and is passing rapidly away. Some of the boys had pretty sore arms and were pretty sick for two or three days. At last the regiment has been fitted out with rifles, but not all regiments in camp have been furnished with arms, and it is no unusual sight to see almost entire companies drilling without any arms whatever. The rifles furnished the Fifty-second are of the Springfield make and are the same as the old arms of Company K. Some of the fellows who were looking for the Kraig-Jorgensen rifle were considerably disappointed in not receiving the rifle. The other equipments for the camp are arriving slowly and from present appearances it will be some time before the 50,000 men at Chickamaugua Park are properly fitted out for an active campaign.

"The Y.M.C.A. still continues active work among the boys and their tent is thronged every day and night with boys taking advantage of the writing material and accommodations offered. Evangelist Fred Schriverea, of New York City is now working in the camp and held gospel meetings in the Y.M.C.A. tent three evenings during the week. His meetings were all well attended and his talks were closely listened to by his auditors. At his closing meeting Thursday evening about twenty-five signified their intention of starting in the Christian life. Some of these were sincere but it was noticeable that others only took the stand they did for effect, as their pocketbooks were at low ebb. The association, however, is doing a grand and noble work among the men, and should receive the encouragement of all.

"The worthy chaplains of the brigade and division have been having a sort of contention over the canteen business. It seems that meeting was called by the chaplains for the purpose of considering matters in general in their line of business. The canteen business came up for discussion and strange to say it found favor in the eyes of some of the chaplains on the score that it having received the sanction of the colonels of regiments it would be showing disrespect to a superior officer to condemn the canteens and petition for their discontinuance. It seems very strange that a minister of the gospel should take such a position, yet if reports are true, some did.

"The recruits for the Fifty-second began to arrive Friday, when about twenty came in. They were for the Third battalion and came from Fort Dodge and vicinity. Most of them joined company G. The first and second battalions as yet have received but few recruits but it is expected quite a large number will arrive before the middle of the week. These recruits no doubt will have to stand many practical jokes before they completely catch on to the ropes of army life and become thoroughly initiated. The "rookies" as they are called, are to be sympathized with, for their first few weeks in camp life are sure to be trying on them. They are new to army life and are awkward at first and in consequence will naturally make mistakes which they will feel keenly. This, with the entire change of climate and food and the sleeping on the ground, will have a tendency to make them feel homesick for a while. They will get used to all, however, in time, and will learn one

thing- what in civil life would gall and wound their pride- in camp they endure with the utmost indifference. One of the peculiar things noticeable in this country at this season of the year is the almost entire absence of birds of all descriptions. One rarely sees one, and it is quite a curiosity to see one wing its flight from tree to tree. No doubt later in the season when the north is frozen in the region of winter the birds will return and take up their abode in Georgia."

"Monday 27." Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Today troop B. went on guard it rained in the evening."

On the same day, Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "Nothing eventful."

"In accordance with the order Sunday," wrote the *Chattanooga Times* on June 28, "to equip and prepare for active field service an expeditionary force of fifteen regiments, the ordinance department continues quite active and will in all probability receive supplies sufficient during the present week to meet all demands of the emergency. The quartermaster department has been no less active in an effort to provide the regiments with shelter tents, uniforms, and other clothing to the extent needed in the regiments that are going away…

"There was somewhat the appearance of loneliness about Gen. Grant's headquarters yesterday due to the departure of Mrs. Grant to New York. Her visit to Chattanooga and Chickamauga was one of the greatest pleasures as experienced by herself. She proved to be a good nurse to her husband during her stay, and largely to her devoted attention was due the rapid recovery of Gen. Grant. By her very kind and pleasant disposition, Mrs. Grant won the esteem of all who had the honor of meeting her, and she will be pleasantly remembered by all who formed her acquaintance…

"The organized fight against the regimental canteens at Chickamauga Park is becoming very interesting. Another meeting of the Chickamauga Chaplains Association was held at the Park yesterday, and definite action was taken in reference to having the canteens abolished. Chaplain Bullock, of the 1st Illinois Cav., president of the association was absent and the meeting was called to order by the secretary, Chaplain E. S. Johnson, of the 52nd Iowa. Chaplain Frank G. Bruner was elected temporary chairman. The following resolution was introduced and passed:

> 'Whereas there have been established in many of the regiments at Chap Thomas canteens where intoxicants are sold, and
> 'Whereas, the highest medical authorities in the army have advised against the use of all intoxicants and stimulants, and
> 'Whereas the use of said intoxicants are filling the guard houses and hospitals; therefore be it, hereby,
> 'Resolved by the Chaplains association that the attention of Gen. Brook is respectfully called to these facts and we urgently petition him to use his military authority in the suppression of this evil.'

"The physicians and those familiar with the army are heartily in sympathy with the movement started by the chaplains, and it may be that others will appeal to the general along the same lines…

"The improvement in the health of the regiments is indicated by the report of the hospitals of the First division, Third corps, which is in charge of Maj. Hoover. Some days ago the reports showed that there were seventy patients in the hospital. Yesterday's report showed only 46, a decrease of 24. The hospital has just received a large barrel of hospital supplies from the Woman's Relief Corps of Boston…

"Two deaths occurred at Camp Thomas yesterday. The unfortunate men were members of Pennsylvania commands, and died within half an hour of each other. The first man to die was Lieut. John C. Hintz, Co. A, 4th Pennsylvania, who has been a member of the National Guard of Pennsylvania since 1883, enlisting at that time as a private. Upon arrival at Camp Thomas, Lieut. Hintz was sick. He was in camp about one week when he was taken ill with spinal meningitis and was sent to the Leiter hospital. A special surgeon was detailed to care for him. For two weeks he was in a precarious condition, but recently showed signs of improvement. Sunday night he changed for the worse and sank rapidly until 9 o'clock yesterday morning. Lieut. Hintz leaves a wife and five children at Reading. He was a traveling salesman and a brave and efficient officer. He was in several riots, and was always one of the coolest officers in his command. At 4 o'clock this morning, Col. Case and staff and Company A, to which Lieut. Hintz belonged will march to the Leiter hospital. Chaplain Knerr will hold funeral services, after which the remains will be escorted to the railway station and shopped home to Reading. George W. Homan, a popular private in Co. H, 9th Pennsylvania, of Hollidaysburg, Pa., died at the division hospital yesterday morning at 9 o'clock after a lingering illness. He was suffering with malarial fever. His relatives were yesterday notified of his death, and his remains will be shipped home this morning, the boys of his company bearing the entire expense. The body will be escorted to the depot by a squad from Co. H…

"Col. Melvin Grigsby, the popular commander of the Rough Riders, was yesterday presented with a beautiful saber by the officers of the regiment as a token of the high esteem in which he is held by them. The saber is the regulation cavalry size and shape and is composed of the finest materials obtainable. The scabbard is mounted with gold and is a perfect gem of beauty. The saber itself is very handsomely engraved and bears the inscription 'Presented to Col. Melvin Grigsby by the officers of the cowboy regiment.' Col. Grigsby greatly appreciates the fact that he is held in such high esteem by his officers, and he highly prized the beautiful and costly gift."

On June 28, Corporal J. Kiernan, 12th New York Infantry, wrote the following letter to his wife: "I have sent you a letter last night telling you about our supposed moving, but now I believe the order is countermanded. We have just been ordered to bring 10 days rations. That means that we don't go right away. Nearly all of our men from the city have arrived. This is a great park - about 1/2 dozen bands playing at the same time. Over on the other side a sham battle is in progress where I am now standing

outside of the Division Hospital. There are about 60 men in the hospital but there are none from the 12th. The new men are being affected now by the water. Some of the coughs of the men in the hospital are hacking. You would not think that in a place like this you could get cold but there are about 30 cases of typhoid fever and about 6 of pneumonia. The men are about sick of this place. They wanted to be moved. I hope they do one thing or the other. Tell Mr. Murphy and Mrs. Murphy and Paul Boyle I send my regards - also Mrs. Duffy. Tell her to bring you some pie and charge it to me. I have not much to say in this letter. So I bid them all goodbye. Tell Mrs. Robinson too."

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Tuesday 28: Today they isued belts to us it is again desided that we stay here for a week or two."

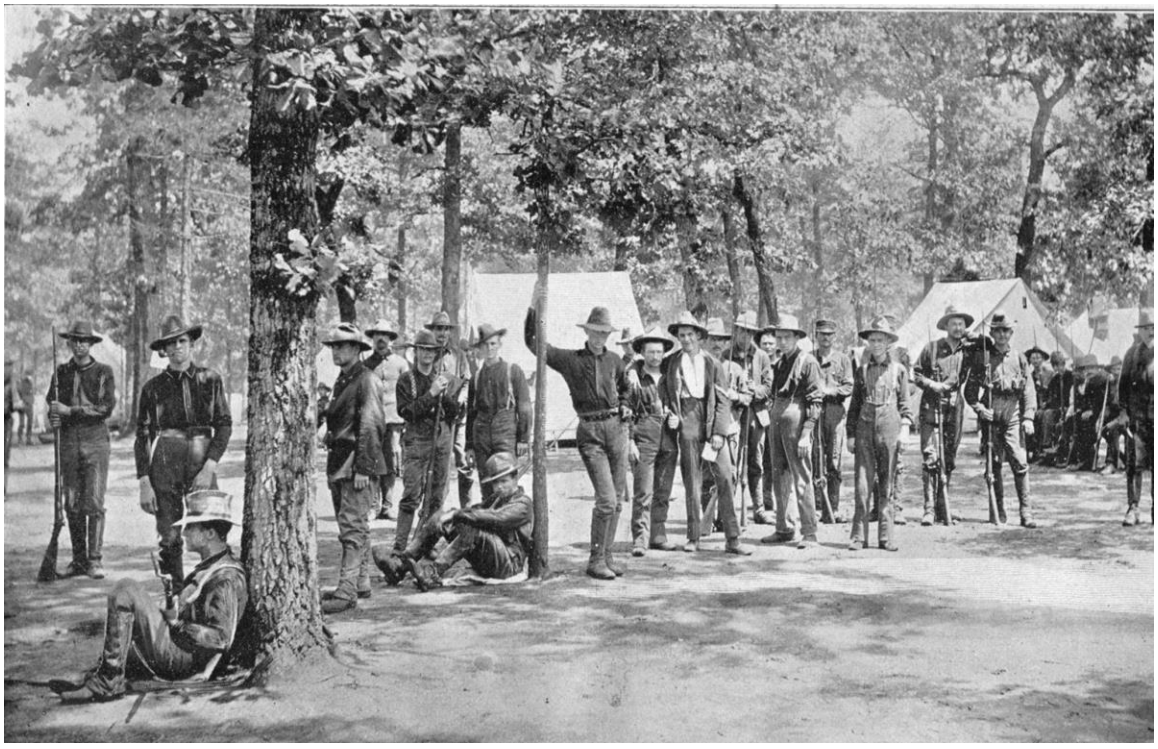
Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote "Began sighting drill this a.m. Several good averages were made by our company. Had only company drill this a.m. Nothing eventful."

"An order," wrote the *Chattanooga Times* on June 29, "to revoke the order to equip and prepare fifteen regiments from the First corps to form an expeditionary force, was issued from Maj. Gen. Brooke's headquarters yesterday. This does not change the plan to prepare for an expedition, however, since the revoking order affects more especially the transfers that were made by the former order. It provides further that instead of fifteen regiments being immediately equipped and prepared, the entire First corps of twenty-seven regiments is to be hastily prepared for active field service, and the natural inference prevails among the best posted officers in the Park that the entire corps will be off for Tampa or other seaport within a week, or ten days, or as quick as transports can be available… Maj. Gen. Brooke was appointed by the president to be in command of the corps, and the conclusion is that he will to with it, leaving Maj. Gen. Wade in command at Camp Thomas…

"Maj. Otto Becker and Maj. Seymore Howell were the only paymasters arriving yesterday, although twenty-five were expected. These gentlemen opened their headquarters near the corps headquarters yesterday afternoon. Maj. Becker stated that the corps will begin paying at once, and that the task of paying the army would probably last ten days or more. The officers and men will all be paid in cash…

"There came near being a very serious riot yesterday between the 1st and 2nd Arkansas and the 9th New York. The trouble was caused by a remark made by one of the New Yorkers to the effect that a Negro in the north was as good as a southern white man. No sooner than the remark had passed from the New York man's lips, than Pvt. Wilson of the 1st Arkansas, who was standing nearby landed a stiff right swing to his cranium, felling him to the ground. At this a crowd of New Yorkers surrounded Wilson, and things began to look rather squally for the Arkansan, when he suddenly drew a keen-bladed knife and slashed his way through the crowd, and returned to the camp. No one was cut in the melee. A large crowd of New Yorkers soon appeared at the camp of the 1st Arkansas and demanded that Wilson be turned over to them. This, of course, was refused and it appeared that a general fight would result, when Col. Chandler ran to the scene,

and succeeded in quelling the disturbance. Wilson was arrested and a court martial has been ordered to try him today.



Men of the 2nd Arkansas Infantry Regiment.

"Fredrick Ward, age 19 years, a private of Company E, 2nd Wisconsin, died at 8 o'clock yesterday morning at Leiter hospital of typhoid fever. His remains were brought to the city and prepared for burial at Harry Chapman's undertaking establishment and will be shipped to his home in Waupaca, Wis., this morning. Ward had been sick for several weeks. His mother, Mrs. Ward, arrived to the city about a week ago, in response to a telegram announcing her son's illness, and remained at his bedside until he died. She will accompany his remains back to Wisconsin this morning."

Adjutant Otto Sues, wrote the following concerning scheduling: "The routine of camp duty was set forth as follows in General Orders:

Headquarters Third United States Vol. Cav. Camp Thomas, Ga.,
June 29, 1898.

General Orders No. 19:

Commencing to-morrow and until further orders the following service calls will be observed in the regiment:

First call for reveille	4:45 a. m.
Reveille	5:00 a. m.

Breakfast	immediately after reveille.
Drill call (Boots and Saddles)	5:25 a. m
Assembly	5:30 a. m.
Recall from drill	8:00 a. m.
Sick call	8:00 a. m.
Fatigue call and stables	8:00 a. m.
Drill (Manual of Carbine)	9:00 a. m.
Recall from drill (Manual of Carbine)	9:30 a. m.
Recall from fatigue	11:30 a. m.
First sergeant's call	11:50 a. m.
Dinner	12:00 m.
Fatigue call	1:00 p. m.
Drill call (Manual of Arms)	3 p. m.
Recall from fatigue	3:15 p. m.
Recall from drill (Manual of Arms)	3:30 p. m.
Stables and water-call.	5:10 p. m.
Supper	5:50 p. m.
Guard mounting	6:10 p. m.
Assembly of details	6:15 p. m.
Adjutant's call	6:20 p. m.
First call for retreat, or mounted parade	6:35 p. m.
Assembly	6:40 p. m
Retreat.	6:45 p. m.
Tattoo	9:00 p. m.
Call to quarters	9:10 p. m.
Taps	9:15 p. m.

By order of Lieut. Col. Lloyd, D. F. CONNOR, First Lieutenant and Acting Adjutant.
(Sues 74)

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary: "Wednesday 29, Today I drilled we had an extra good drill."

On the same day, Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "Hasselle rec'd a sentence of 15 days hard labor and $5.00 fine. Sentence was read out to entire regiment at dress parade which was held that evening at Grant's Hdqrs."

"The day was quietly spent," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on June 30, "at Camp Thomas yesterday, although there was suppressed excitement among the soldiers. They are all anxious to learn just when they will break camp and their final destination. It was an impossibility to secure any official information upon these two points…

"A provost guard of fifteen men arrived at the city yesterday, sent by the colonel of the 8th New York Inft., at Chickamauga Park to arrest and return to the camp all

soldiers of that regiment who had remained over the time allowed in the city. It seems that when these soldiers were paid off on Monday many procured leave to spend a day in this city. On arrival, most of them started on a big carousal and have remained here in a more or less intoxicated condition ever since. The guard presented themselves at police headquarters yesterday morning and requested the assistance of the police which was granted."

Adjutant Otto Sues, 3rd Volunteer Cavalry (Grigsby's Cowboys), later wrote: "The month of June was extremely hot and very trying to the men, who were not accustomed to a Southern climate. It rained almost incessantly from the 19th to the 25th of June. The heat and damp weather began to tell on the Northwestern horses also, several of which died on the 24th. Notwithstanding the heat and wet weather, the progress that was being made in drill was nothing short of phenomenal. The foot movements had been drilled so long and thoroughly that it was a positive relief when saddles were issued on June 27, together with halters, nose bags, saddle blankets and watering bridles. Carbines were issued June 28, and the instruction in the manual of arms was taken up at once. On June 30 the regiment went out upon its first mounted drill, each troop being drilled separately by its commander, under the supervision of the squadron commanders, the entire work being superintended by Colonel Lloyd in person. The regiment was now a complete military machine, of which every officer and man formed a part. Beginning with the private in ranks, the corporal commanding his squad, the sergeant his section, the lieutenant his platoon, the captain his troop, the major his squadron and the colonel the regiment, every officer and man knew his position thoroughly and what was expected of him. Sabers were issued early in July, and on the 12th curb-bridles were issued, which, with the issue of rubber ponchos on the 14th of July, made the equipment complete. In the meantime the troops were industriously engaged at mounted work, and during the heat of the day, in the shade of the large oak trees abounding in the camp, would put in from two to three hours work with carbine and saber. Adjutant General Sues, then of the First Cavalry Brigade, First Corps, was detailed to instruct the officers of the regiment in the offensive and defensive use of the saber, mounted and dismounted. The zeal and energy displayed by the officers in mastering the details of the use of this favorite weapon soon made them all efficient and expert swordsmen, and they in turn rapidly developed their troopers." (Sues 36-37)

The correspondent for Company K, 52nd Iowa Infantry, wrote: "The boys of Company K are still getting along nicely and their health is much better than the average. Several days of the past week every man has reported for duty and at no time has more than two men been on the sick list at one time. This is better than most of the companies, for on last Friday morning when several companies reported nine sick, company K only had two unfit for duty. So far not one has been sent to the hospital with any serious complaint. The company still continues its good luck in securing more than its share of orderlies and special guard work. These are selected by the adjutant from the guard and are selected because of their neatness in dress and military bearing.

"Last Friday out of five selected company K secured three. During the week Corporals Duncan, Krieger, Darland and Private Bauck, Carlisle, Gilbertson and one or

two others have been selected for this work. Company K now has a regular barber establishment with Harry Raffenberger as chief tonsorial artist and C.W. Jones as assistant. The boys have upwards of fifty regular customers, some of whom come from other companies.

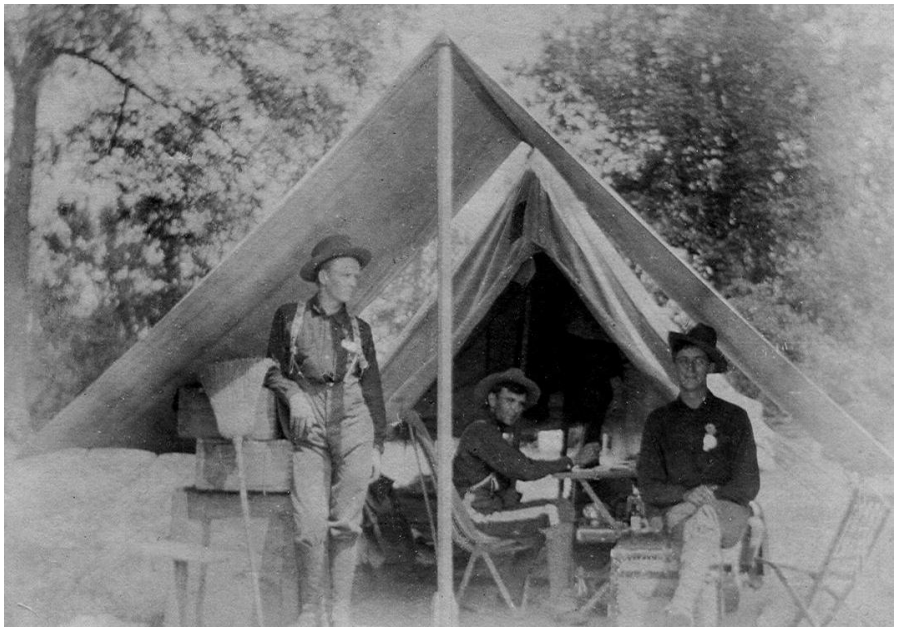
"Blackberries are now ripe and some of the boys who can get a pan outside of camp succeed in getting quite a few of them. Last Sunday while several of them were searching for berries through the timber they were met by a man with a shotgun who informed them that he had nothing "agin you'uns" but if they didn't keep out of his field and off his premises he would shoot them. The boys eagerly explained matters and left the fellow in the best of humor. It seems that some of the soldiers had previously visited the farmer's premises and stole almost everything that he had they could carry off. On account of such depredations a guard has been placed around his premises and boys are kept pretty closely with the Park limits.

"Just not the great question is whether or no the government will pay the boys before the Fourth of July. Most of them are running low on money and like true Americans they would like sufficient money to properly observe the nation's birthday. It seems to us that extra exertions should be made to accommodate the boys in this respect. Harris Hemstreet seems to be the luckiest fellow in company K so far as having friend to see him. A couple of week ago his father came up from New Orleans and during the past week his brother, Marsh Hemstreet came up from New Orleans and paid him a visit. C.W. Jones expects his brother from West Bend to visit him the first of the coming month. He intends to come to Nashville on the Y.P.S.C.E. excursion.

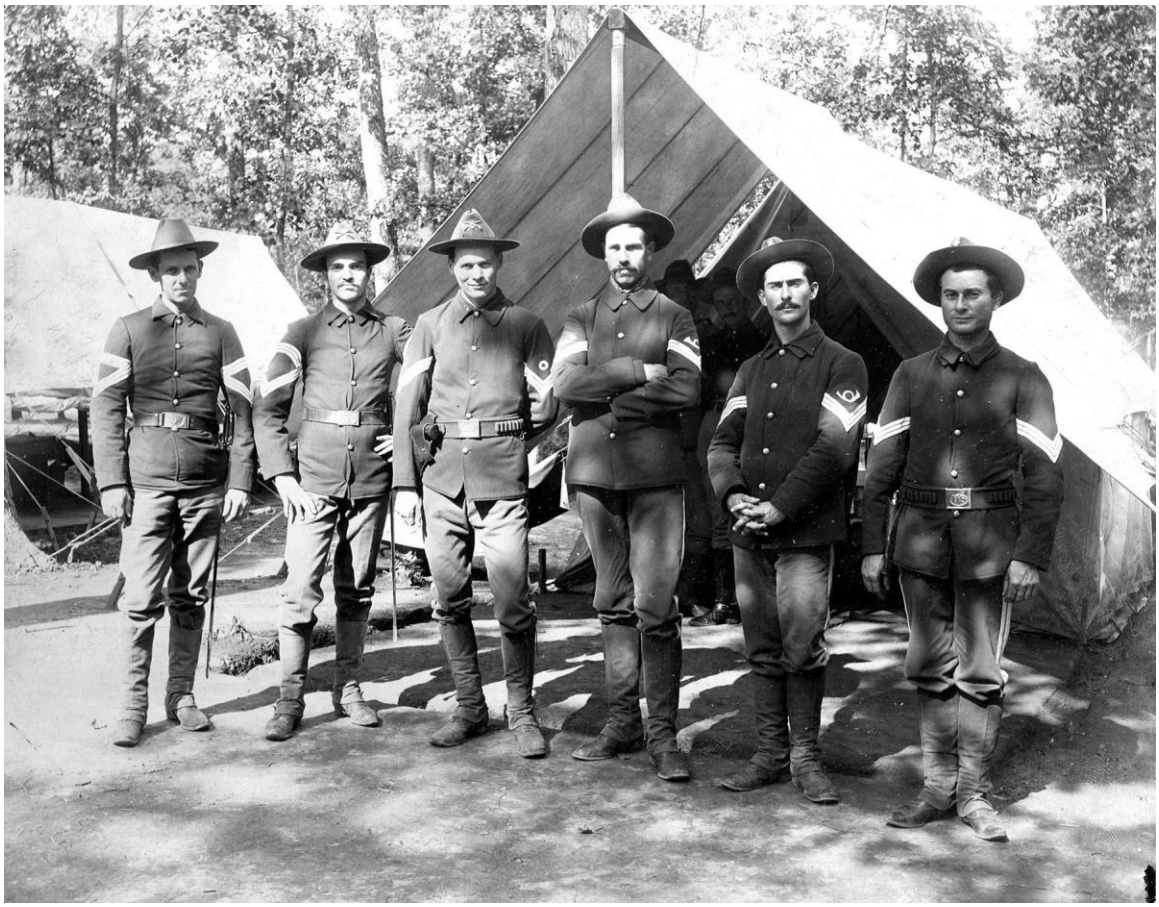
"The boys would like to spend the Fourth at home, and enjoy the good things that usually accompany that day, but seeing that they can't do it they will have to do the next best thing and do their utmost to have as good a time as possible here in camp. They hope, however, that their friends in Iowa will remember the day and celebrate it in a patriotic manner.

"Thursday 30," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Today we got orders to pack up at once & be ready to move to Lakeville Fla."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote, "Supposed to have an inspection and to sign muster rolls but this was deferred. Harris and Frankel on guard. Frankel had his first conversation with a woman for six weeks."



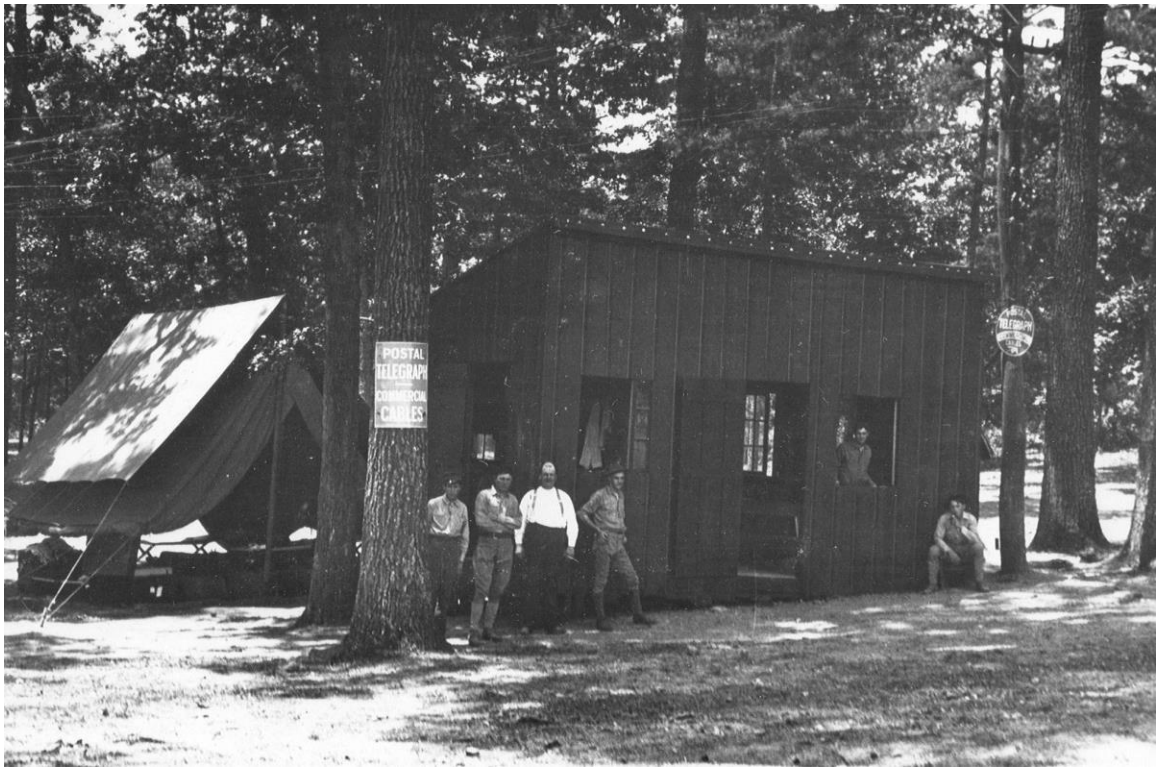
A field office.



Four NCOs at their tent.



Men gathering wood.



Camp Thomas Postal Telegraph Office. Sign reads “Postal Telegraph -- Commercial Cables”

Chapter IV: JULY

On July 1, 1898, work continued at Camp Thomas on the preparations for the expeditionary force. "Of the first corps," the *Chattanooga Times* stated, "for instance, which has been ordered to be put in readiness. Col. William Richards, adjutant-general, said yesterday afternoon: 'This corps is about as thoroughly equipped as they ever get to be.' In reply to the question as to how long it would require for the corps to respond to orders to move. Col. Richards said it could have its effects packed and on the march in about twelve to fourteen hours… While the regiments likely to move are now fairly well equipped there has been no cessation in the great activity that has characterized the ordnance and quartermaster departments for the past week. They are still rushed and rushing under the strain, and daily car-loads of clothing, shelter tents, and ordnance stores, goes out to the regiments. On feature which adds to the strain on the quartermaster department is that on an average the soldiers at Camp Thomas wear out daily nearly 200 suits of uniform and other clothing in proportion."



The paymaster.

"July Friday 1, 1898 Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Today after we had everything packed we got word that the order was countermanded we were paid off today we received $33.80 for each privet."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote "July 1, 1898 Muster roll signed, we expect to get paid tomorrow. Inspection took place this p.m. No drills today."



The 12th New York Infantry guard.

The main feature at Camp Thomas and in Chattanooga on July 2, were the preparations for a big 4th of July celebration. Among numerous other events, General Fred Grand was scheduled to read the Declaration of Independence, and former Confederate General Stewart was to deliver a patriotic address. Patriotic music would be provided by various military bands. The *Chattanooga Times* also had the following feature article dealing with disorderly soldiers:

"Pvts. Hawley, Seymore, and Clarke, the soldiers who took possession of a ladies horse and buggy at Camp Thomas yesterday afternoon and drove to the city, and were arrested by the police, were turned over to Lieut. Long of Company I, 158th Indiana on an order from the captain of the company, stating that the men would be court-martialed and punished to the fullest extent of military law. These men are not members of Company G, 31st Michigan as reported in yesterday's Times. When registered at the police headquarters the other night, however, they said that they belonged to the 31st Michigan, in order to mislead the officers. Pvt. Campbell, of the 1st Georgia, who was in the buggy at the time the boys were arrested, was released by Chief Hill.

"The majority of the cases tried in the recorder's court yesterday were against New York soldiers who were charged with disorderly conduct in creating disturbances in different parts of the city. Frank Mackey, who had a fight in a west Ninth street saloon with a Negro, was fined $25 and committed to the work house to work off the sentence. Frank Terhune, of the same regiment, who was implicated in the fight, was also fined $10, but on the representations of Pvt. Ward as to his good conduct, Recorder Hope remitted the fine. The testimony in the Mackey case showed that he abused the officers and the people of the south in a most uncalled for manner. In passing sentence, Recorder Hope severely arraigned the New York soldiers for their conduct. While he was talking, a New York soldier who was sitting among the spectators, rose and protested against the manner in which Recorder Hope was commenting upon the conduct of the soldiers. He was so insolent in his remarks that Recorder Hope ordered him arrested and he was arraigned on the charge of disorderly conduct. He refused to give his name, but said he had been in the Cuban army, had fought with Custer, and was the senior sergeant of a New York company. After giving him a good lecture, Recorder Hope said: 'I am going to let you go this time, because I believe you thought you had a right to protest as you did, but I hope you have learned something about practices in Tennessee by this time. A number of other New York soldiers were tried. Some were fined and others released."

"Saterday 2," Joseph Beiler 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "This morning we kill three pigs & we had a pig roast with dressing in the evening I went to the theather in Lytle got $7.50 from the canteen fund for cooking & the second cook got $5.00."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote "July 2, 1898 Inspection of arms in the a.m., also expectations of being paid. These were not realized. Dress Parade at 5:30. Recruiting officers returned from St. L. Regiment now filled out to 1,200 men. Harris rec'd word he was an uncle "twice." Niece born on the 30th."

On July 3, the *Chattanooga Times* reprinted the following news item: "A Washington special to the *New York Times* says: The Puerto Rican expedition which is the next number on the programme after the surrender of Santiago, is to be led by Maj. Gen. John R. Brooke, now commanding the First army corps at Chickamauga, who will be made military governor of the island after its capture… This assignment did not come, however, until Gen. Brooke had filed his earnest protest against being tied down at Chickamauga to the tedious turmoil of training and organizing volunteer brigades… In answer to this request, the commanding general telegraphed Gen. Brooke active duty would be given him, and that pretty soon. By way of preparation for this duty, he was instructed to keep his entire corps of twenty-seven regiments intact instead of selecting fifteen regiments to go to Shafter's aid, and make ready for moving to the front… There are now at Chickamauga nearly fifty regiments of infantry, and two troops of cavalry, and nine batteries of artillery. The removal of twenty-seven regiments under Gen. Brooke will leave there nearly 25,000 men… Gen. Brooke will be succeeded as commander of Camp Thomas by Gen. Wade, commander of the Third corps…

That night, just after reveille, news of the U. S. victories in Cuba reached headquarters at Camp Thomas and quickly spread throughout the camps. The men went wild with cheering and rejoicing. "Taps had just been sounded in the Georgia camps, but that made no difference, they were happy and gave vent to their feelings with frequent outbursts of the rebel yell. The band of the 1st Georgia was soon upon the scene and played 'Marching Through Georgia,' and 'The Star Spangled Banner.' This appeared to arouse more enthusiasm and the scene was an inspiring one which will long be remembered."

Joseph Beiler 1st Ohio Cavalry wrote in his diary: "Sunday 3, Today I had a easy day of it I was away all after noon had a cold supper got $21.85 from Corpral Nye which he colected from the boys for the benifit of the cooks each of the boys giveing .25 cts. I give my second cook $7.25 1/3 of what was collected."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 3, 1898 Usual company inspection of quarters. Rec'd our new rifles – Springfields. Dress Parade at 5:30."

"Yesterday," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on July 4, "was another quiet day in the Park… Later in the afternoon, an order arrived from the war department to Gen. Brooke to designate about 20,000 men for immediate departure to the south, and at once there was great excitement and bustle in the camp. Gen. Brooke declined to make public the order, but it is understood that he as selected the First division of the First corps and two brigades of the Second division to be moved at once…

"A larger number of soldiers visited the city yesterday than at any time since the arrival of the volunteer army at Chickamauga Park. As a result railroads, restaurants, and hotels did a land office business, better in fact than during any previous Sunday of the year. The soldiers were remarkably well behaved and orderly, considering the large number. Only three, E. Spring, E. G. Betty and Frank Wright were arrested. The first two were merely intoxicated, and were subsequently released. Wright was held on the charge of carrying as dirk, and will be tried before the recorder today…

The local paper reprinted the following from the *New York Tribune*: "The vast volunteer army encamped at Chickamauga, is loud in its praise of the noble benefactor which placed of the numerous sick soldiers the comforts of the Leiter hospital. The thoughtfulness that foresaw that among the thousands of unhardened men vicissitudes and hardships incidental to their sudden adoption of army life would develop physical weaknesses which could not be fairly treated in tented field hospitals and provided a comfortable home for the emergency is calling forth the warmest expressions of gratitude and the hospital is apt to be remembered gratefully by hundreds of men long after the war is over. But for the benevolence of Mrs. L. Z. Leiter perhaps the hospital tent would have been compulsory throughout the occupation of the camp. When Surgeon General Sternberg decided that the large hotel at Crawfish Springs where the famous battle began was needed by the army for hospital purposes he was chagrined by the impossibility of reaching as to terms with its owners. It was a fine building, practically new, with

accommodations for 600 or 700 guests and admirably adapted in every way for the uses of the medical corps. When the negotiations for its lease failed, Mrs. Leiter learned of its obvious advantages and the practical dependency of the army upon this building for saving the lives of many of its untried soldiers. She promptly undertook to purchase it outright, and in spite of the fact that the owners placed the price at $10,000, she at once effected the purchase and delivered it over to the government gratuitously, to keep as long as it might be required for military hospital purposes.

The correspondent for Company K, 52nd Iowa Infantry, wrote: "This is the nation's birthday, but in camp the day will be passed as usual with nothing taking place to indicate that he day is different from the other 364 days of the year. Many of the high officers of the entire camp have gone to Chattanooga to attend the celebration there and perhaps before night a review or something will take place in camp, just to make the boys remember that it is the Fourth. Many of the regiments were paid off Saturday, but the Fifty-second Iowa was not among the lucky ones and in consequence the boys have not much ready cash on hand to properly observe the day, but most of them will do the best they can.

"There is much complaint in general concerning the pay and there has been a repetition of what happened in 1861-namely a period of time between the call for troops and the date of their muster for which the boys have received no pay. In some states the boys will lose fully three week's pay, as that time elapsed from the call to the day of muster. The government pays from the date of muster and if the state had not previously paid the boys up to that date why then they lose just their pay for the intervening time. The fifty-second is more fortunate in this respect than some others for the State gave them twenty-nine days pay at the government rate, but from the time the companies were ordered to hold themselves in readiness to mustering day was thirty-two days. The discrepancy is not great but it would amount to $1.50 for each man at government pay. Many of the states have done much worse than Iowa, but there is no excuse, for the volunteers certainly deserve every cent that is lawfully due them. Goodness knows it is small enough at best.

"While many of the states have been exceedingly niggardly toward their volunteer soldiers, others have been quite generous. Perhaps the little state of Vermont has been the most generous of all. Not only did she give her guard state pay until they were mustered into the United States service, but since then she gives every one of them $7 per month out of state funds. Tuesday the routine of everyday drill was varied by a brigade review. The Third Brigade is composed of the Fifty-second Iowa, the First Maine and the First Mississippi, and made quite an imposing spectacle as they passed in review. This was the only time that the brigade had been on the drill ground in review. It is commanded by Gen. Mottox.

"The Fifty-second regiment had its first court martial cases this week. The first case was that of a couple of smart recruits who came in the latter part of last week. Close to camp headquarters there is an apple and peach orchard. The fellows made a break for the orchard and it so happened that General Wade was sitting on the porch of the house

and ordered the boys to leave. The fellows did not know him and gave him a considerable amount of sauce mixed with profanity. Of course the boys were arrested and taken to the guard house and the matter referred to General Brooke who recommended to the court martial that the boys be given six months at hard labor. The court however was more lenient and fixed the penalty at a week in the guard house at hard labor. The second case is that of a private of Company I who went to sleep on his post while on guard. The case has not yet concluded, as the defense has set up that the boy was subject to fits and that he fell down in one. It is hard to say just how the matter will end. However, the matter has had the tendency to make the boys more careful and they will be more attentive to duty in the future.

"Company F of the Second battalion was detached on special duty for five days during the past week. They were camped at Cave Spring, about one and a half miles west of camp and acted as provost guard. Their duty was to guard the orchards and premises of citizens from the depredations of some lawless soldiers in camp who seem to think because they are soldiers they have the perfect liberty to take anything they can get their hands on. Like so many things in military law all must be restrained in their liberty on account of the lawlessness of a few. Now none are allowed to pass outside of the Park limits without a pass and the latter is hard to get. Recruits are still arriving and by the middle of the week all of the companies will be filled.

"As anticipated in our last these new men are having a pretty hard time for they are new to camp life, climate and food and as a result many of them are immediately attacked with the dysentery and other stomach troubles. Like the rest of us, however, they will get over it in a few days if they only stop eating. The great remedy for the disease is a milk diet, but milk is hard to get sometimes and costs ten cents a quart and oftentimes scant measure at that. Sometimes when a milk wagon comes to camp a fellow has quite a squabble to get near the wagon so great is the crowd that gathers around eager to get a drink.

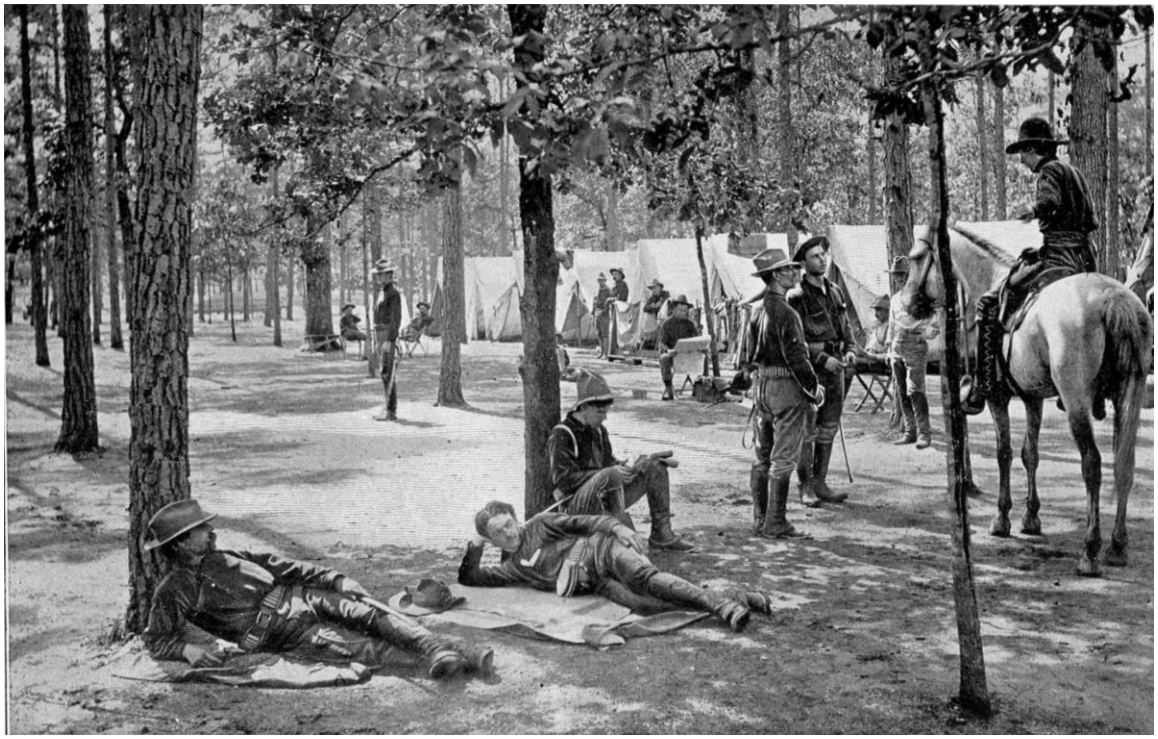
"Thursday evening a tragic event took place at Bloody Pond, a small stagnant pool of water near the small village of Lytle. A couple of Negro boys about ten or twelve years of age got into a scrap and one of them stabbed the other with a knife. The boy who was killed was a forlorn little fellow with only one eye and went under the appelation of "One-Eye." The kid who did the stabbing was named Wood. It is amazing to see the toughness of the Negro kids in and around Chattanooga. They will fight and use a razor or knife on the least provocation.

"Sunday is generally considered a day of rest, but it was far from it last Sunday in the Fifty-Second for there were two inspections. First came the regular inspection of quarters at eight o'clock in the morning by Col. Humphrey. At two o'clock in the afternoon a regular army officer inspected the arms and equipment of the regiment. The object of the inspection was to ascertain which regiment in the second division was the best equipped and this one will be transferred to the first division, to take the place of a regiment that is not fit to go to the front. The entire first division is under orders to move to Porto Rico.

"At this writing no regiment has been selected but we don't believe that the Fifty-Second will be chosen on account of it not being fully recruited up to the maximum strength. The Captain of Company M of the First Maine, which is encamped alongside the Fifty-second died Sunday about noon. He had been sick only a little over a day and his death was unexpected. The cause of his death was bloody flux. This is the only death that has occurred in the Third Brigade so far as we have been able to ascertain."

"Monday 4," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Got a pass for this afternoon went two Chatanuga went up on Look Out Mountain stayed up there all afternoon came down to the city for my supper after supper Mr. Brown my chum & I then went out to take in the town did not go back with Mr. Brown but stayed untill 12 o'clock P.M."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 4, 1898 Boxes for each of us arrived from our homes. Plenty of good things to eat. Were paid in the afternoon two months pay. Rained slightly."



Guard House of the 1st Illinois Cavalry Regiment.

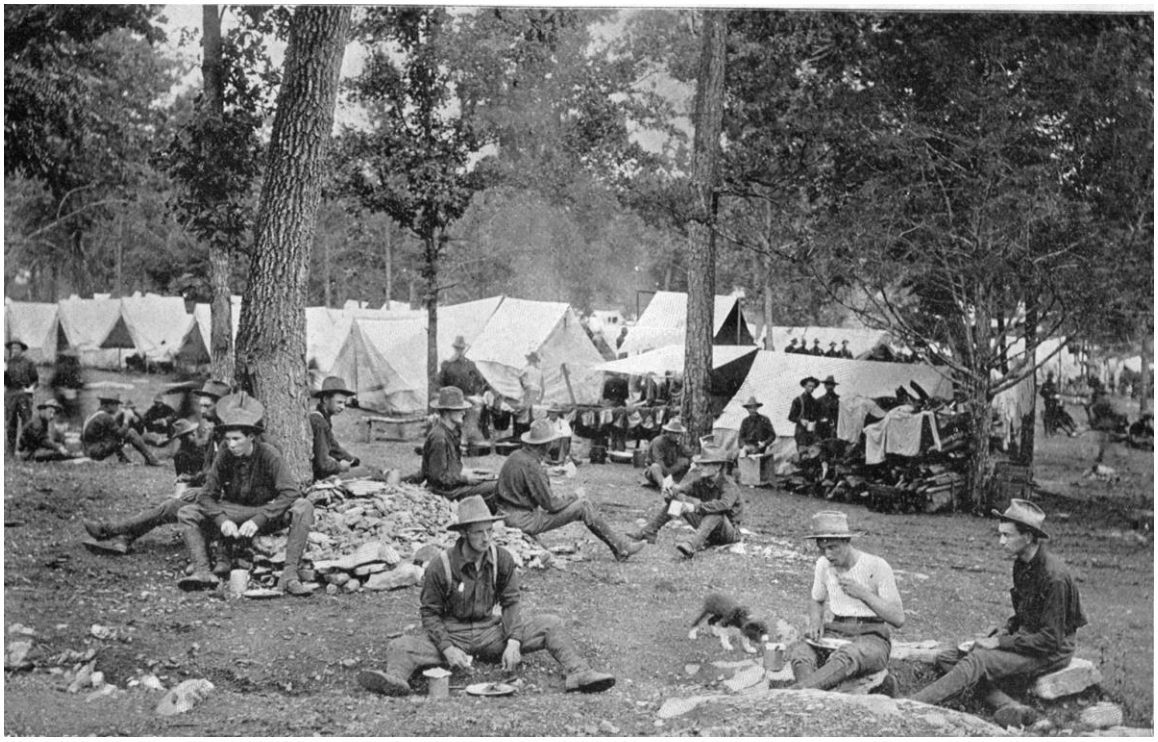
On July 5, the *Chattanooga Times* reported: "Sunday night and yesterday morning it looked as if Chickamauga was going to loose the greater part of its army… Six regiments had been ordered to move today in command of Gen. Wilson as division commander; the railroads had all the necessary trains to carry the soldiers to the front; the quartermaster department had loaded a train of fifteen cars with supplies to accommodate

the troops, but the destruction of Cervera's fleet Sunday at Santiago, changed the whole plans of the department and a rescinding order was received last night…

"A representative of the Times learned last evening from a reliable source which cannot be questioned, that the entire First corps is to be moved to the front at an early day. The transportation is now being arranged for and it is very probable that another expedition will be announced today or tomorrow. The delay in sending out the troops is now due to the effect that the government transports are not available at this time."

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote: "Tuesday 5, Today we went on guard at ten o'clock A.M."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 5, 1898 Nothing important – Harris & Frankel made an ineffectual attempt to get to Lytle but were stopped by provost guard on outskirts of park. Rtd home about 11:30 after successfully passing twelve guards."



A typical dinner in camp.

"The order to send six picked regiments of infantry," the *Chattanooga Times*, stated on July 6, "from Camp Thomas to the front under the command of Maj. Gen. Jas. H. Wilson was yesterday revived and now the expedition is on the move to Santiago. There is no doubt of the destination of the troops at this time. The arrival of Gen. Pando and 6,000 men at Santiago to reinforce the Spanish forces there has caused another complete change in the plans of the war department. After the Spanish fleet was annihilated and its commander taken prisoner, the war department deemed it unnecessary

to reinforce Gen. Shafter, thinking Santiago would fall yesterday. The arrival of 6,000 Spaniards at Santiago stimulated the Spanish forces… It was decided to send reinforcements to Gen. Shafter at once. The former order to send two brigades of the First division, First corps from Camp Thomas to the front was revived… All orders were received with instructions to rush the troops to the front as speedily as possible."

Wensday 6," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Was sick this morning but this evening I felt a good deal better."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 6, 1898 Nothing important. Harris on out-post duty at Wade's hdqrs."



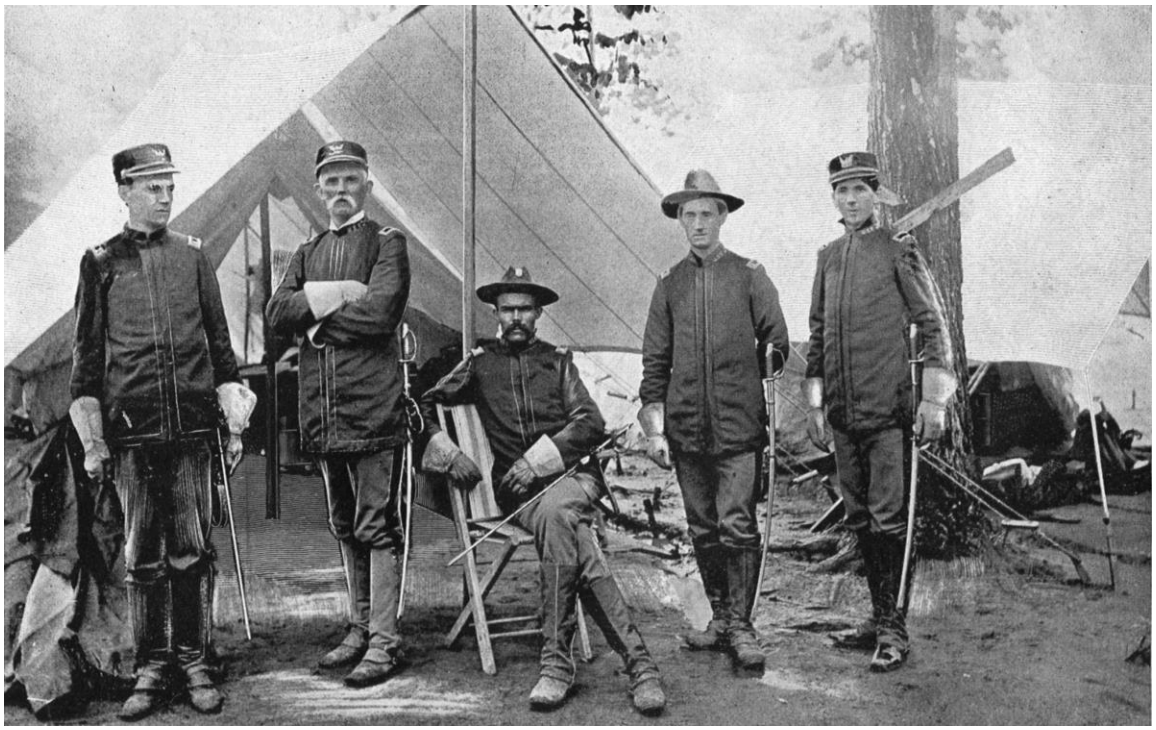
The 31st Michigan Infantry Regiment with mascot pets.

"Maj. Gen. Wilson," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on July 7, "arrived at Charleston yesterday morning as scheduled and at once commenced the preparations for the reception of the troops no en route there. The three regiments, the 2nd and 3rd Wisconsin and the 10th Pennsylvania commands, which left here Tuesday evening, should have reached Charleston last evening. The officers at the camp still entertain the idea that the entire corps will leave shortly…

"Col. Grigsby has been very busy for the past few days arranging for target practice for his brigade. All of the arrangements for the practice have been made and the boys will probably begin to shoot today or tomorrow… Mrs. Grigsby and her two children, Master Jack and Miss Fanny are expected to arrive about Friday. It was their intention to leave Sioux City yesterday afternoon at 4 o'clock."

Joseph Beiler 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote, "Thursday 7, This morning Major Runcie returned from Cleveland I was sick all day."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 7, 1898 Major Fuller rtd to command of 3rd Batt. Frankel on guard. 34 prisoners in guard house."



Officers of the 1st Kentucky Cavalry.

On July 8, the *Chattanooga Times* stated: "Yesterday passed without any special event among the troops at Camp Thomas. Although an order for the Second brigade of the First division, First corps was anticipated, the regiments interested failed of so great a gratification. The general impression among the officers and men at the park is that a large number of regiments are about to be ordered out…

"It is very difficult for privates, or in fact, for any enlisted men, to secure a leave of absence to come to Chattanooga. The majority of the men who come to the city every day jump the guards. A general order has been issued at the camp directing that no man be permitted to leave camp without an order from division headquarters. The man must make application the day before to his colonel, who must refer it to the adjutant, and then the paper goes to division headquarters, where it is approved or disapproved. Many of the applications for passes are rejected."

The correspondent for Company K, 52nd Iowa Infantry, wrote: "The boys of Company K are getting along quite nicely and most of them are enjoying fair health. This morning only two were reported on the sick list, and both of these cases are improving

and will be able for duty in a few days. Last Monday Private Ridley met with quite a serious accident. He had steeped some sassafras tea and not thinking it very hot put a tight cover on the can in which he had it. Immediately the cover was blown from the can by the steam and the hot water and steam were thrown into his face, scalding him severely. His left eye was badly injured and even the inside of his mouth and nostrils were so seriously scalded as to be blistered. He spent the entire week in the hospital but came back to the company Saturday morning. He will not be able for active duty for at least ten days. He is a splendid fellow and the accident was deeply deplored by the entire company. Quartermaster W.E.G. Saunders left Thursday evening last for home on a fourteen-day furlough, to attend to business affairs.



"The new recruits have been furnished a little amusement during the week by getting weighed as the boys call it. The weighing process is a novel one, if the weight is not exactly accurate. [The 'weighing' of a new recruit consisted of using a blanket to toss the man as high in the air as possible, as is shown in the photograph on the right.]

"Some of the boys of Company K have been getting into trouble during the past week from drinking. They didn't get intoxicated either. They fell out of the ranks and went to a spring to get a drink of water, but unfortunately they didn't get back in time to fall in when the proper time came. A little extra fatigue duty was the result. The next day four others got caught in a jam of men at a spring and were forced inside the guard line and were arrested and taken to the provost guard house. Lieutenant Grout came to their rescue and finally got them out.

"Water is the great desideratum in camp. It has to be carried from the springs or else hauled from Crawfish Spring, and it sometimes happens that a fellow doesn't get a drink from one evening to ten o'clock the next day. He gets pretty dry by that time especially if he doesn't drink coffee. There is plenty of hydrant water that is pumped out of the Chickamaugua river but it is not fit to drink and nothing but a mule ought to attempt to drink it.

"Miss Alta Turner and a party of friends from Des Moines are expected at the Park today. It will be rather strange to talk to a lady once more for none of the boys have conversed with a woman since coming to the Park five weeks ago. Many of the boys received letters from the Epworth League Convention which recently met in Emmetsburg. They are grateful for the remembrance and for the kindly and Christian sentiment contained in the letters.

"Friday 8," Joseph Beiler 1st Ohio Cavalry, write in his diary, "This evening we received orders to be ready to move by monday morning that we were to go to Tampa where we are to take transports for Santiago."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote, "July 8, 1898 Nothing of interest."

On July 9, the *Chattanooga Times* stated: "The army at Camp Thomas is now as nearly equipped as armies get to be. More than that, it is ready, aside from the recruits, to go to the front. The chief officers have been working to this end for weeks past and have quite successfully accomplished their immense undertaking… The conditions are such at Camp Thomas that troops can be started for the front immediately in response to an order, so that the transports being once secured, there will be no delay in sending the soldiers forward…The paymasters finished paying the troops yesterday, except one regiment — the 3rd Tennessee. This regiment will be paid today, after which the paymasters will proceed south…

"Col. Grigsby and the remaining officers of the cowboy regiment certainly have good cause to be proud of their men. The men received their money and seem to be enjoying it, although not an enlisted man or an officer has yet visited Chattanooga and become drunk and acted in the general rowdy. The Rough Riders are showing themselves superior in every respect, and they are becoming familiarly known as the crack regiment of the Park…

"The surgeons of the various regiments are now satisfied with the progress the sick are making, and they feel sure that, if the men will observe the ordinary sanitary precautions, there will be very little more sickness. Orders have been issued to put a stop to drinking the surface water and from springs that may have a taint of surface drainage, and in many of the regiments the water is required to be boiled before being used. If these rules are complied with, the perfect healthfulness of the camp is assured."

Adjutant Sues, of the 3rd U.S. Volunteer Cavalry Regiment, later wrote: "The following appeared editorially in the Chattanooga Times of July 9, 1898: "Grigsby's Rough Riders are showing themselves superior in every respect, and are becoming familiarly known as the crack regiment of the Park." The gentlemanly conduct and discipline of the regiment was as well known and commented upon as was its military efficiency. In less than two months the identity of the cowboy had been lost, and in his place stood a soldier, and a mighty good one, too. With the arrival of the paymaster on July 2 came a rumor that we were to be paid off at once, sent to Tampa, Florida, fully equipped there, and at once sent to Cuba. Then came the news of the battle around Santiago, followed by the rumor that we were at once to be sent to Cuba as a part of the reinforcements, and some of the boys actually packed their saddle pockets, so authentic did this rumor appear, and so reasonable, especially as it was reported at that time that General Weyler had left Havana with an army of 70,000 men to wrest the province of Santiago from the victorious Americans. Naturally, as rumor followed rumor and no action was taken, the men began to look around for some one to blame. They accepted everything they heard in good faith, and, as is usually the case in military camps, some privates knew more about what was going on and what ought to be done than the commanding general, and as a consequence a great deal of dissatisfaction arose. So the month of July was passed drilling at an average of four hours a day in the boiling sun and

fighting mosquitoes and countless other insects at night. Every day an order to move would be looked for and every night the officers and men alike would retire disappointed." (Sues 37-38)

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary: "Saturday 9, Today we had inspection at one o'clock."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "Usual regimental inspection. Talk from Maj. Fuller upon relative position of officers and men. Rained in the evening."



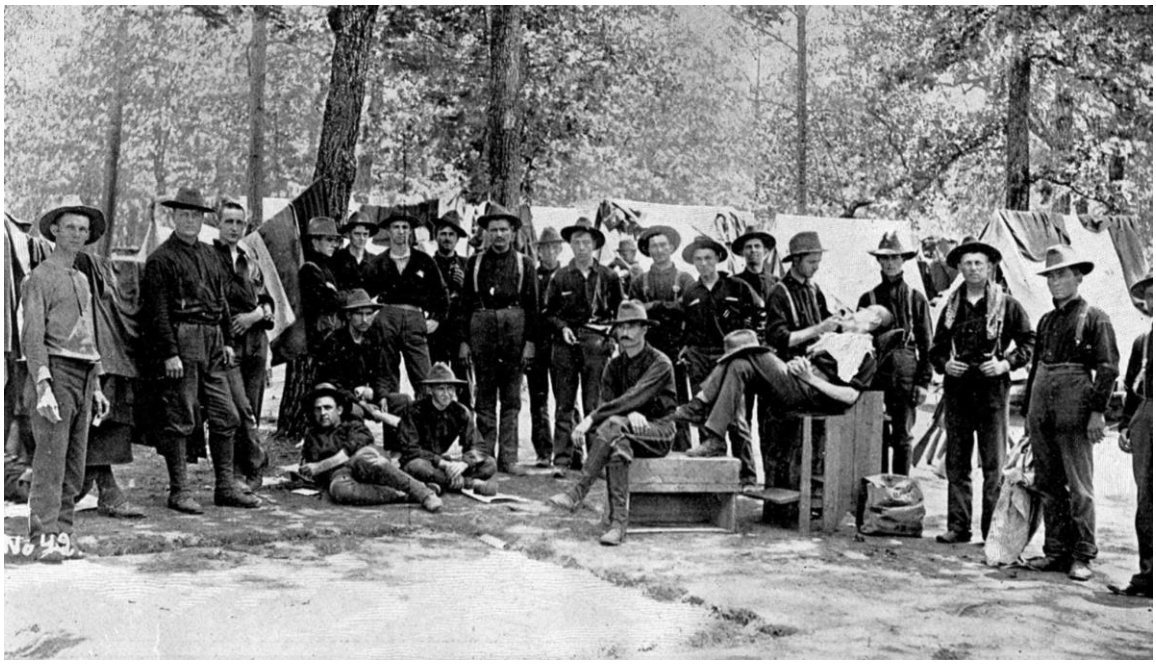
The 3rd Georgia regimental band.

"Last night closed another week of hard work at Camp Thomas," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on July 10, "and the troops are now in fine condition for field work. During the past seven days the work of equipping the soldiers at the big military camp has been vigorously prosecuted in a systematic matter. Many thousands rifles, shelter tents, and other lesser supplies have been issued. Last night it was stated that the entire First corps was in condition to move to the front if necessary… An officer who is in a position to speak said that the First corps under Gen. Brooke would go to Santiago, and from that point on to Porto Rico…

"Gen. Henry V. Boynton has returned to Camp Thomas, but not for duty. Gen. Boynton is now at work on his accounts as president of the national park commission, and when this work has been completed, he will report to Gen. Brooke for assignment to duty. It is very probable that Gen. Boynton will be assigned to command the Third

brigade, Third Division, First corps, which is now provisionally command by Col. Culver of the 5th Illinois…

"A suggestion was made yesterday that the people of Chattanooga show their appreciation and gratitude to Gen. H. V. Boynton, president of the Chickamauga Park Commission, and 'the father of the park,' by presenting him with a sword in honor of his recent appointment as a brigadier general in the United States Army. The suggestion was made first to the *Times* by Will Cleage, a patriotic young newspaperman of the city, and was immediately acted upon by the Times. Editors of the times presented the idea to a number of prominent citizens and response was immediate and hearty. The people of the city feel the deepest gratitude to Gen. Boynton and will eagerly seize any opportunity to do him honor. It will be a gracious and timely act to present him with a sword in the name of the citizens of Chattanooga…



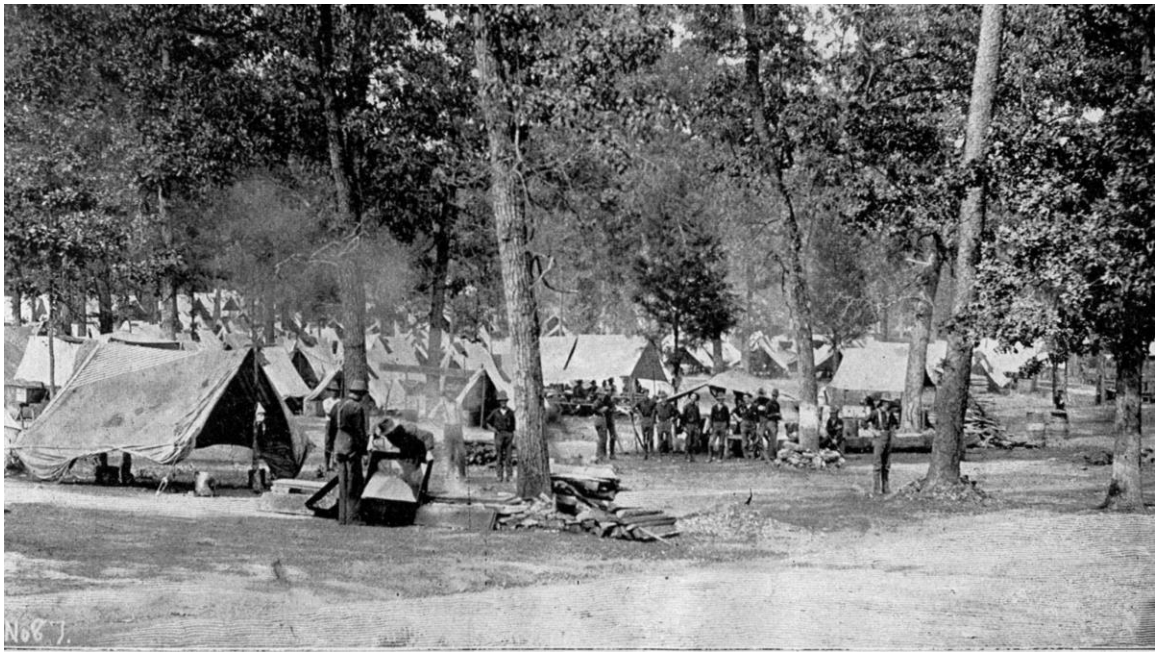
Getting a shave in camp.

"Those soldiers of the New York and other regiments who are Catholics will not suffer in future for lack of spiritual care and guidance, the archbishop of New York having looked well to this matter. Yesterday there arrived in this city three Catholic clergymen, Rev. Dr. McCarthy, Rev. Dr. Redford, and Father Chrysostom of the Benedictine order. Revs. McCarty and Redford are of Brookline, and Father Chrysostom has just returned from a service covering a long period of years in the West Indies. They will make the camp of the regiments their home, attending to all the spiritual needs of the soldiers, and when the time comes, will accompany the New York regiments to Cuba…"

Sunday 10," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary, "Today we received orders that we would not go until Wensday the 13 of July."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 10, 1898 Sunday. After dinner went swimming and from there went over to 2nd Neb. and had our pictures taken – individually and in a group. Jack and O.B. quit as cooks today. Capt. trying to persuade them to stay. No dress parade today. Nine boys missing at roll call today having gone to Chattanooga without leave."

On July 11, the *Chattanooga Times* stated: "Taking everything into consideration, Sunday, July 10 may be recorded as one of the most quiet days spent at Camp Thomas… Gen. Sheridan stated that it has been definitely settled that the 1st Ohio Cav. Regt., would depart Tuesday morning for Tampa, loading at Ringgold on the Western and Atlantic railway. Yesterday afternoon the regiment received the last of their equipment, contained in twelve boxes of supplies, issued by Capt. Rockwell, ordnance officer.

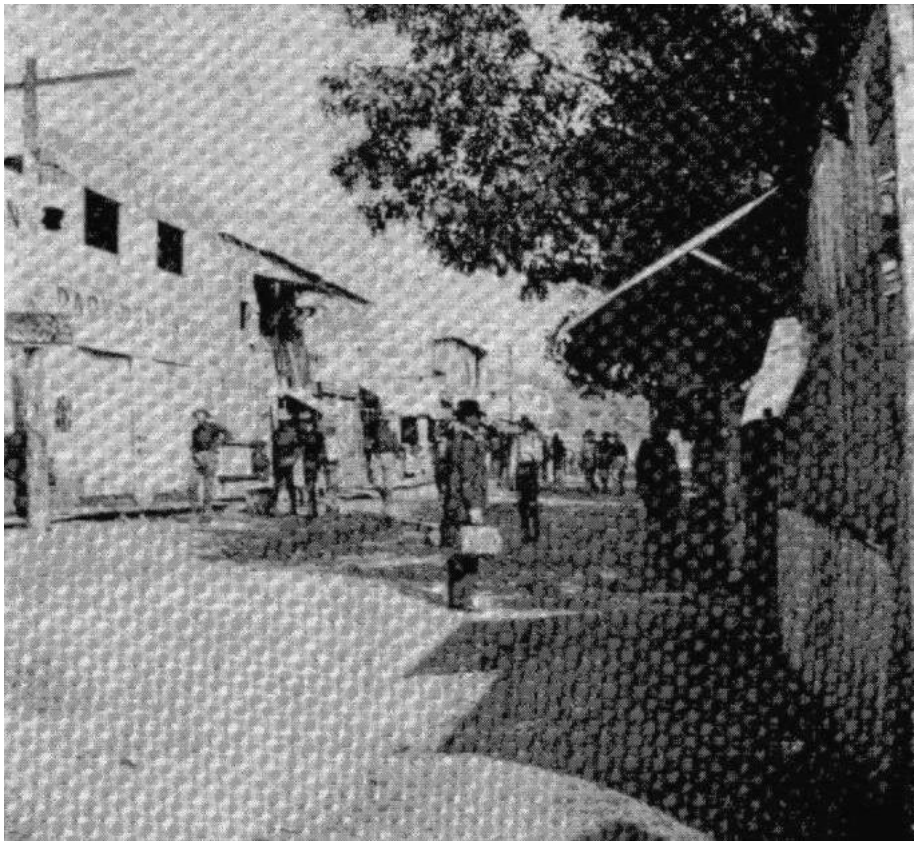


Camp of the 2nd Missouri Infantry Regiment.

"Brig. Gen. Henry V. Boynton visited Gen. Brooke's headquarters yesterday, but did not formally report for duty. It will be several days before Gen. Boynton is ready to take his command. Gen. Boynton will command the Third brigade, First division, First army corps. This is the only brigade in the First corps that is now without a brigadier general. Gen. Boynton will have in his brigade the 1st and 3rd Kentucky and the 4th Illinois…

"A remarkable religious meeting was conducted at the Camp Thomas theater yesterday morning at 9 o'clock, the speaker at the session being Maj. Gen. O. O. Howard (retired). During the service strong men broke down and wept. The 4th Pennsylvania, under Col. Case, attended in a body, while officers and men from other regiments taxed the spacious auditorium to its fullest capacity. There were at least 1,200 men present. The meeting was opened by a song service conducted by Mr. Maxwell, interested in the

Army Christian mission work. He was followed by Gen. Howard, who began by reading from the scriptures, 3rd chapter of John. The subject was 'Loving Kindness and Our Heavenly Father.' After this announcement Gen. Howard read President McKinley's proclamation asking the people to thank God for the American victories, and calling upon Him for His help and consideration. Gen. Howard then spoke to the audience for forty minutes. The address was listened to attentively. In the afternoon, Gen. Howard addressed the men in the 1st Maine camp…



Another view of the Lytle Midway.

"Gen. Pitcher and his company of regulars was responsible for the excellent order maintained at Lytle, and, in fact, at Camp Thomas, yesterday. Capt. Pitcher is provost marshal and yesterday took matters in hand and personally looked after the work. When the early morning train arrived at Lytle from the city, Capt. Pitcher was in the midst of the crowd, ordering hack-men and venders to 'move on' and not blockade the way for pedestrians. This averted several accidents which occur almost every day at the station. Capt. Pitcher's company was camped on the slopes of Snodgrass Hill, using their shelter tents. About ten men were on guard at a time, the others working as a relief. During the day no soldiers were permitted to go on the Midway. In fact, only men with passes were allowed to pass nearer the railway station than Capt. McCarthy's warehouse. During the day, several privates 'argued the case,' and found their way to the big guard house. A teamster, early in the day, became angry and talked back to Capt. Pitcher because he would not be permitted to drive a six mule team in the middle of the road in front of the

depot. The man was soon ordered down and taken prisoner. This was only one of the numerous scenes. The boys forming the provost guard certainly did their work well, but few escaping the guard. There is a disposition among the men at Camp Thomas, after having eluded the guard and receiving a small fine, to come to Chattanooga again without leave. As a consequence many go to Missionary Ridge station, and there board the trains. Last evening, about 5 o'clock, a number of men left the train at Lytle station, walking across Snodgrass Hill. They encountered the big guard-house and the reserve of the guard, which they were trying to avoid. The regulars knew they were endeavoring to evade them, and started after the men, who took to their heels. The company of regulars scattered out over the hillside and a merry chase followed. One man fired into the air to scare the fleeing men, but this made them run the faster. One of them was 'rounded up' by a horseman and made prisoner."

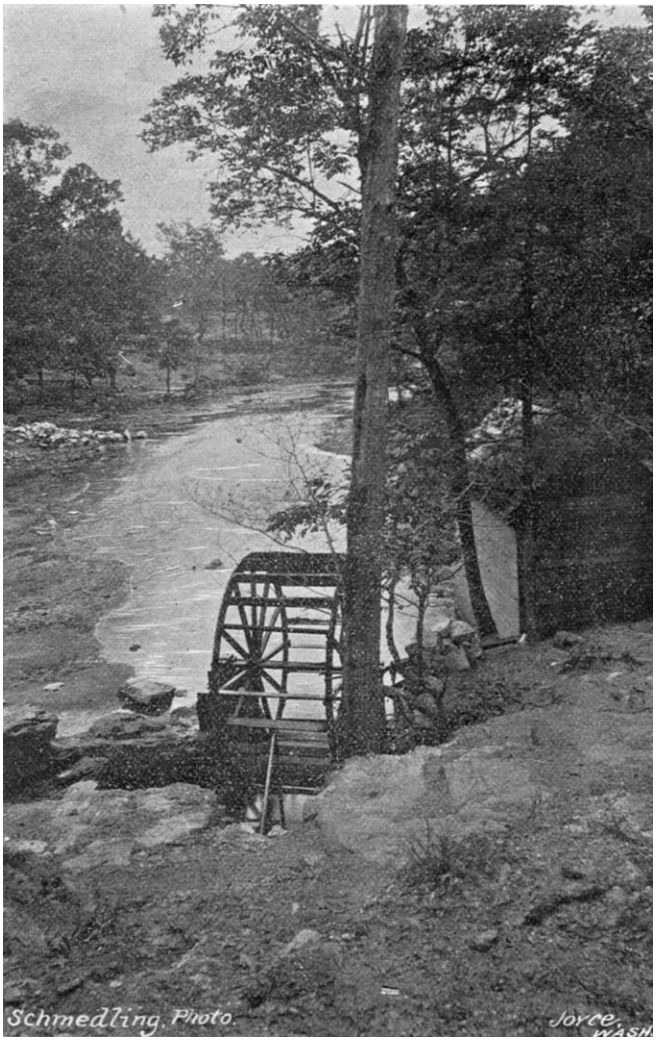


The 2nd Missouri Infantry Regiment.

The correspondent for Company K, 52nd Iowa Infantry, wrote: "Another week of camp life has passed away with but little to break the routine or relieve the monotony of such a life. The glorious Fourth passed away, and save for the regular government salutes fired at morning, noon and night nothing took place in the Park that would have indicated that it was the birthday of the greatest nation on earth and of the liberty of mankind in general. This was not due to lack of patriotism among the boys, but to the fact that no one took the lead in the matter or else the Fifty-second might have celebrated the day in an appropriate manner, for there is plenty of oratorical talent in the regiment that could have been utilized for the occasion. There were no drills in camp and many of the head officers went to Chattanooga and participated in the celebration at that place. It was the first time that Chattanooga has observed the day since before the war and the citizens naturally took pride in making the day a memorable one and in giving vent to their long dormant patriotism. Indeed, the day was generally observed throughout the south and it looks as

though hereafter the Fourth of July would be generally observed by the South as well as the North. In this the war will prove to be a blessing.

"The dullness of the day was relieved somewhat a little after noon by the confirmation of the report that Cevera's fleet had been totally annihilated. The good news was brought by General O.O. Howard, the one armed veteran of the Civil war, who took the dispatch to the regiments in the Park and read it to the boys. He was lustily cheered for the good news and in response said: "Don't cheer for me, boys, but cheer for our boys who are in Cuba, fighting under the torrid sun for our cause." It is needless to say that the cheers were given with a royal good will and the old woods reechoed with prolonged shouts. Thursday evening a rumor was circulated in camp that Santiago had fallen and Spain had made overtures for peace. Of course such news created considerable comment. Some were glad but the majority seemed somewhat disappointed in that they would never be given a chance to get to the front. It was only a rumor, however, and present indications point to a continuation of the war until the Spanish armies in Cuba have been captured or destroyed. It begins to look as if the Spanish nation was going to be the Egyptians of the present century, and are destined for total destruction, for they harden their hearts after each successive defeat. Spain is certainly approaching her "Red Sea" but it is doubtful if her statesmen have the sense to call a halt before the fatal moment arrives. The hours for drill have been changed in order to avoid the heat of the day. The morning drill now commences at 6:00 with recall at 8:00. The evening drill does not come until 6:00 with recall at 7:30. In some respects the change is a good one but in other respects it is not so good. The latter is true of the evening drill, as it comes a little too soon after supper, for too much violent exercise is not conducive to good digestion.



"The water question has once more come to the front, and for several days has been the subject of considerable discussion. The question was brought to the front by the refusal of Gordon and Lee, who own the Crawfish spring, to allow any more water hauled from the spring. Their action is not based on the lack of water, for the supply is practically unlimited, but on the ground that their trees around the

spring are being damaged. There are those, however, uncharitable enough to say that the proprietors of the spring are very desirous of reaping a pecuniary benefit from the spring and that the government will put up the hard cash. There has been talk of having the government condemn the property, thus making it a part of the Park. It would take time to do this and the need of good, pure water is imperative to the health of the forty thousand soldiers camped in the Park. Today a barrel of water was brought from what is known as the Blue Springs a few miles east of the Park, but the supply there is not so great as at the Crawfish Spring, and we do not know how long the troops will be allowed to draw from the latter place.

"The commissary department still continues to miss a cog occasionally. The last one occurred on Saturday, when the bread failed to arrive on time and in consequence several of the companies were mighty short on bread. Talk about kicking, why every man kicked, and kicked vigorously, from the company commander down. In fact, if there is one more quality more than another that camp life is cultivates, it is the kicking propensity of man. It is very essential sometimes, and the fellow that does not do it is quite apt to come out at the little end of the horn. Sunday morning the boys of the Fifty-second Iowa were called upon to mourn the loss of a comrade, Sergeant French, of Company D., of Hampton, who expired early Sunday morning. The cause of death was pneumonia. He was taken to the division hospital the Wednesday previous to the demise. It is said that in a fit of delirium he got out of the hospital and was wandered away some little distance and was caught in a shower of rain. We can't vouch for the verity of the statement, but the attendants of the division hospital are exceedingly lax, for the only man Company K had in there got up and came back to quarters and was not missed for three days. Perhaps he would not have been missed then if one of the boys had not gone to the hospital for his blanket. The Leiter hospital is very nicely run and the sick there receive the best of attention."

Monday 11," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote, "Today we had Regimental parade & got ready to go on a march"

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 11, 1898 Had a battallion[sic] mock attack this a.m. Major Fuller commanding. The Major complimented us upon the excellency of the movements. A regimental plain battle fought this afternoon with 3rd and part of 2nd Bat. as enemy. The rest of regiment attacking us in our entrenched positions. We won the battle. Dress parade immediately following the battle. Cody and Whetton still in the kitchen. Boys still in Chattanooga."

"Somebody," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on July 12, "just who has not yet been discovered, has been circulating all sorts of reports derogatory to the water supply at Chickamauga Park, and a *Times* reporter yesterday made it his business to investigate the matter thoroughly. There is an ample supply of absolutely pure water, enough for an even larger army than is now stationed at the park, and all statements to the contrary are false. There are now twenty-five wells of from 150 to 190 feet in depth, and the park force has been instructed to sink one of these deep wells in every regimental camp. The quartermaster department is also providing each regiment with an ample supply of filters

which may be attached to the hydrants of the pipe line from Chickamauga Creek, and these with the aid of the wells will give the soldiers all of the good, clear, pure water they may want. The water from these wells and from Chickamauga Creek, is absolutely pure and wholesome. Samples from both were submitted by Gen. Brooke to the government chemist and each was found to be absolutely pure and free from any kind of vegetable or mineral poison. The valley through which the creek drains is one of the cleanest in the whole section. There are no towns along its meanderings to taint its water, and it comes from the best mountain springs. It is a rapid moving stream and any impurities that might get into it are eliminated long before it could reach the park. The water from the wells comes from a depth of 150 feet from beneath a bed of rock, ranging from 50 to 150 feet in thickness, so that it is absolutely impossible for any impurities to percolate from the surface into the wells. There is therefore not the slightest ground for the reports as to the water supply. It has been suggested that these reports come from parties, both north and south, who want to furnish the government with water for the army. It is stated that a number of applications have been made, both by individuals and by corporations to the authorities for a contract to furnish the army with pure water, and these applications have been refused because the authorities know that their supply is both adequate and wholesome.

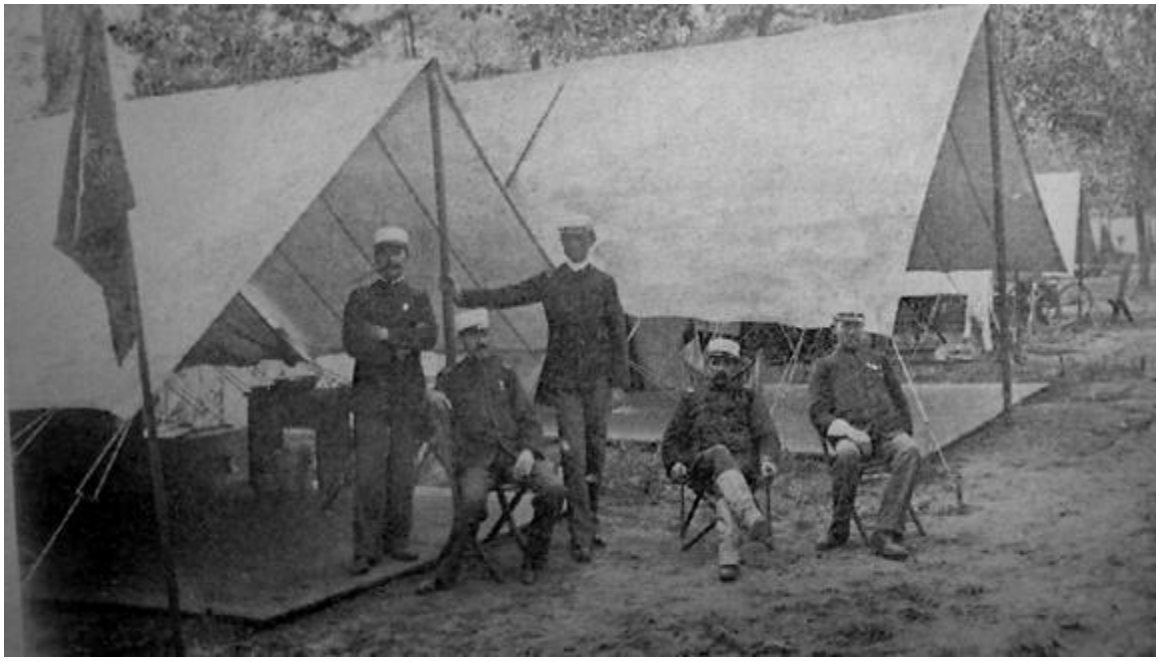
"In view of the false reports as to the water and the health of the camp that have been circulated by these parties, yet unknown, a *Times* reporter yesterday asked Gen. Brooke for a statement. He stated emphatically that the whole story was absurd. Gen. Brooke dismissed the whole matter with the following laconic reply: "The health of the camp is good, the water is good, in fact, everything is good. That covers the whole story.' Gen. Brooke's interview, it means a great deal. He, of all others, is certainly in a position to observe the conditions existing in the camp.

"Last evening a representative of the *Times* took occasion to interview Col. Hartsuff, the chief surgeon on the health of the camp. He, like all other officials at Camp Thomas, stated that the health of the camp was excellent and that Chickamauga was just the place for a mobilization of this kind. He said: 'The condition of the camp as to health is about the same as it has been. There is no increase in sickness. It has not increased a bit. The water is very good; that is to say it is not bad, as some would make out. The conditions here are very favorable, circumstances considered. The sick rate is about 3 percent, which is considered a good rate for a camp of the character. There is some fever in camp, but it is not produced or in anyway caused by the water."

"'What brings about this fever,' was asked of Col. Hartsuff."

"'Well, that is hard to say. Of course the same conditions exist at Camp Thomas as in your city, or any other place. There is bound to be a certain amount of sickness in the camp. Taking the camp as a whole, the health is good and Chickamauga is the best place that can possibly be found for a camp.'"

"As an evidence of the healthfulness of the camp an official report made to Gen. Brooke yesterday by the surgeon of the First corps, shows that there was only 321 sick in the entire First corps of 35,000 men, being a very small percent….



Pennsylvania artillery Battery.

"The boys of the 1st Ohio Cav. Regt., are now handsomely equipped and are ready to move at any moment. The news in yesterdays Times that the regiment would move to Tampa this morning was an error. The regiment will not break camp until Wednesday (tomorrow) morning… This regiment had about eight sick horses which were yesterday exchanged for eight good saddle horses. Yesterday some small equipment was issued the regiment, and now all the boys are only waiting for the hour of departure…

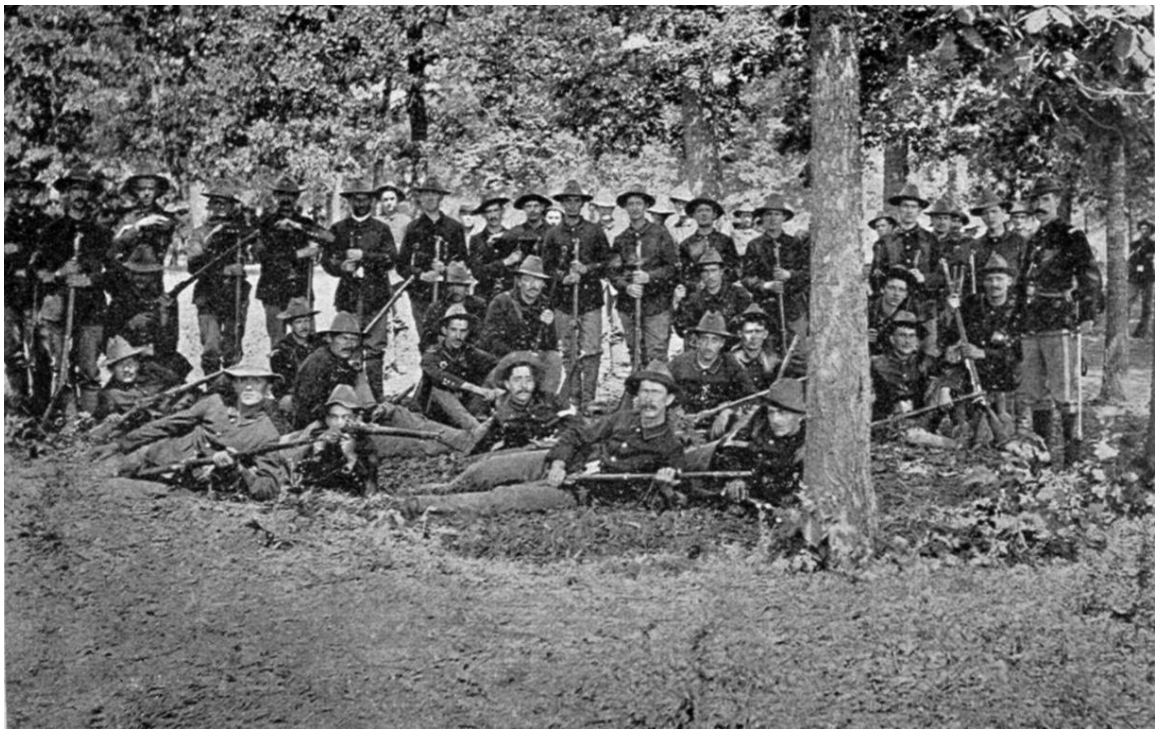
"Sergt. John W. French, of Co. D, 52nd Iowa died at the division hospital Saturday night. The remains were sent to his home at Hampton, Ia., where the internment will occur. Corporal Claude Ranier accompanied the body to Hampton. The sergeant was very popular in the regiment, and the bereaved friends and relatives have the deepest sympathy of the entire regiment. This is the first death that has occurred in the regiment since the organization was perfected…

Lieut. McMichaels, commissary on Col. Grigsby's staff, has exhibited the qualifications of a detective. Pvt. William Dolan, Troop A, 1st Illinois cavalry, who was Lieut. McMichaels orderly was mysteriously and dangerously stabbed in Chattanooga several nights ago. As soon as the lieutenant learned that Dolan had been stabbed, he at once went to work on the case with a determination to discover the preparatory[sic] of the crime. Dolan only knew that his assailant was a soldier, and beyond this he could tell nothing of the affair. The lieutenant went to work on the case and after just thirty-six hours of chasing clues he had bagged his game. The carver was Pvt. Dell E. Summer,

Battery A, Missouri Art. Charges have been preferred against him, and he will be tried by court-martial in a few days. He has confessed."

Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote in his diary: "Tuesday 12, Today we broke camp at one o'clock & marched three miles & back & had our pup tents instead of the big tents"

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 12, 1898 Another battallion[sic] mock attack upon a supposed enemy holding road. Cody & Whetton consent to cook breakfast but walk out immediately after target practice after dinner in which new guns were fired. Some pretty good shooting done. Dress parade in the evening. Guard mount changed from 8:00 a.m. to 6:20 p.m. Boys returned from Chattanooga tonight & are confined to quarters."



Company D, 12th New York Infantry Regiment.

On July 13, the *Chattanooga Times* reported the end of the canteen question. "Gen. Brooke has received countless letters from the ladies of the Woman's Christian Temperance Union in all parts of the country urging the closing of the canteens, the letters showing that most exaggeratory statements are afloat in regard to the conditions and effects of regimental stores. The general, finding it impossible to reply to these letters, and deeming it of general importance, and due to the friends of the soldiers here, yesterday made the following statement to the Associated Press:

> 'No intoxicants are sold in the canteens. Beer only is on sale in limited quantities, no one being able to obtain an excess. No soldier is required to serve as salesman

or in any other capacity in these stores. The articles sold are mainly cigars, tobacco, and light forms of food. The store is a regimental affair, and all profits go to the use of the companies. These canteens are by army regulations a part of the army establishment, and the commanding officer has no authority to close them. He has, however, ordered close supervision of all of them. Careful observations of the camp since its establishment has shown that there has been no drunkenness originating with the canteens, and very little from any quarter except as the moonshiners have made secret sales of whiskey.'

"The rumor which appeared in the *Times* to the effect that the owners of the Crawfish Springs had withdrawn their permission to the use of the Crawfish Springs by the army at Camp Thomas through sinister influences of jealous cities or other motives does the Lee family of Crawfish a serious injustice. No one who knows the Lee family would harbor such a thought for an instant and as soon as it was learned that the Lee family were the owners of Crawfish Springs it was known that they must have had valid reasons for prohibiting the use of the springs. It now develops from statements made by Mr. Thomas Lee, a member of the family, that their farm property had been greatly damaged by the soldiers, barns were destroyed, fences torn down, cattle killed, trees skinned and killed, the mill stopped, and, in fact, Mr. Lee himself was on several occasions prohibited from watering his own horse in his own stream. Mr. Lee states that it was because of this damage to their property that the permission was withdrawn…

"One of the most interesting and important places at Chickamauga is the great bakery which supplies bread for Gen. Brooke's army. This bakery is, perhaps, one of the largest of its kind in the world… Yesterday afternoon a representative of the *Times* visited the establishment. The bakery was a scene of animation, there being employed over 125 persons. On all sides huge piles of bread were stored. An enormous amount of flower is consumed in a day, and of course the output is great. At present, over 50,000 loaves, or rations as they are termed, are turned out every twenty-four hours. The bakery is operated night and day to meet the demand. One force goes on at 12 o'clock noon and works until midnight, when they are relieved by the second shift."

"Wensday 13," Joseph Beiler, 1st Ohio Cavalry, wrote his last diary entry in the local area, "Today we broke camp at five a.m. & marched 12 miles to Ringgold & took the train at six P.M."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 13, 1898 Raining hard. No roll call this a.m. Breakfast late. Mrs. Moose and Ethel visited us about two o'clock having come from St. Louis on the Christian Endeavor. Conventional excursion to Nashville. We all were glad to see somebody from home. Ethel took our pictures in a group in front of our tent. Jack and Obe went to Chattanooga tonight right after retreat."

"The continuous rain," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on July 14, "of Tuesday night and yesterday at Camp Thomas resulted in the practical suspension of drill work, and the day was necessarily a quiet one… The 1st Ohio Cav., about 875 officers and

enlisted men, are now on their way to Tampa, Fla., and the front. Tuesday night the men broke their permanent camp, at the same time packing their baggage. They spent the night under their shelter tents. On account of the excitement caused by the move, coupled with the heavy rain storm, the men spent a rather restless night, responding to the reveille sound at 3 a.m. After a hearty breakfast, the men rolled up their shelter tents, and made the final preparation for departure. It was about 3:45 o'clock when the men were all in line and started on the nine mile march to the Ringgold loading station. The atmosphere was cool, and the men stepped with a spirit and quickness that was noticeable on all sides. The command reached Ringgold about 7 o'clock and loaded on six trains, which had been sent out from the city the night before. They go at once to Tampa…

"One interesting point has just developed at Camp Thomas. Every private who is tried by Judge Hope's court and sent to the chain gang for a period exceeding ten days will be tried by a general court martial upon return to this command. The United States army regulations provide that after a man has been absent from his regiment for over ten days, he is reported as a deserter. These men will come under this ruling, and it is expected a number of them will be tried. One man of the 8th Massachusetts who was fined by Judge Hope will be tried under this provision."



Blacksmith shop.

Adjutant Otto Sues, Grigsby's Regiment, later wrote: "Revolving targets were built at a range of 200 yards, and when target practice did take place in July, the bull's eye was so unmercifully shot to pieces, both dismounted with the carbines and mounted with the revolver, that it was not deemed necessary to give the Cowboys any further

practice. With the completion of the equipment on July 14, the regiment was as finely equipped and as fit for active service as any cavalry regiment of modern times…

The following constitutes the complete equipment for each man:

1 bed blanket.
1 horse brush.
1 saddle blanket.
1 curry comb.
1 saddle complete.
1 pair of side lines.
1 pair saddle bags.
1 halter complete.
1 lariat.
1 curb bridle complete.
1 picket pin.
1 nose bag.
1 K.-J. carbine (magazine).
1 Colt's six-shooter.
1 saber, scabbard and slings;
1 carbine boot. 1 canteen.
1 piece shelter tent.
1 cartridge thimble belt.
1 carbine sling belt.
1 pistol holster and belt.
1 pair spurs.
1 pair leggins.
1 rubber poncho.
1 khaki suit.
1 campaign hat.
2 blue flannel shirts.
2 suits of underwear.
2 pairs of socks.
1 pair of gauntlets.
1 comb. 1 brush.
1 towel.
1 piece of soap.
1 folding mess pan.
1 plate (tin). 1 tin cup.
1 knife. 1 fork. 1 spoon.

"And in addition thereto the ordnance department was prepared to issue, the moment orders to move were received

200 rounds of carbine ball-cartridges.
50 rounds revolver ball-cartridges.

"And the Quartermaster's Department [would issue]

1 front horse shoe.
1 hind horse shoe.
16 horse shoe nails.

"To a layman this would seem an immense lot of stuff to carry into a campaign, but each article has been thoroughly tested and its usefulness demonstrated. Each has its place, either packed on the saddle or carried on the person, and the pack is not at all cumbersome. The soldier himself carries nothing on his person except the necessary clothes and the thimble-belt with 100 rounds of carbine ammunition, and to which belt the revolver holster and ammunition belt is attached, so that the revolver is carried on the person. In action mounted, a very rare occurrence at this time, the carbine is attached to the person by means of the sling belt, which permits the same to be dropped as soon as the chamber and magazine are exhausted; the saber is attached to the right wrist by means of the saber knot, which permits it to hang suspended from the wrist when not in use, or when the right hand is to be employed in the use of the revolver or carbine. The left hand is the bridle hand, and, with the exception when the carbine is in action, is not used to handle the arms. The usual method of warfare for cavalry at the present time is to dismount to fight on foot. Numbers 1, 2 and 3 dismount and link horses, while number 4 moves to shelter with the four horses, usually under charge of an experienced sergeant. When dismounted it is, customary to take only the carbine and six-shooter; the saber is left on the saddle. When mounted and not in action, the carbine is usually carried in a boot under the right leg of the trooper. Each trooper has a shelter tent half, which can be buttoned to another half and thus each two men, commonly known as "bunkies," rig up what is called a "dog" or "pup" tent, and by using their saddles for pillows, one poncho and two blankets under them and two blankets and a poncho over them, to keep out the dampness from both top and bottom, they can sleep quite comfortably, especially if they have put in about fifty miles in the saddle during the day." (Sues 120-122)

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote in his diary: "July 14, 1898 Rained all night and at intervals all day. Co. E was only company out drilling but rain cut short drills both in a.m. and afternoon. Much indignation expressed by the company at the action of the captain in compelling us to drill. Jack and Obe met the Mooses in Chattanooga Reed House and Jack fell in love with a Miss Evelyn Hedges, a Kentucky girl who knew one of the C. E. excursionists. The boys returned at 5 p.m. reporting a fine time in general and they brought back souvenirs of various varieties to send to the folks at home. No dress parade & roll call at retreat on account of rain."

"Gloomy weather prevailed," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on July 15, at Camp Thomas yesterday. It was raining when the day dawned and at 10 o'clock a.m. the

park was visited by the most terrific downpour of rain that the volunteers have ever yet witnessed. Water ran in torrents, but so nearly perfect is the drainage of the reservation that the camps practically all escaped serious inconvenience. Another drenching rain fell in the afternoon, and that was followed by showers during the rest of the day… Shortly after 3 o'clock news of the surrender of Santiago spread rapidly among the troops, and from that time on there was great rejoicing. Between showers various regiments joined in and marched from camp to camp, led by regimental bands that were discoursing national sirs. Cheering and yelling could be heard in all parts of the Park, notwithstanding there is a general feeling of regret among the troops that they have not been permitted to join the troops before Santiago...

"Maj. E.C. Carter, U.S.A., in charge of the new Leiter hospital—formerly the Park hotel—deserves great credit for the skillful management and cleanliness of the institution and for the excellent care and treatment received by his wards. On account of this combination of favorable conditions good results are accomplished at Leiter. Yesterday morning there were 180 patients at the hospital, all reported as doing nicely. Of course, there are some very sick men there, as all dangerous cases are sent to the care of Maj. Carter and his force of assistances. The hospital staff is now made up as follows: Maj. E. C. Carter, former surgeon, 2nd Infantry, now in Cuba formerly commanded by Brig. Gen. Bates; Maj. Bain, acting assisting chief surgeon, and Drs. Haywood, Deveraux, Carter, and Devries. In addition thirteen trained female nurses from Philadelphia, Chicago, and all over the country are looking after the wards. Seventeen other expert nurses are expected in a day or two, making a total of thirty to be employed at Leiter. From this it may be seen that the sick are well cared for. In addition to the above force there are a number of stewards and younger physicians who have been assigned to duty at the hospital.

"A *Times* reporter visited the hospital yesterday morning and found the everything in nice order and the patients comfortably situated. The newspaper man conversed with several of the inmates of the institution and from them learned that they are receiving the very best of attention. During the day, three nurses are constantly in attendance in each ward, while there are two at night. Each and every one of the men was high in his praise of the officers in charge. One of them remarked: 'I have been in the hospital for several weeks, and wish to say that I have received as good treatment as if I were at home. I am comfortable and receive good attention. The facilities for caring for us boys are better here really than at home.

"In the hotel are thirty-five serviceable rooms suitable for hospital patients. In addition to these rooms the billiard, dining, and reading rooms are occupied. The old dancing pavilion, which was the scene of many a merry hop, is also covered with cots. There are nine wards in all, seven of which are occupied. A number of tents were yesterday erected on the lawn and will be used in connection with the hospital. There are different wards for the different various diseases. A man suffering with fever is located in one room, while one sick with measles goes to another. The measles cases are isolated. When a patient is admitted to the hospital, he is assigned by Steward Somberry to a certain ward. He is stripped and his clothing put away under lock and key. The

patient is furnished with pajamas and given food and medicine as necessity demands. As a rule the men arrive at the hospital after night, and are permitted to sleep until morning before undergoing this change, unless there is some good reason to the contrary. When released from the hospital, each man is granted thirty days to three months leave of absence and in some cases longer.

"Speaking of the building yesterday, Maj. Carter stated that the hotel was dreadfully out of repair when taken by the government, there being no drainage at all, while the plumbing, water, and light plants were in very bad condition. Over 100 yards of the sewer were stopped up and without the least ventilation, causing an inflow of sewer gas to the hospital. The sewer has just been repaired and flushed and the government has perfected a very fine system of sewage at the institution. The sewers are arranged so that they will not contaminate any water supply. A steam engine has been put in to pump water, and a large tank will be erected at once sufficient to flush the sewers and keep the hospital in a first class sanitary condition. With these changes, Maj. Carter says the institution is well adapted as a hospital and he does not see why the patients sent there should not recover rapidly. In addition to receiving good care, it may be said that all the men are on separate cots, lying on hair mattresses. They are covered with blankets, and have other conveniences. The patients receive all kinds of required food, including milk, malted milk, soups, beef tea, and meat extracts, mutton, chicken, and such as are able are permitted to eat government rations with such moderation as the physicians may see fit. One hundred and sixty gallons of milk were consumed Tuesday.

"Maj. Carter says the water which comes from the Crawfish Spring is very wholesome and not calculated to produce fever, as has been represented. He remarked: 'I find the water very desirable for use. This water has been analyzed in three places — Washington, Chattanooga and at the University of Georgia at Athens, Ga., — and found to contain all the elements of health. The experts all reported that the water was good and wholesome. While you are writing about the hospital, I wish you would please state that I do not employ nurses. We are run to death by persons who wish to become nurses. I receive two dozen letters every day on this subject. All applications for positions as nurses must go the surgeon-general of the United States army. They must pass an examination and be recommended by a chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.' An army nurse receives $30 a month and rations. The electric plant was in operation last night for



the first time since the hospital opened.

Patients and Nurses at Camp Thomas.

"One of Chattanooga's best known and most successful businessmen yesterday made the following observations on the present wave of prosperity, to a *Times* reporter. He said: 'Chattanooga is being advertised as it never has been advertised before. In fact, I doubt very much if the people of this city realize to what extent this is true. I have just returned from the north and east, and no matter where I went I found people talking of this city. In fact, the people away from here can not talk about the war without mentioning or in some way bringing in Chickamauga or Chattanooga. It would be interesting to know the exact number of people who arrive here daily to visit sons and brothers in the army. Their numbers have been enormous, and they are leaving lots of money behind. I know what I am talking about when I say that more money is being left in this city at the present time than at any period of the boom of 1880-90. During the coming winter this city will experience a land, building, and manufacturing impetus. Chickamauga Park and the army are putting such a volume of money in circulation (and this will continue as we have every reason for believing that the army, or a portion of it, will remain here during the winter) that politics will be completely overridden. This money will not be hoarded, but will be invested in enterprises of every character. There is one thing the people of this city should guard against. Don't kill the goose that is laying golden eggs on every man's doorstep. A column of don'ts might be written on this subject, for as sure as people began croaking, running the soldiers out of town, bring suits against the government, etc. etc. the jig will be up, and the hard times will again set in.'"



Kentucky cavalrymen training horses.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 15, 1898 No rain today. Hard drill this morning on muddy, sloppy ground and boys nearly frantic with disgust at Captain's actions. Captain intends making us drill at one o'clock today although drill-call does not sound until 3:30. Parker of our company sent home yesterday being discharged from service on account of physical disability. Many of the company intends to be absent from camp at one o'clock in order to miss drill. About ten of company only were present at one o'clock and no drill took place. Captain ignored our absence but we could see that he felt it."

"Maj. Gen. James F. Wade, the *Chattanooga Times* stated on July 16, "commander of the Third corps, succeeds to the command of the army at Camp Thomas, during the absence of Gen. Brooks who is in Washington. The troops at the park are, perhaps without exception, anxious to go to Porto Rico, and the feeling is now general among them that Gen. Brooke's visit to Washington means that a large force is soon to depart from Camp Thomas for Porto Rico. It is not expected, however, that any draft will be made upon the troops in the camp until Gen. Brooke returns from Washington…

"The telephone system at the park has been abandoned, and the army officials are solely dependent on the telegraph, the signal corps having perfected an excellent system with an office at each of the division headquarters. This system gives Gen. Brooke's headquarters direct connection with the government at Washington."

Adjutant Otto Sues, Gribsby's Regiment, later wrote: "On July 16 the regiment had its first regimental review, and made such a fine military appearance, handled their horses and arms in such an able and efficient manner, that one of General Brooke's staff officers who witnessed the review and saw the steady ranks pass by in platoon column, at the walk, trot and the gallop, remarked: "You cannot tell that regiment from regular troops who have been in the service for years. If I had not seen them myself when they came here less than two months ago I would never have believed such progress possible." That remark tells the whole story, and is the highest possible compliment, coming as it did from a man who had been at that time in the service for over twenty-three years and was an unprejudiced and unbiased critic. The aptitude displayed and the rapidity with which these men fell into the ways of the army and mastered the details and technicalities of drill surprised all of their officers and themselves more than anyone else. The efficiency and military qualities of the Cowboys soon became known throughout the entire camp and in Chattanooga, so that each evening at regimental parade, review or drill, thousands would flock



to the "Wilder Field" to see the Cowboys drill." (Sues 38-40) **Children watching the drill.**

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 16, 1898 Harris on guard. Very hot. Inspection of arms and quarters. No drill today but dress parade in evening. Co. E received applause for holding best line in regiment. Regimental Field Day this afternoon and Co. E well represented."

On July 17, the *Chattanooga Times* provided a special coverage of the water and general health situation at Camp Thomas. The special committee appointed to give wide publicity to the actual governmental analysis of water at Camp Thomas and the actual facts of the excellent health conditions and splendid sanitation at Chickamauga Park, after a thorough investigation of the false and misleading reports about the sickness at the camp and the quality of the water met last night and prepared the following report, which speaks for itself.

"The undersigned were appointed by the Chattanooga Chamber of Commerce a committee to present the official facts regarding the prevalence of disease and the actual sanitary conditions at Camp Thomas. There are now about 50,000 soldiers at Camp Thomas, probably a few hundred beyond that number. The sick ratio at the camp has never reached 5 percent, which is the average sick rate for the regular army at its best appointed barracks. The maximum sick rate was reached some days ago and was officially reported 4.00 percent. Today it is less and has ranged from 2.7 percent to 4.00 percent. This latter figure not only includes all actual cases of illness, but also embraced a considerable number of men who were found to be physically incapacitated and who are awaiting their discharge; it also includes all trivial cases which are reported by soldiers who seek to escape drill and duty; it also includes all cases of mumps, measles, and in fact all illnesses which in no circumstances can be traceable either to water supply, sanitary conditions, or location. The fact should be emphasized that the sick rate at the camp is below the sick rate at the model United States army barracks, where regular soldiers, accustomed to army life, and army conditions, are located, while at Camp Thomas the entire army is a volunteer army, composed of men entirely unused to the privations and exposure necessarily arising from camp life. The United States army barracks, moreover, are modeled by the most skilled sanitary and hygienic experts with a view toward minimizing the possibility of sickness. Yet in the face of these facts, and considering the greater liability of new volunteers to sickness when compared to hardened soldiers, Camp Thomas has below the average sick rate.

"Col. Harrtsuff, chief surgeon at Camp Thomas, officially authorized the committee to report that today there are but ninety cases of typhoid fever at the camp; in one division of 10,000 men there is not one case. The average number of cases is less than 2 in 1,000. He also officially states that that formal examination of all division hospitals yesterday showed that many cases that were pronounced typhoid were simply malarial, and he further authorizes the statement that the number of cases is daily decreasing. From investigation we find that the typhoid sick rate at Camp Thomas is 25 percent less than the average of any of the healthiest cities in this country. This effectually refutes any statement that there is an unusual amount of typhoid at the camp.

"Upon investigating the water supply, we find that it is derived from three sources as follows:

"1. Thirty artesian wells averaging over 90 feet in depth, the average depth of these wells through solid rock is 100 feet, with an average of 15 feet of overlying soil, which consists of gravel; many of the wells run through 100 feet of solid rock before they come to the water bearing gravel, and some through 157 feet. All these wells are cased with six inch iron pipe through the gravel and into the rock, so there is no possibility of seepage from the superincumbent soil.

"2. There are thirteen springs of very considerable capacity, which in their natural state are chemically and microscopically pure; these springs are being constantly examined to guard against possible pollution from drainage, and if there is the slightest probability of their being contaminated, they are promptly filled up.

"3. The pipe line. This supply is taken from Chickamauga river above any possible contamination from the camp. It consists of nine miles of 6 inch and 5 inch mains and laterals, reaching all the camps east of the La Fayette road, which is nine-tenths of the whole camp. There are three pumps, each one capable of its own force of supplying the entire system of pipe; these pumps have a total capacity of 1,800,000 gallons per day. The camps that are supplied by these pipe lines with this abundance of water also have artesian wells. There are six well boring machines at the camp, and a well will be sunk for each separate regiment. There is also a stand pipe that is kept constantly filled, and this gives a head of fifty-five feet to all parts of the park. The water from the artesian wells and the pipe line has been analyzed by the United States government in the surgeon general's office at Washington, with the surprising result that there is no appreciable difference in the elements that make up the wholesome water between the deepest artesian well and the river water; the only comment on the river water was quite roily from recent rains, which is now being overcome by filtration. This analysis shows that there is no matter whatever, either chemically or microscopically, that is deleterious to health.

"We find that the sanitation of the camp is being carried out strictly according to the rules and regulations of the surgeon general of the army.

"Respectfully submitted,
C. Holtzclaw, M.D. Chairman
W. G. Dogard, M.D.
E. C. Anderson, M.D.
Geo. W. Ochs,
J. C. Guild, C.E.
H. V. Boynton,
Chattanooga, July 16, 1898"

"There is no doubt that all the false and misleading reports circulating with reference to sanitary conditions at Chickamauga Park where Uncle Sam's volunteers are

encamped have been originated by persons who are either directly interested in selling wares, such as water filters, or the removal of the soldiers from Chattanooga to some other city. When these reports have been traced to their source, it has been found that they were started by such persons. A startling illustration of this was given last night by Gen. H. V. Boynton.

"Last evening, just after supper, while sitting at the corridor at the Read house, waiting for the time to arrive for the meeting of the committee at the Commerce-League rooms, Gen Boynton was accosted by a man who asked him if he were a citizen of Chattanooga.

"Gen. Boynton replied that he is only a visitor here.

"The gentleman thereupon took a seat beside Gen. Boynton. 'I want to talk to some of the citizens of Chattanooga,' he said. 'I want to tell them of what may happen if they do not take steps to improve conditions at Chickamauga Park, where the soldiers are located. This camp is on the verge of a typhoid fever epidemic which will spread throughout the park and scatter the soldiers all over the United States and break up the camp. The filthy condition of the camp is execrable. The drainage is running into all the wells, and the river has become polluted.' The gentleman continued in this strain until Gen. Boynton, who, of course by this time, had become interested in the conversation, asked him if he knew anything about the water or sanitation of Camp Thomas. The gentleman replied that he did not, but was convinced that all the filth in the park was seeping through the surface into the wells and Chickamauga river, and was satisfied that unless filters were procured, the camp would be devastated with typhoid very soon. Continuing, the gentleman said that he had been through the park selling water filters, and he had disposed of a number to the officers in the camp. He expressed the opinion that a mass meeting should be held by the citizens and a large fund raised for the purchase of water filters for the use of the volunteers.

"Gen. Boynton saw that the gentleman had a selfish motive in condemning the water, and the conditions of the camp, but he 'drew him out,' and learned that he was here for the purpose of selling all the water filters he could for a company in New Orleans. Gen. Boynton, without letting the gentleman know he was connected with the army, and the head of the Chickamauga-Chattanooga Park commission, closed the conversation by informing him that the reports about the water being impure and unhealthy sanitary conditions of the camp were either originated by persons who wanted to put up a new water system at the park, or desired to sell water filters in the camp."

In the same issue, the paper printed a lengthy article by a special correspondent on medical news, on "Health of Camp Thomas."

"Chickamauga Park, Ga., is an ideal place for a camp," the article began. "It is on a plateau between Lookout Mountain on the west and Buzzard Roost Ridge on the east, from 600 to 700 feet above sea level. The soil is clay, nonabsorbent, on a limestone foundation that crops out in dips and hollows. The hills are mainly gravel deposits, the

moraines clearly showing glacial action. This broad plateau is covered by a growth of oak, hickory, and southern pine from which within the park limits the underbrush has been cut. The natural water supply is from the celebrated Chickamauga river, Crawfish Springs, and Cave Rock Spring, from the former of which a pipe line six miles long has been laid, which supplies all the troops not only with a plentiful supply of cooking and drinking water, but also is ample adequate for bathing purposes. This is supplemented by driven wells, which are from 60 to 150 feet deep and piped to bedrock, so as to prevent any surface drainage entering in any way. The climate is warm, 104 degrees F. in a canvas not being an uncommon temperature, but the extreme dryness of the atmosphere renders it possible to do very much more active labor than one could in New York with the thermometer registering at 80 degrees to 90 degrees F., and with the amount of humidity customary in July or August. The dryness of the air here is shown by the fact that after the battle, in 1863, there being no rain for some time, many of the killed, lost in the brush which then covered the battlefield, were afterward found mummified. This great dryness makes the dust very trying, and were it not for the thunder showers which occur frequently, and with almost a tropical downpour, it would he unbearable. The clayey soil is capable of pulverizing into an almost impalpable powder, which sifts into every crook and crevice with astonishing rapidity, and the encampment can easily be distinguished from Lookout Mountain by a dense yellow cloud which obscures it during the day, due to the feet of marching men and 7,000 mules and horses. The thunder showers wash this from the atmosphere, leaving it clear and wonderfully pure.

"The first thing that strikes one at this camp is the tremendously grim earnestness of all, both officers and men, and the singleness of purpose animating everyone. The material is wonderfully apt and adaptive. Originally clerks, farmers, mechanics, lawyers, doctors (for not a few of our profession are in the ranks), from all callings in life, they are being hammered into shape as soldiers by the hardest sort of drill and training. It is wonderful to see them improve, almost daily. By weeks the improvement is as distinct as the steps on the pyramid at Gizeh. The raw Kentucky mountaineer comes in lank, slouchy, and stooping, shambling in gait, careless of his appearance, and in many cases barefooted, and anything but soldierly in carriage. A week's sitting up exercises, calisthenics given an hour every morning and afternoon, a clean uniform that must be kept just so clean, and daily inspections, makes a new animal of him — clean straight, intelligent, and neat.

"We have not many sick; the men are getting acclimated, and are learning to care for themselves. Wisconsin troops who came with good camp cooks, drawn from the lumber camps, who could properly prepare the rations have had little or no trouble with their food, but some of the regiments from other states, mainly recruited from small towns, have had much to contend with in this respect. The very hardest thing for the national guardsman or militiaman to unlearn is the fact that he is no longer in the state organization, and that this is not the summer camp which in days gone by has been a place of pleasant outing, but is war and that means work, work, work, of the very hardest kind. The have first some things to unlearn, and then they must learn to learn first that to the army the cleanliness that out of the army is next before godliness takes precedence in everything else by miles. Clean, clean, clean, be clean! is the cry of every inspecting

officer, and the habit of cleanliness is the hardest thing to teach to a national guardsman, for he has always had someone to keep him clean, and he thinks it tough and soldierly… not to change his undershirt any oftener than possible.

"The prevailing disorders have been mainly enteric, and the causes have been three-fold; the improper preparation of what was really a most excellent ration by bad and inexperienced cooks; second, exposure to cold after the evening meal. This is explained by the fact that the men come in from evening parade, which occurs just after supper, and while the day is yet warm, and many of them do no change their underwear, which is wet with perspiration, for the suit they should have worn the day before, and which should be ready and well laundered, but lie down in their wet, perspiration soaked clothes. The nights are quite cool here and the radiation very great, consequently, the trooper needs two blankets before daylight, as a rule. The body surface of these men gets chilled, and digestion being stopped, diarrhea follows from fermenting, undigested food. The third factor is the 'boxes from home,' sweets, so-called soft drinks, and cakes, and pies, all of which are much more deadly than any Spanish bullet. The improper preparation of food is being remedied by the process of natural selection, while the ills connected with damp clothing by care of company and medical officers is rapidly disappearing. A stringent order from headquarters prohibiting the sale of soft drinks, pies, cakes, etc., has recently been issued and with marked results of improvement.

"This, in a way, brings me to speak if the regimental canteens. Strange as it may seem to the advocates of total abstinence, the regiments which have a regimental canteen and which regulate the sale of beer to their own troops have also the least sick reports. I may say that there is also absolutely no drunkenness among the troops. This is very strange among such a large body of men, but it is true, and the proof is that there are no prisoners in the guard tents—not even enough to police the camp sinks and keep them clean as a punishment. The reason for this is that in the intense absorption of the men in their work they have no time for carousal, and in the doing of so much hard work they have weariness at night demanding sleep. Withal, a man intoxicated is a man disgraced with his comrades. The older officers, many of whom served in the war of the rebellion, remark the improvement in this regard since that time. The fact is all are learning, and the men here are becoming soldiers in every sense of the word. It is a grand sight to see 10,000 Pennsylvania; Ohio, Wisconsin, Illinois, and Kentucky troops recently leave the field at a swinging double to make room for those following on the day of the division review. Truly these men are getting into magnificent form and every day brings a smaller and smaller sick return, which shows that this camp is a thoroughly healthy place, and for instruction and mobilization, unequaled."

"Col. Hartsuff, chief surgeon at Camp Thomas, has the following to say upon the question of temperance in the army: 'I am in daily receipt of probably a dozen letters from the W.C.T.U. societies and mothers, wives, and sisters of soldiers, all of which protest against canteens and ask that measures be taken to protect and save the soldiers from intoxicants. I wish to say to all my correspondences that their wishes and the interests of the soldiers of this camp in matters of temperance are my interests, and so far as I can I will discourage the use of alcoholic drinks, here and everywhere. I agree with

my correspondence that intemperance is the monster evil of the world, and that it leads to more crime, want, and wretchedness than all other evils put together. The questions proposed in the many letters sent me, strongly appeals to me and should appeal to all. I shall certainly do all that I can to discourage intemperance wherever it exists.'



Tobacco stand at Camp Thomas.

"Various improvements are now being made in the Second division, Third corps hospital, in charge of Maj. Bradbury. A room for the reception of patients has just been arranged, and every man who is now sent to the hospital is taken to the reception quarters, washed, and provided with clean clothing, after which he is assigned to a ward. In addition to this improvement, a new surgical ward has just been established. There are about 200 men in the hospital. Of this number there are twenty-five measles cases. All patients were reported yesterday afternoon as improving. Pvt. J. W. Sims, 1st Arkansas, who had been ill for the past week with pneumonia, died at the hospital early yesterday morning. He was about 33 years of age and the remains will be shipped home."

Corporal John Kiernan, 12th New York Infantry Regiment, wrote the following letter to his wife around July 17: "We have just received news of the surrender of Santiago at 3:30PM. You could not see the men more crazy than the 12th was but our 2 majors stood in the Colonel's tent with bowed head feeling sick at heart because they were not there. These men are great fighters and it made them feel blue to hear of that – and them to be here. The Colonel ordered out the band and drum corps to play. All hands joined in the parade. There was about 400 men in line. They went in the 8th Massachusetts camp to serenade them, up to their ankles in mud but that did not stop them. Such a thing as mud don't bother these boys when they hear such good news as that. Then we went to Brigade Headquarters, from there we went to the 21st Kansas

headed by Naylor on a mule. He went through like a major. We went all through the Kansas regiment. We had a speech from the major of the 21st. He said in these words, "Men of the 12th New York, we are assembled here together to do our duty by the flag that now floats proudly of the stronghold of the enemy's country and perhaps in the near future we will return to our homes and your city will honor you as I know she can. Also my own regiment, the 21st Kansas I know our state will feel proudly of her sons who responded to her call. I will try and quote the words of the hymn, 'God died to save men and we are willing to die to free men and I say from my heart that the 8th Massachusetts, the 12th New York, and the 21st Kansas together can whip the world." Great cheers responded. The Colonel told us after dress parade he would give us a keg of beer to every company in honor of Shafter's victory but it is raining so hard he will postpone it till it gets dry. At this time the Kansas is coming to pay us a visit. They just passed us now, the whole regiment of about 1,000 men. You never heard such yelling as is going on at this writing. As I am writing this the noise is something great. Sometimes a man feels proud that he is an American when he sees such feeling as this from men that are so far apart from one another. They all got their rubber boots on in this rain but the mud is fearful. While you stand still, mud will stick on your shoes ½ inch thick. The bands are still playing in all directions now. It would be a nice sight for a city person to see and hear all the men who are allowed to raise as much as they please now. But our colonel said he hoped that the next battle would see the 12th New York in front of it while we done our duty in answering the call. Still there is no glory to the 12th. Of course if this country did not have a reserve force, Spain might think she could lick us but this country will take no chances.

"The cook is on the bum, he gives us nothing but stew, stew, stew. Of course he does the best he can. I send you these pictures of one of our boys, we call him Kid. He is the one that owed $11 to the canteen. He doesn't care for money, he can cry at will or laugh, whichever it pleases him. These are cheap, 12 for 50 cents. Send me down 50 cents and I will get some in your next letter. Stick it to the paper with some glue. I wish you could have Aunt Ann make some cake. You can pay her for it and send it down. Of course we get cake but we like some homemade stuff. The crowd are coming back now. You never seen such crazy men. 2 bands playing different tunes. I hope all hands in New York will not take the same view of us as we do ourselves which is that we are only figureheads here. That bluff Dewey gave to the Germans, I tell you he is the stuff that our country needs in such places as he is in. If our ships went over to Spain you would see the other fleet transformed into a submarine fleet. But they fight in a very peculiar way, they are brave enough but they don't last long. This little bow is from the inside of the hat – it is used as a souvenir by the men to send home. I hope you are feeling better than you did. I was talking to a man here who has a wife about your size and weight and she has 11 children but they never broke like yours. She had the same symptoms as you. I hope you don't worry much. I will close my letter now. Hoping all hands are well. Goodbye, Jack."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 17, 1898 Sunday. Everybody writing letters. Very hot. Had group [picture] retaken."

"Yesterday," the *Chattanooga Times* reporter wrote on July 18, "was a quiet, beautiful Sunday at Camp Thomas. About the only work in progress was the supplying of the regiments of the First corps with clothing and ordnance stores. In addition to the large quantities of ordnance stores handed out for distribution on Saturday, two car loads of ammunition, 900,000 rounds, and more than a hundred boxes of general ordnance stores arrived yesterday and were promptly handed out for distribution to the First corps… Gen. Brooke is expected to return from Washington within two or three days. Until that time, nothing in the nature of a definite order to move will be made public…"

The correspondent for Company K, 52nd Iowa Infantry, wrote: "The health of most of the boys of Company K still continues good. Indeed, the general health of the men who came to the Park with the Company is better now than at any time previous. The only one who is at all seriously ill is Arthur Greaves, who still continues to be subject to cramps in the stomach. The recruits, however, have been having quite a serious time and are certainly a rejected and woebegone looking lot of fellows. On first coming to camp their hopes were high and some were dead sure that in a few days they would be as fat and slick as otters, but a few days sufficed to change their tunes and one could wake up almost any time of the night and hear some poor fellow groaning and writhing around with cramps in the stomach. One fellow in the interval between groans was heard to remark: "O Lord, I have got 'em, and got them bad too;" and he did have them in dead earnest.

"The Fourth passed off very quietly to the boys of Company K and many expressions were heard of what they would have done had they been at home. No one was allowed to go to Chattanooga and as the regiment had not been paid off but little money was spent in any manner. In the evening, however, the boys congregated in the Company street and had a dance. Some dressed like women, a fellow played on a mouth organ, another called off and for a couple of hours fun and revelry reigned supreme. It was certainly a ludicrous and grotesque sight and was hugely enjoyed by the onlookers as well as the participants.

"The boys were paid off on Friday and as a result money has been plentiful in camp since then. It is going quick and it is safe to assert that many of the boys will be broke before pay-day comes again. The boys feel very thankful for the "Housewives" that the ladies of Emmetsburg sent them the first of the week. They are very handy little articles and will be prized by the recipients, not any more for their usefulness than for the fact that they came as a remembrance from the ladies of Emmetsburg.

"Capt. P.O. Refsell returned on Monday after a thirty day absence gathering recruits for the second battalion. During his absence the interest of the company were looked after by Lieutenant Grout, who made a very acceptable commander. The boys, however, gladly welcomed Capt. Refsell's return, as they have missed his genial presence during the past four weeks.

"There has been a little surprise and some comment on so few of the recruits coming from Emmetsburg. Emmetsburg had a large number of patriotic men who were

eager to have Spain wiped from the face of the earth, and the boys confidently expected to see many of these men rush to the nation's assistance on the second call. It begins to look as though there were tin patriots as well as tin soldiers.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 18, 1898 Frankel & Whetton on guard."

The *Chattanooga Times* for July 19, 1898, stated on the front page that the invasion of Porto Rico was imminent, and that at least a part of Gen. Brooke's army at Chickamauga would be taking park. "Speculation was rife throughout Camp Thomas yesterday as to what regiments will go with Gen. Brooke to Porto Rico. There is not a regiment in the First corps that is not expecting to form a part of the Porto Rican force, and many of them are buoyed in the feeling that they are sure to be included in the order…

"The Y.M.C.A. and Christian Commission workers report that at the various meetings held Sunday nearly five hundred soldiers surrendered their sinful ways and promised to lead better and more religious lives…

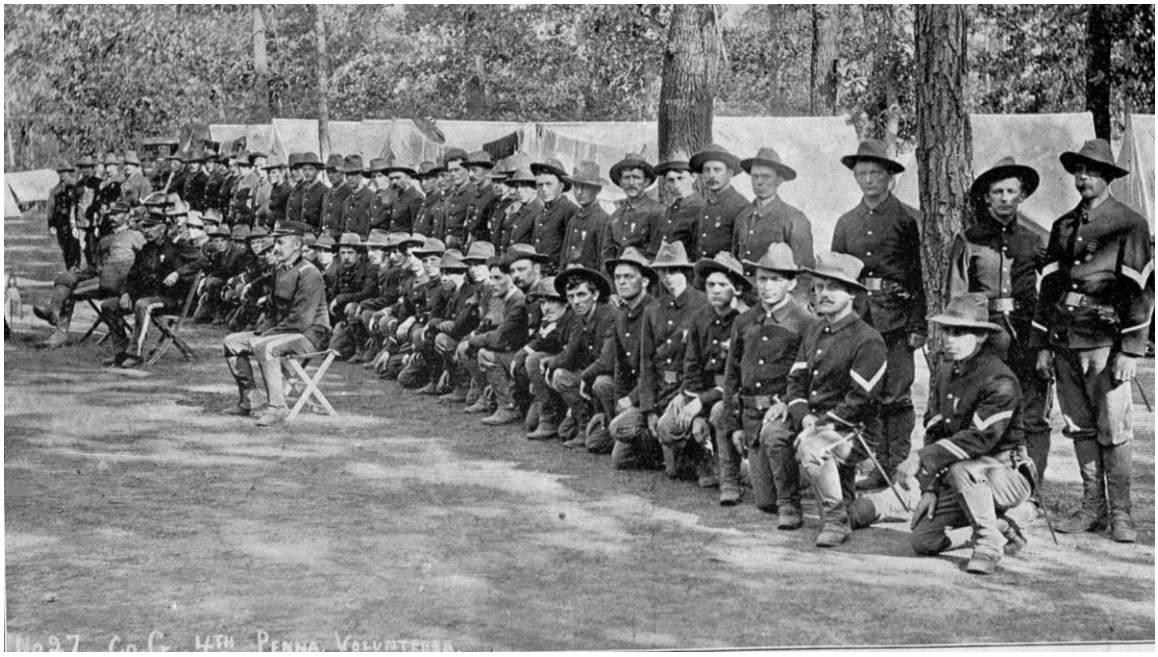
"Adjutant Otto I. Suse, of Col. Grigsby's cowboys, yesterday began the instruction of the officers in saber movements. This practice will be continued everyday, Adj. Sues instructing the officers, and they in turn instructing their men. Adj. Sues is an experienced swordsman, probably one of the finest in the country… All of the arrangements have been completed for the brigade review, which occurs one day this week. Those who will be in the review are the cowboys, the 1st Illinois Cav., and the 1st Kentucky Cav. Twenty-five hundred horses will be on the field at one time, executing the various cavalry movements, and the sight will be quite interesting and well worth seeing."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 19, 1898 Nothing of importance."

"Chickamauga Troops Leave Within A Week," proclaimed the front-page headline of the *Chattanooga Times* on July 20. "There is no longer any doubt that Camp Thomas is going to furnish a large number of troops for the Porto Rico expedition. The details could not be had last night, but it is safe to assert that two divisions, and possibly more, of the First corps will be ordered out, and the movement is expected to begin today or tomorrow. Gen. Brooke will be in the park today, at which time all the details will be arranged…

"There was an episode in the 1st Missouri yesterday that was gratifying to Col Cavender and will cause a feeling of relief throughout the park. Two noted gamblers from St. Louis, who have not been loosing a single opportunity for the past two months to ply their profession to the discomfort and misery of as many volunteers as would enter their games, were arrested. They gave their names as James Boyle and Andrew Fritz. A third one did not stay to give his name, but having gained a start, hurried out of reach of

the officer. The arrest was made by a Deputy United [States Marshall] who took the men prisoners to Dalton, Ga. Col. Cavender said yesterday that these gamblers followed the regiment from St. Louis, having come for the purpose of looting the soldiers out of their money. Their principal game was craps, but they had marked cards in their possession, which they used with good effect to carry out their purpose. Two or three recruits who had probably partook of some of the tempting bait, borrowed uniforms and went to Dalton as witnesses in the case.



Company G, 4th Pennsylvania Infantry Regiment.

"A private of the 1st South Carolina tried his hand at making whiskey the other night. As a result of his experiment, one man is dead, while three others are seriously ill. The name of the enterprising soldier who conceived and executed this scheme to make money and at the same time to take the lives of his comrades could not be learned, but he secured some alcohol, and with the use of wood ashes, pepper, and a little coloring matter, he proceeded to make what he thought was as good whiskey as the boys could get from the saloons in Chattanooga. He sold a considerable quantity of the stuff. Creps Colgan, a private of the regiment bought and drank some of the vile concoction, and in a very short time he was a corpse. A post mortem investigation showed that the ashes and alcohol and other ingredients had made a powerful lye that had actually eaten holes in the unfortunate man's stomach. The others who are sick may recover. The whiskey maker is under arrest.

"There were two deaths at Camp Thomas yesterday—Harry A. Dunn, aged 19, 8th Massachusetts, residence Lawrence, Mass., and W. T. Marsette, aged 20, 1st Vermont, residence Brandon, Vt. Their bodies were shipped north last night by L. J. Sharp & co…

"Pvt. John R. Thomas of Co. A, 9th Pennsylvania died of typhoid fever Monday night. His remains were interred in the National Cemetery. Thomas had been married, but to make the sad story of his death sadder still, he had not long since buried his wife and baby at Wilkes-barre."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 20, 1898 Got our pictures. Nothing else of importance."

"Gen. Brooke and Col. William Richards," The *Chattanooga Times* stated on July 21, "adjutant general to the First corps, who went to Washington to confer with Secretary [of War] Alger upon the proposed Porto Rico expedition, returned to camp Thomas at 10'clock yesterday morning. Gen. Brooke declined to be interviewed, preferring that nothing official be said until after orders are issued. The plans for an important movement of troops from Camp Thomas are, however, progressing. Col. Lee, chief quartermaster, was in communication with a number of railroad men yesterday afternoon, hurrying as rapidly as possible the arrangement of transportation.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 21, 1898 Intensely hot. No drill in p.m. as a consequence but had dress parade."

"Last night," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on July 22, "it looked as if at least two thirds of the troops at Camp Thomas were to be ordered to the front on an expeditionary force to go to Porto Rico under Gen. Brooke. The movement will begin this morning with the Second brigade of the First division, First corps, commanded by Brig. Gen. Hains will leave for Newport News… At headquarters yesterday afternoon there was general activity among the officers who are to go with Gen. Brooke. Most of them completed the work of packing their baggage, and getting ready for an early departure… It is not definitely known tonight when Gen. Brooke and his staff will start. Gen. Brooke will be succeeded in command of Camp Thomas by Maj. Gen. J. F. Wade, who is at present in command of the Third corps…

"Maj. Rich, of the 158th Indiana, was brigade officer of the day yesterday. The first thing that Maj. Rich did was to ride out to Petersville, the new Midway on the west side of the Park, and inform the proprietors of lunch counters, etc. that they would be compelled to clean their places of business. It appears that they have allowed the place to become filthy. It is feared that sickness will result in the camps as some of the troops are within a few feet of the place. It would be well for the army authorities to investigate the midway at Lytle. This place is in a very dirty condition, an offensive odor arising during the day. The majority of those conducting small eating houses, throw their refuse at the rear of their places, between the railroad. They have made no pretense to keep the place clean and it has at last become obnoxious."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 22, 1898 Rookies (new recruits) got their new outfits."

"Will Mitchell, of Troup I, Gribsby's cowboy regiment, from Nebraska met with a serious accident late yesterday afternoon which will perhaps disable him for life," The *Chattanooga Times* stated. "While examining his new Colt's pistol, the weapon accidentally was discharged. The .45 caliber pistol ball passed through his knee inflicting a very ugly wound. The young man, whose home is in Montana, was carried to a hospital and his wound dressed."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 23, 1898 Still very warm. General wash day for we four. Were issued a new shirt. Got group picture and pasted one in front of diary."

On July 24, the *Chattanooga Times* reported; "The most momentous event of the war, as far as the army at Chickamauga is concerned, occurred yesterday afternoon, when Gen. Brooke and staff left Camp Thomas for Newport News on their way to Porto Rico. The expectation of this event has kept the army keyed up to a high pitch of patriotic hopes for several weeks, the rumor that the movement was to take place having been current since that time. The arrangements for the departure of Gen. Brooke and staff were completed by noon yesterday; his train was made up at Battlefield Station and was composed of one private car for Gen. Brooke, two Pullmans and one baggage car… Gen. Brooke and his entire staff were dressed in their new khaki uniforms and they made a most impressive display as they entered their cars. The excitement at the park was great and every soldier who could get away from his camp was at the depot to see them off. And when the train pulled out from the station at about 2:30, a rousing cheer went up that rebounded throughout the entire camp and was echoed from thousands of throats. The general's train reached the city about 3:30, having been delayed at several points because of freight trains in the way. The general remained in the city on account of a delay in getting the baggage and other equipment from the park to the city until 7 o'clock last evening, when the start was made for Lexington on the Cincinnati Southern, and thence to Newport News on the Chesapeake and Ohio. Mrs. Brooke, Mrs. Sheridan, Mrs. Dean, and Mrs. Richards will accompany the party to Newport News… Gen. Brooke's headquarters looked almost entirely deserted. The tents of the general and his staff were still standing yesterday afternoon, but not occupied. In a row of tents behind these, Col. Lee, chief quartermaster, and Col. Hartsuff, chief surgeon, were quite as busy as though the head of the army had not gone…

"A hospital train arrived at Camp Thomas yesterday and took on board 230 patients from the camps. These sick soldiers will be taken to Fort McPherson hospital, Atlanta…

"Lee Runners, a teamster, who came to the park from Rome, Ga., and recently established a shooting gallery in the rear of the 1st West Virginia, got shot by accident yesterday. The wound is in the abdomen and will prove serious, if not fatal. Runners took up a gun, meaning to clean it. He did not know it was loaded, and to his surprise the load was discharged, the ball, a twenty-two caliber, entering the right side of his abdomen. He was carried to a small room above the shooting gallery, where he received such attention as those about him were able to give.

"Trooper Charles Moyers, Toop A, 1st Kentucky Cav., had a narrow escape from death, and is now in a precarious condition at a hospital. It appears that the young man was riding a horse across a ditch, when the animal jumped. The horse missed his footing and fell, Moyers falling under him. The young man's breast was badly crushed and his arm was broken. It is feared he is internally injured. He is now in the hospital of the 1st Illinois Cav. His home is at Harlan, Ky."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 24, 1898 Cody & Whetton went to Chattanooga without passes. Walked to camp from Lytle in the rain. Frankel & Whetton on guard."

"Although Gen. James F. Wade assumed command at Camp Thomas yesterday," the Chattanooga Times reported on July 25, "as the successor to Gen. Brooke, he has not yet selected a location for his headquarters, and is debating whether he will locate on the site Gen. Brooke had his headquarters, near Battlefield Station, or pitch his tents on Snodgrass Hill… Thus far, Gen. Wade has not issued any orders, and according to Maj. Almy, adjutant general, it is the general's purpose to issue as few orders as possible. He will carry forward the work at the Park without making any significant changes in the plans as they now exist, preferring that the work before him shall be well done rather than undertake to introduce new methods. The only movement yesterday in connection with the Porto Rico expedition was the departure for Newport News of four batteries of light artillery…

"Many of the officers in the Second division, First corps do not expect to leave Camp Thomas for Porto Rico within a week or ten days. The statement was made by one of Gen. Poland's staff officers yesterday morning. The officers are of the opinion that they cannot move before that time for several reasons. In the first place, the Third brigade of the First division is at Camp Thomas, and possibly will not leave before Wednesday. It will take the brigade until the next day to move out from Rossville, and this alone will cause a delay until almost the end of the week. In addition, the transports are not available at this time, in so far as the officers know…

"Sergt. George Lancaster Smith, of Co. G, 3rd Kentucky, died yesterday at Leiter hospital. The remains were shipped last night to Bardstown, Ky…

"Base ball games were the order of the day at Camp Thomas, and the large, open drill fields were the scene of highly exciting games. Several games were played in front of the headquarters of Brig. Gen. Poland between the 1st Georgia, Indiana, and Pennsylvania men. The games area always attended by a large number of soldiers from the three regiments named.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 25, 1898 Rain. Cody on guard. No drill. Dress parade."

"The expected movement of the Third brigade, First division, First corps did not take place yesterday. Col Lee, chief quartermaster, completed the details for railroad

transportation before night and was awaiting the orders to move, which he expected from Washington not later than this morning. As it looked last night, the `1st Kentucky will get out tomorrow afternoon, and the 5th Illinois and 3rd Kentucky will break camp on Wednesday morning, the former going first. This brigade will go to the front under the command of Gen. Fred D. Grant, who was recently transferred to the command of this brigade from a brigade in the Third corps…

"There will be a big rifle match in the Second division, First corps today. Every regiment in the division—nine in all—will be represented in the match and a very interesting shoot is expected. There has been much rivalry in the division as to marksmanship. A team of twelve men will be appointed from each of the nine regiments while they will each shoot ten shots at a distance of 160 yards off hand, and one shot by sighting. A large crowd of soldiers from each of the regiments will be on hand to witness the event."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 26, 1898 Rain. Nothing of interest."

"The movement of troops from Camp Thomas," the *Chattanooga Times* explained on July 27, "is not such an easy thing now that the regiments have been thoroughly equipped and provided with their wagon transportation. For this reason they necessarily go out much slower than they came in. The Third brigade, First division, First corps, Gen. Fred D. Grant, early yesterday morning received orders to strike camp and pack up for immediate departure… Gen. Grant received orders to move his brigade headquarters to Rossville to be loaded on the rear section of the trains which were to bear the 1st Kentucky. He promptly complied with the order and rode off to Rossville through the rain in order to superintend the loading of the 1st Kentucky. There was not a happier man at Camp Thomas yesterday than Gen. Grant. He has all along been very anxious to get to the front, and he has the utmost confidence in this ability to make a record that will do honor to the memory of his illustrious father. Mrs. Grant, who has spent most of the time at Camp Thomas since her husband came here, will accompany him to Newport News and remain to see him embark. Gen. and Mrs. Grant's son, Ulysses III, who is 17 years of age, and is being given a military education at West Point is expected to join his parents at Newport News until the general and his brigade sails…

"Col. Grigsby's Rough Riders were greatly disappointed when they learned that they were not in the present movement of troops. They have been drilling hard for some time, getting in good condition and they have been anxiously awaiting orders to move to the front. To illustrate the fact that they are anxious to go, over forty of the boys reported on the sick list Monday, after they received the disappointing news that they were not to move at present. These men, it is stated, have been sick for several days, but have refrained from answering at sick call, fearing that they would be left behind if the regiment left Camp Thomas."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 27, 1898 Rain. Capt. Marquardt acted as Major in p.m. batallion[sic] drill but rain stopped drill."

"The continuous rain of yesterday," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on July 28, "caused all drill work to be abandoned for the day, and the men generally remained in quarters. There were several drenching rains during the day and the water ran through the drainage courses in floods… It seems to be the purpose of the war department, in so far as may be practicable, to send other regiments to Camp Thomas as the regiments of the First corps go out. The 6th U.S. Vols., now in camp at Knoxville, Tenn. were yesterday ordered to proceed to Chattanooga and report to Gen. Wade for assignment…

"Color Sergt. W. W. Krider, of Co. I, 1st South Carolina, attempted suicide about 4 o'clock Tuesday afternoon. Krider went into the field south of camp, Capt. Newman, his captain, happened to be in the field. Krider, who appeared to be laboring under the delusion that he was going to be shot by a special detail of men, related his fanciful trouble to his captain, who endeavored to free his mind of such nightmares. Krider insisted that he was going to be killed and declared he would take his own life, whereupon he drew a razor, which he had purchased on Tuesday morning, and slashed his throat twice. He made a horrible gash across his throat, evidently intending to end his life, but the effort was not successful. After the matter had occurred, however, Krider expressed his regrets to Capt. Newman and said he did not know what he was doing. Krider was taken to the division hospital, where his wounds were sewn up. He was doing quiet well yesterday, and there is but little doubt that he will recover…

"The rifle match in the Third division, First corps, targets at 160 yards, was won by the 8th Massachusetts; the score being 481 out of a possible 500. The other regiments scored as follows:

1st New Hampshire	474
12th New York	473
12th Minnesota	457
5th Pennsylvania	467
21st Kansas	456
2nd Missouri	430
1st South Carolina	400
9th Pennsylvania	449

Gen. Boynton is having an analysis prepared on the water used from all sources at Camp Thomas. This is being done in order that the troops may know just what sort of water they are drinking. Gen. Boynton has no doubt as to the pure quality of the water from the wells, the creek, and the springs, and he believes that the analysis will show, as has been demonstrated heretofore by two or three analyses, that all water from whatever source at Camp Thomas is chemically and microscopically pure. Gen. Boynton is having the surface springs on the park, which are liable to become contaminated from frequent use, filled."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 28, 1898 Rain. Harris on guard. Boys talking of pay-day. Harris & Frankel planning for trip to Chatanooga[sic]. No important event. Rain."



A boxing match at Camp Thomas.

"The weather at Camp Thomas yesterday was in contrast with that of the past four days," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on July 29. The sun shown brightly and there was no rain except for a heavy shower late in the afternoon. The regiments throughout the park resumed drill work, and the fields were alive with marching blue coats in the afternoon, giving Camp Thomas a very military aspect in comparison of the events during the four days of continuous rain… There were no important orders issued from Gen. Wade's headquarters yesterday…

"A thoughtful farmer from north Georgia brought several dozen fine peaches to the Soldier's Rest yesterday, requesting that they be given to the soldier boys who come in. Boxes of literature, hospital supplies, jellies, etc. continue to come in daily. 'Comfort bags' have been sent from various Christian Temperance unions from almost every state in the union. The Soldiers Rest is doing an excellent work, and the ladies are anxious for the soldiers when visiting the city to come to the 'Rest.' Ice water, fans, stationary, reading matter, etc. are supplied. The accommodations are entirely free, and every soldier is invited to visit the 'Rest' and to make himself perfectly at home. The expenses of the Soldier's Rest are met by the W.C.T.U. and they are anxious to extend its comforts to as many as possible…

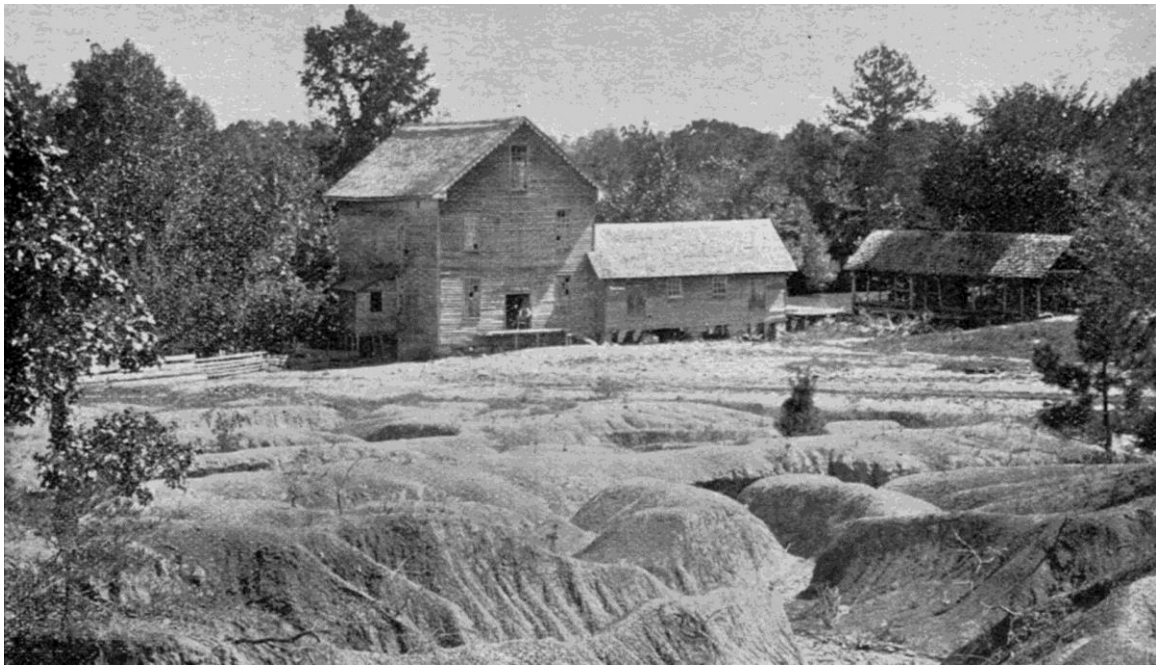


Camp of the 1st Illinois Cavalry Regiment.

"The 1st South Carolina was notified Wednesday afternoon that it was to proceed to Jacksonville to join Gen. Lee. This has been one cherished hope of the regiment all along, and it was therefore decided to celebrate. The camp was turned over to the boys in the evening. The band formed in front of Col. Alston's tent and the entire regiment marched by companies to regimental headquarters and for two hours the air was rent with shouts of joy and the band discoursed national and southern airs, playing among the latter such inspiring pieces as 'Dixie,' 'Suwanee River,' and 'My Old Kentucky Home.'… The boys were all busy yesterday writing letters home, packing, and shipping extra baggage, etc."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 29, 1898 Review of our brigade by Brig. Gen'l Frank Div. Comdr. 14th N.Y. and our regiment constitute brigade one regiment shy. Gen'l Frank complimented 1st Mo. by saying we put up very nice appearance and would like to test our practical merits. Rain. 2nd battalion moved its location several – to higher ground to East making our company the left of camp. Our company had a long march to Lee Gordons mill via Lafayette road. Whetton on fatigue."

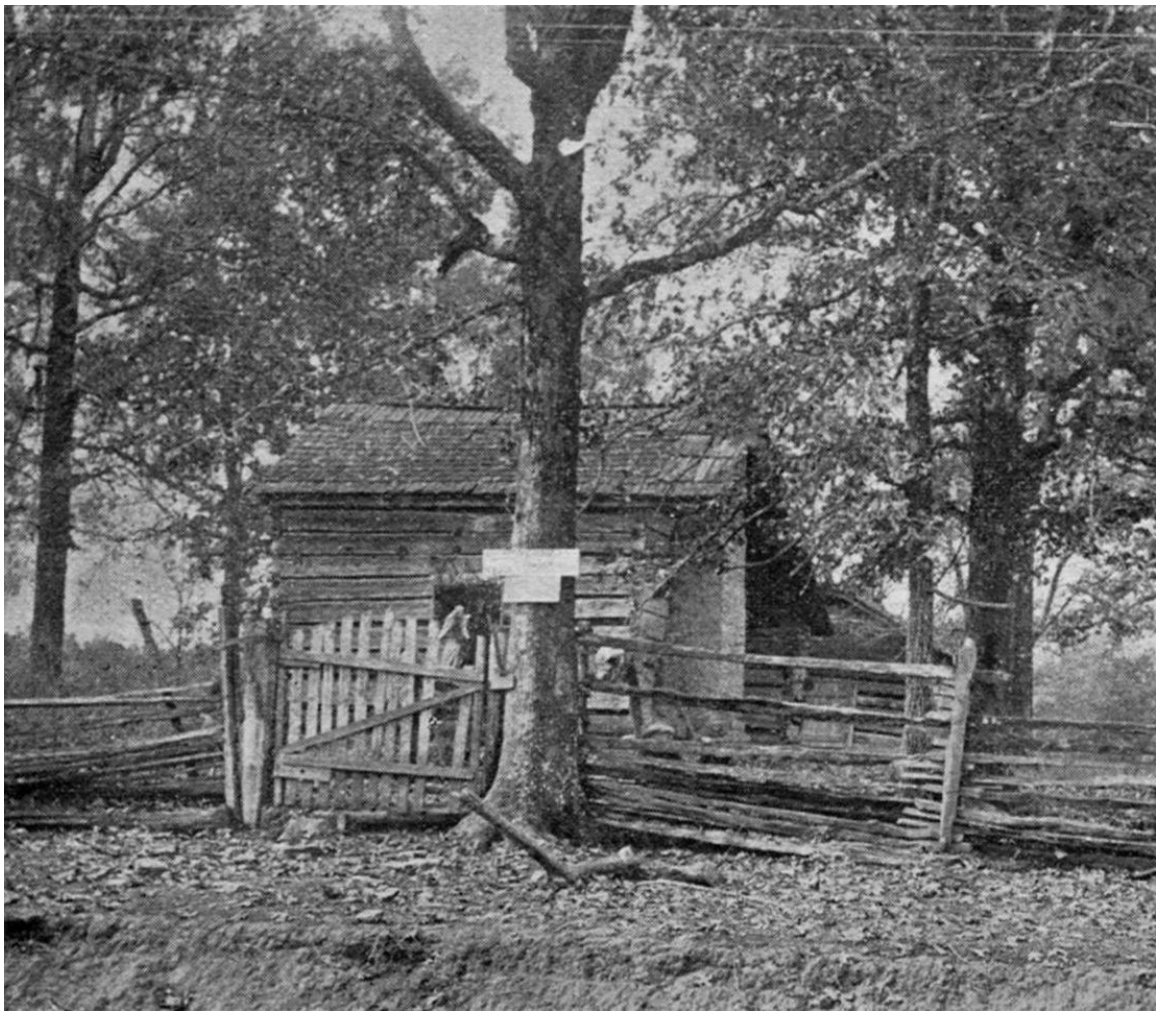
"This coming week," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on July 30, "will witness the return of government paymasters to Camp Thomas… The paying off will be greatly facilitated by the experience of the past month, and the work will probably not consume more than five days or a week…



Lee and Gordon's Mills.

"The officers of the 1st Illinois Cav., returned yesterday morning from the Inn. A number of them drove from the Inn after midnight Thursday, arriving at the regimental camp about 4 o'clock yesterday morning. The new camp of this regiment has been perfected, and the men are highly pleased with their location. Grigsby's cowboys will camp on the same open field, near the Illinois men, having commenced digging trenches for their camp yesterday. The 1st Kentucky Cav., will also change its location."

Adjutant Otto Sues, Grigsby's Regiment, later wrote: "The camp in the woods selected by Corps Headquarters for the regiment proved very unhealthy, especially in wet weather, and there was a great deal of wet weather during June and July. The state of health of the entire command in Camp Thomas had become absolutely alarming. The men who one day enjoyed the very best of health were in a raging fever the next. We were in the midst of a general and far-reaching epidemic of typhoid fever. It was denied for a time by the authorities that there was an epidemic of fever, but the frequency with which the cases occurred, until nearly 50 per cent of the command were more or less affected, could be termed nothing less. A general movement of all camps was ordered. On July 30 our regimental camp was moved to a ridge, where we went into camp in the open, beside the First Illinois Volunteer Cavalry. On this ridge, known as the Brotherton Field, the August sun beat down with unmerciful relentlessness upon the men, who had nothing but the thin canvas shelter. However, if there was a breeze stirring we were bound to get a share of it, and the nights were cool and comfortable, which made a restful sleep possible-a luxury we had not always enjoyed in the woods-and altogether the conditions were much improved. The change was easily noticeable in the men, as the sick report after changing camp was not perceptibly increased, although the hospitals were full of our sick and convalescent, besides the many who were being treated in private families in Chattanooga." (Sues, 45)



Brotherton House on the west side of La Fayette Road.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 30, 1898 Frankel on guard. Harris and Carrol got extra fatigue for "hopping" away from wood detail and their sassing Sergt Fergus. Harris don't like treatment, and there are others. Carrol intends going with Harris & Frankel to Chatanooga[sic] drill. Rain again.

The July 31 issue of the *Chattanooga Times* reported: "Maj. Gen. Ward and his staff were busy yesterday moving their headquarters and no orders of any kind were issued…A heavy rain fell at the park late yesterday afternoon, accompanied by strong winds that threatened the safety of many of the tents…

"Pvt. E. C. Hobbs, of Co. A, 5th Missouri, who has been abscent from his regiment without leave since June 28, was arrested yesterday morning by policeman Baird, and lodged in jail on the charge of desertion… Hobbs was arrested as he was about to board a steamboat at the foot of Market Street. He said states that he has been living

around the suburbs since he left Camp Thomas. He is an ignorant sort of fellow and he may not be punished."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "July 31, 1898 Sunday. Inspection deferred from yesterday took place this a.m. also muster for pay. Rain immediately after inspection. Cody on guard. He has decided to go with H, F & Carrol to C [Chattanooga?]. Whetton went on guard yesterday. Harris & Carrol & "Lady" Reitz? served as company comedians in the capacity of policemen, military parlance, porters – plain english – this as result of "hopping" & dancing. Harris has proven he has not forgotten his high school french or at any rate the acquisition of emphatic, even if not elegant, adjectives to his vocabulary gives evidence of a provicency[sic] in some kind of "french" truly wonderful as a consequence of this fatigue work. Signed muster roll. "



Kelly field, looking north on the east side of the La Fayette Road.



Infantrymen resting on a march to Rossville.



1st Illinois Cavalry on a practice ride.



Wagon park at Lytle.



Civilians watching a troop movement.

Chapter V:
AUGUST

On August 1, 1898, the *Chattanooga Times* stated: "A genuine surprise was sprung at Camp Thomas yesterday. Instead of further troops being ordered out as might have been expected, Maj. Gen. James F. Wade, commanding the army at Camp Thomas, was ordered to report forthwith to the sectary of war at Washington. In compliance with the order, Gen. Wade and…his staff proceeded immediately to Chattanooga and left thence at 10 o'clock last night… Gen. Wade and staff will reach Washington sometime this afternoon. It is announced that Gen. Wade has been ordered to command a provisional division to be dispatched to reinforce Gens. Miles and Brooke. He is ordered to turn over the command at Chickamauga to Gen. J. S. C. Breckinridge… Brig. Gen. Royal T. Frank, U.S.V., commanding the Third Division, Third corps, assumed command at Camp Thomas yesterday evening, which position he will hold until the arrival of Gen. Breckinridge…

"The percentage of sickness at Camp Thomas, notwithstanding there has been rain for a week, continues very low. The report of Maj. C. M. Drake, surgeon in charge of the First division, Third corps, issued yesterday morning showed that out of 12,000 troops in the division there are 228 sick in the hospital. This is less than one and nine-tenths percent…



Colonel Grigsby's Rough Riders at cavalry drill.

"Col. Grigsby's Rough Riders were mustered yesterday morning at 8 o'clock. This news was received at the camp with much interest and despite the gloomy weather,

the boys wore a cheerful smile nearly all day. Several of the officers are away from camp, obtaining the signatures of those who are sick, so that they can receive their money. The daily reports of the surgeons show that the health of the camp is rapidly improving…

"The 'Chickamauga Social Club,' is the name of an organization which has just been perfected in the 1st Illinois Cav., and the cowboy regiment by the officers for the entertainment of their friends… The camp of the 1st Illinois Cav., has been moved to the large field just east of their former location. The camp is on high ground, has good drainage, and is admirably suited in every particular. The officers are very pleased with the change and are of the opinion that they now have one of the finest camps in the entire park…

"Visiting days at the Leiter U.S. general hospital will hereafter be as follows" Sundays, from 8 to 11:30 a.m. and from 2 to 6 p.m.; Wednesdays, from 1 to 6 p.m. This arrangement is necessary to enable the attendants to accomplish their work thoroughly."

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "With the arrival of August, when more than two months had passed, each of which had been marked by frequent and incessant rumors circulated in the regiment that we were soon to go to the front, but which had proved to be only rumors, some cowboy, with more poetic genius than regard for military etiquette or euphuism, improvised the following lines to the tune of "Marching Through Georgia:" (Sues 40)

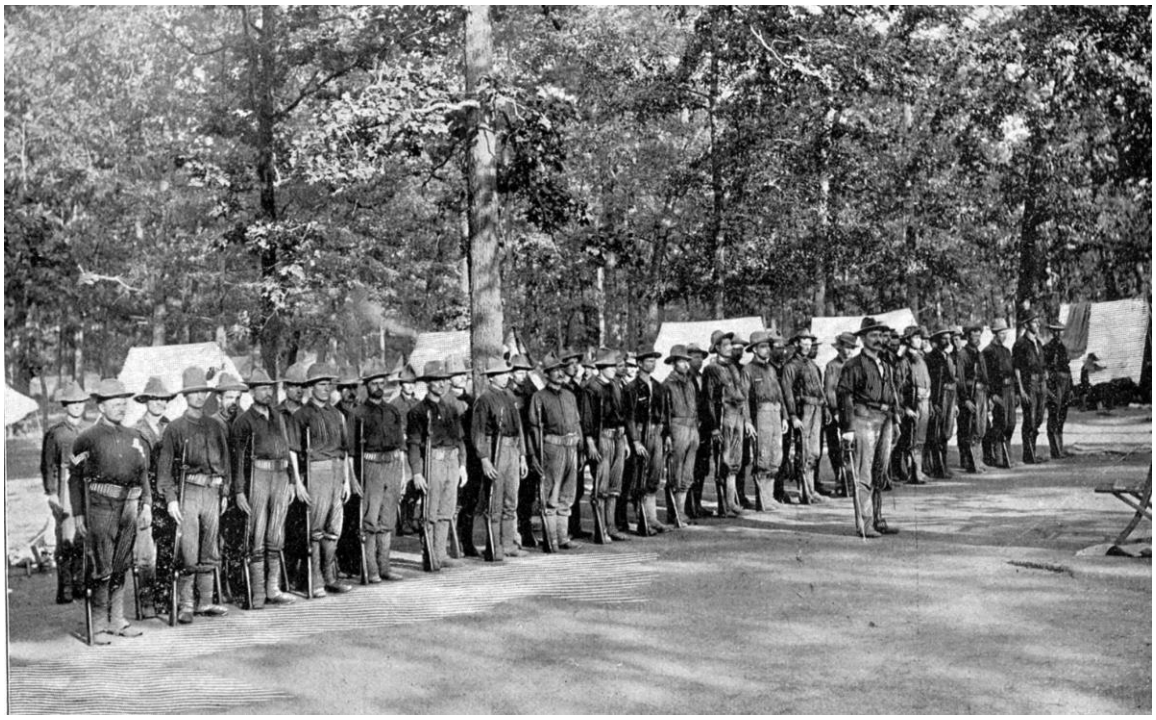
THE COWBOY'S LAMENT.

We are waiting, Uncle Samuel, an even thousand strong;
We are waiting for the "forward march" to hump itself along;
We are waiting for a chance to fight for country, right or wrong,
And not camp down here in Georgia.
We are waiting, Uncle Samuel,
awaiting meek and mild,
With policin' camp and doin' chores
our spirits are beguiled;
But what we keep a thinkin' and thinkin' 'till we're riled is,
"Why ain't we moved out of Georgia?"
We are cavortin' as camp rangers and doin' park police,
And buildin' repytashuns as pious men o' peace,
And our sweetheart's farewell letter has tatters in the crease,
But still we are camped here in Georgia.
Our Colonel tried his level best to get us an equal chance,
But still we sit awaitin' here, a-wearin' out our pants
To which an old maid's longin' is not a circumstance
Yet we ain't marchin' out of Georgia.
So blow your bugle, Uncle Sam,
an' put it in the blow

That this here regiment of ours
shall be the next to go;
We've beat Job's record waitin'-now,
begosh, we want a show,
So please send us marchin' out of Georgia.

These verses were freely circulated among the troops and sung with a great deal more power than vocal proficiency. They appealed to the boys because they embraced their sentiments to the fullest extent. In other words, everyone had become heartily sick of camping in Georgia. (Sues 40)

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 1, 1898: Nothing of interest. Rain."



Indiana men in formation.

"Yesterday," the *Chattanooga Times* noted on August 2, "was passed at Camp Thomas without events of note. Brig. Gen. Frank was in command but issued no orders and received few. Gen. Breckinridge will arrive at 7 o'clock this morning and will immediately assume command…

"All the tents for the use of the band of Col. Grigsby's Rough Riders have been erected, and the band is now in excellent condition. Col. Grigsby, who has been slightly indisposed for the past two or three days was much improved yesterday…

"Pvt. Robert C. Auey, Troop C. of the 1st Illinois Cav., died yesterday morning after a lingering illness. He had been in a precarious condition for a week past. The deceased was 19 years of age and was born at Brooklyn. The remains will, perhaps be buried in Chattanooga."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 2, 1898: Our company took long march to Lee Gordons Mill via Lafayette Road. 2nd Battalion moved its location to higher ground … making our company extreme left of camp."

"Maj. Gen. J. C. Breckinridge," the *Chattanooga Times* announced on August 3, "arrived from Washington yesterday morning and at 10 o'clock assumed command of the army at Camp Thomas, relieving Brig. Gen. Frank, who had been temporarily in command. Gen. Breckinridge's instructions from the war department were merely to proceed here and assume command, without stating he was to be permanently or only temporarily in charge at this camp; but the general understands that the assignment is permanent in case Maj. Gen. Wade sees fit to accept the command offered him, which he no doubt will as it involves the coveted trip to Porto Rico. Gen. Breckinridge was in the best of spirits seen yesterday afternoon by a *Times* representative. He expressed it as his desire to have gone from Santiago to Porto Rico, but had to content himself with coming to Camp Thomas inasmuch as the President told him that he should consider it fortunate that he had the honor to be prominently connected with the movement against Santiago…



General J. C. Breckinridge.

"Brig. Gen. J. S. Poland, who has been seriously ill for the past several weeks, was taken to Ashville, N. C. yesterday afternoon. It is hoped he will regain his health in a short time and be able to resume command of the Second division, First army corps…

"Robert C. Auey, a trooper belonging to Troop C. of the 1st Illinois Cav., aged 22 years died Monday morning at 6:30 o'clock at the regimental hospital, Chickamauga Park of typhoid fever. Deceased was a native and resident of Chicago, where his mother and step-father reside. It was decided at first to send his remains to Chicago, but later in the day, Capt. Young and the members of troop C concluded that it would be better to inter the remains in the National Cemetery, which was accordingly done. The funeral occurred at 11 o'clock yesterday morning and was one of the most impressive and interesting military funerals that has been seen in this city or some time. The hearse was preceded by a mounted escort of eight men, armed with Springfield carbines. Next, following the hearse and following the latter, one of the regimental hostlers attired in

garments of somber hue, led Auey's horse, a magnificent animal, the personal property of the deceased. The animal was draped in mourning cloth. Following after this came Troop C, mounted with drawn sabers and standards flying. The rear was brought up by Capt. Young, Chaplain Bullock, and one or two other officers. The cortege moved up Eighth street, Georgia avenue to McCallie avenue and out McCallie avenue to the cemetery. On arrival at the cemetery the troop and escort dismounted and marched to the grave, where the service was read by Chaplain Bullock After this, the escort fired a salute of three volleys over the grave of the deceased, after which the bugler sounded taps, and the troop returned to Chickamauga Park. The above described funeral and interment is according to the law set forth in the late army regulations."



Chattanooga National Cemetery.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 3, 1898: Expect to be paid tomorrow. Whetton & Cody on fatigue. Frankel in kitchen."

"The press report from Washington," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on August 4, "giving the list of regiments that have been designated to constitute Gen. Wade's provisional force to do service in Porto Rico, include only the following regiments encamped at Chickamauga: 1st New Hampshire, 1st Maine, 1st Vermont, 1st West Virginia, 3rd Tennessee, 1st Arkansas, 52nd Iowa. As to when the regiments to constitute Gen. Wade's force would proceed to the front, there was no inkling here last evening. While orders are hourly expected from the war department, Gen. Breckinridge has not been advised of anything of this nature up to last night. However, it will not be surprising if a moving order comes today. The railways are prepared for any emergency. There are sufficient cars in the Chattanooga yards to accommodate any move that is likely to be made in a single day…

The paper printed the following poem written by one of the Minnesota soldiers:

"A private ain't much use, you'd think.
Except to hustle food and drink
For army mules and horses mess,
Or help a critter in distress.

Or maybe he can cook the meals,
For wagoners, or grease the wheels
Of army wagons when they creek
A thing that happens once a week.

Perhaps he's good at driving flies,
At officer's mess, and if he's wise
He'll black their shoes and make their bed
Or bring damnation on his head.

He sometimes takes a hand at drill,
Can march, and turn, and 'fire at will.'
Or shoulder arms, or double quick
Right to where rattling hell is thick.

He takes his turn as sentinel's post,
Nor quakes at enemy, scout, or ghost,
If rain pours down or bullets whir,
He doesn't flinch or even stir.

A private's not much use, you'd think.
To see the officers slyly wink,
When he jumps 'round at each command,
And doesn't show he has the sand.

But when the rifles 'gin to spit,
We'll brace ourselves and show our grit,

We'll stand right up and stop the lead.
Till every man of us is dead.

A private ain't much use, not much.
Except to drill, fight, die, and such,
But when he does, if that's done right,
We'll make Old Glory's future bright.
Don — 14th Minnesota."

"J. J. White, wagon master of the hospital corps of the Third division, has found perhaps the most unique and rare relic of the civil war that was ever picked up on the Chickamauga battlefield. Wagon master White came here with the 5th Pennsylvania from Pittsburgh. He has an eye for interesting relics, and has found several. This one which has attracted special attention is an old style, handsomely finished, dagger, inlaid with gold and silver. On either side of the blade is a silver serpent, running half way the length of the blade from the point. The handle is elegantly carved in inlaid with precious metals. The design would indicate the handiwork of foreigners, since it is not American in style. The handle is small, indicating that the weapon was probably made for the use of a woman. Wagon master White found this relic near the Alexandria road. It had been unearthed by a horse's hoof and the blade was sticking up out of the mud. The finder would not easily surrender his relic. He has been offered $25 for it, but that is no temptation to part with it whatever."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 4, 1898: We did not get paid. Nothing of interest."

"The making up of the force to go with Brig. Gen. Wade to Porto Rico has served to show how very anxious the volunteers at Camp Thomas are to get to the front. The lists of regiments designated had hardly been circulated in the camp at his place, until hundreds of volunteers not included in the regiments to go had made application to be transferred from their own regiments to those scheduled to proceed to the front. There are hosts of soldiers here, while they are attached to the regiments with which they were mustered, would gladly join any regiment to get to the front. This is accounted for in the main upon the high ground of American valor, which has manifest itself conspicuously in the army of volunteers. They are not willing to return home to be dubbed 'Tin soldiers,' and there are few, if any, who will not be disappointed if the war does not afford any opportunity by which they will be called to do battle…

"Charles Gurffin, a member if Troop H, 1st Illinois Cav., died yesterday after a lingering illness in the regimental hospital. He was an exemplary young man and enjoyed the confidence and esteem of all the members of the regiment. His father, who is an employee of the pension department in Washington, has been notified, and the remains will likely be shipped to Illinois by H. Chapman, & Co., today…

"The hospital of the Third division, First corps, which, perhaps, has more fever cases than any other division hospital in the park, was in quiet a hopeful condition

yesterday, especially as regards the patients. There were no deaths during the day, and most of the men were improving. The inspectors visited this hospital yesterday afternoon."



The 28th Indiana Artillery Battery.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 5, 1898: Harris on guard. Regular army officers made unit inspection of our clothing. Mr. Budke, friend of Whettons [sic], visited us and invited him to dinner tomorrow at Chatanooga [sic]."

"The establishment of a reserve hospital" the *Chattanooga Times* stated on August 6, "supplementary to the Leiter Hospital, has been determined upon and the tents, one hundred in number, will be pitched so as to be near the great body of soldiers. It is probable that the Kelly field will be the site of the new hospital. A part of the tentage for this hospital has already arrived. The new hospital will have a capacity sufficient to accommodate 800 men."

"The general order granting a thirty days' furlough to all convalescents will have a marked effect on the daily sick report for the camp, probably reducing the sick list by one half. While these men, in most instances, have been discharged from the hospital as cured, their names still appear on the sick list until they are strong enough to return to duty…

The paper printed another soldiers' poem, as follows;

“A Volunteers Experience.

We lit in Chickamauga in the merry month
Of June.
Tired, hot and dusty, and the band was
Out of tune.
The sun it scorched like the flames of hell;
The dust hid us from sight:
And when we reached our camping ground
We were a holy fright.

That night we laid upon the grown, bowed
Down in sad despair.
I thought of sunny Kansas, and wished that
I was there.
I thought of all the loved ones upon the
Kansas plain,
And swore if ever I got back, would never
Leave again.

Our food was hardtack, coffee, fat bacon
Army beans;
We drilled until we were so hot, sweat ran
From us in streams;
We got so poor upon the food we did not get
To eat.
The clothes fell off our bodies, and the shoes
From off our feet.

Then to add unto our troubles, the gray
Backs came one day;
They seemed to like us soldiers, for they
Would not go away.
They stuck to us like brothers, or like
Brothers ought to do.
But left us in a hurray, when we donned the
Army blue.

The army rules are rigid—in fact we dare
Not breathe.
Without going to the captain and of him
Asking leave.
He thinks he is the only one in this whole
Army corps,
He’s quite forgot he used to run a one horse
Grocery store.

Our seargants and our corporals think they are
Out of sight;
They bully us poor privates from morning
Until night.
But won't we fix the devils when we quit
Uncle Sam?
They think we are all cowards, and are not
Worth a damn.

O, won't we be a happy set when 'Uncle'
Sets us free.
We'll be as happy a lot of men as ever you
Did see.
We'll all go back to Kansas, and live
Forevermore.
And eat adulterated groceries from Capt.
Thomason's store.
Cyrus Taylor, Co. E., 21st Kansas

(with complements to Capt. Thomason.)"

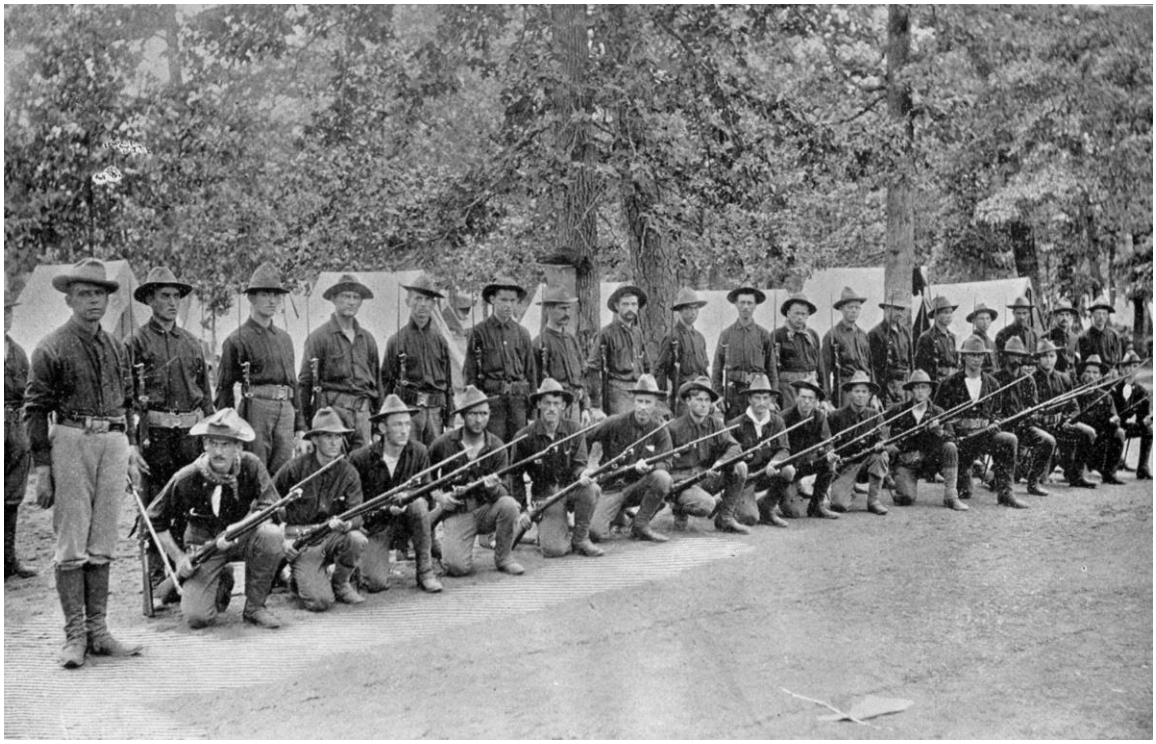
Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 6, 1898: Usual inspections. Obe got pass for Chatanooga[sic] & wants to visit Mr. Budke. Had good time."

On Sunday, August 7, the *Chattanooga Times* reported: "Since the inspection of sanitary conditions at Camp Thomas by Maj. Hopkins and Maj. Reed an active movement is on foot to improve these conditions and to guard against the indications that have caused the fever to make its appearance in a number of the regiments. Upon this subject, Gen. Breckinridge wired to Washington, suggesting certain steps that should be taken to improve the heath of the camp. Today, the general received a telegram from the war department authorizing him to make such improvements as he deemed necessary to promote the health of the soldiers. Acting upon this authority, Gen. Breckinridge will loose no time in carrying out his plans, which include the flooring of all hospital tents and strict guard against every condition that might foster the germs of disease…

"The railroad officials here have been notified that a Pullman car with twenty-five Red Cross nurses from Washington and a car of hospital supplies will arrive in Chattanooga tomorrows night and are to be taken immediately to the park…

"The analysis of the spring, well, and river water at Camp Thomas, procured by Gen. Boynton, acting under authority from Secretary Alger has been completed, except for a few sources of limited use. These will be reported upon in a few days, but they are not of a character to affect the result as to the general water supply of the camp….

"The hundreds of friends of Gen. Poland, commander of the Second division, First army corps, will be saddened to learn that he is in a precarious condition and not expected to live. It will be remembered that he was taken ill while at Camp Thomas and was only recently moved to Ashville, North Carolina." [General Poland died shortly after this message.]



Men of the 5th Illinois Infantry Regiment.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 7, 1898: Jack and two others started for Mission Ridge just after mess arrived there at 11 o'clock. Had a fine dinner. Jacks ate so much that he was ashamed of himself. Coming home they were caught by the provost guard and held until Monday noon. Whetton on guard."

"The improvement," noted the *Chattanooga Times* on August 8, "of the sanitary conditions of the regimental camps is the one absorbing matter at the park now. Definite plans will have to be formulated within a day or two, after which the management of all the camps will be under new and very rigid regulations as regards the disposing of garbage and refuse matter and the preparation and serving of food. All drinking water will be boiled, and this regulation is one that in future will not be deviated from… Another condition it is hoped to bring about as early as practicable is that of having all the tents of the men floored with boards."



A typical latrine at Camp Thomas.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 8, 1898: Cody returned. Cody on guard."

"The feature of today," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on August 9, "will be one of the most notable that has ever occurred since the volunteer army encamped at Chickamauga National Park. It will be a review of all the troops, cavalry, infantry, and artillery, by Gen. Breckinridge. The troops will form by division at 8 o'clock a.m., and will march one division after another to Snodgrass Hill, where there is ample territory for the review. Gen. Breckinridge, staff, and distinguished visitors will occupy a stand on the hill where the troops will pass in reviews, one regiment at a time. The review and inspection to follow will occupy four or five hours, since there will be bout 45,000 soldiers to pass the reviewing stand besides all the ambulances of the several divisions… It is suggested by Gen. Breckinridge that perhaps the best point from which to witness this imposing spectacle is about the location of the monuments on Snodgrass hill…

"The reserve hospital, being built under the direction of Maj. Gordon and Maj. Armstrong will be in the form of a St. Andrews cross. The two parallel lines of tents will extend 100 feet in length, while the line cutting through their center will be 200 feet in length. The design is one that can not fail to please…

"Twenty nurses of the Red Cross society, mostly all of whom are young ladies, arrived at 7:40 o'clock yesterday morning from Washington, D. C. in a special car over

the Southern railway. They left for the park at noon, where they will report for duty at the Leiter hospital…"

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "In the meantime General Breckenridge relieved General Wade in command of Camp Thomas and ordered the first grand review of the troops in camp for August 9. On this occasion there were 40,000 troops of all branches of the service in line, who passed in review before as many spectators. (Sues, 45)

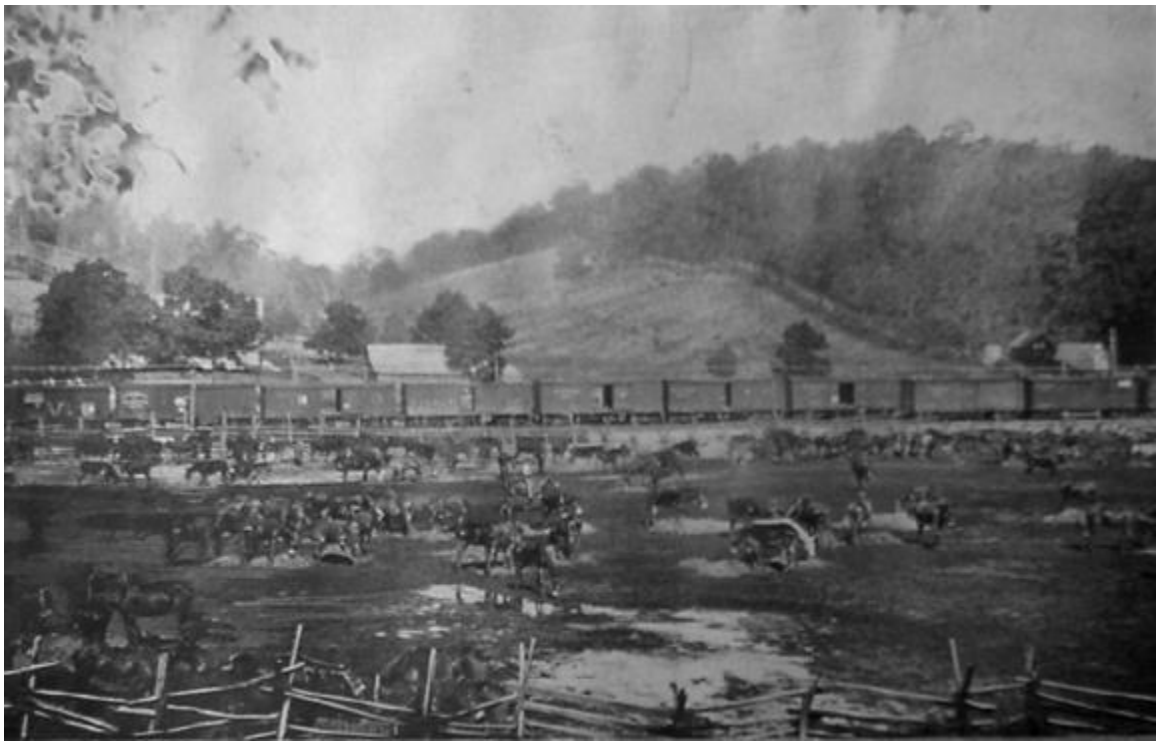
Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 9, 1898: Payday. Grand review of all regiments in the Park. About 50,000 men taking part. Rain."

On August 10, the *Chattanooga Times* stated: "Not since Gen. Sherman reviewed the grand army at the close of the civil way, has there been such an imposing and magnificent military pageant as that witnessed on the historic fields of Chickamauga Park yesterday. 'Since I came here a week ago, I have visited the hospitals, and now to form an immediate acquaintance, with my command, its needs and demands, I have had the well men come to me.' These were Maj. Gen. Breckinridge's words last night, meant to be explanatory in part for holding the grand review at Camp Thomas yesterday morning, in which the entire army of 40,000 men took part…

"The provost guard at Camp Thomas has raided a number of places on the Midway where whiskey has been sold for the past few weeks. One man, known as 'Peggy,' whose name could not be learned, was arrested yesterday afternoon and turned over to civil authorities. It appears he had been wildcatting whiskey to the soldiers. He would make two trips a day to Chattanooga, returning with a valise filled with whiskey. This he would deposit at a shack on the Midway, and sell it at 50 cents a pint, while it cost him, perhaps, 15 cents. The man was taken to La Fayette where he will be tried. There are several others still in the same business at the station and the authorities will make an effort to break up the practice…

"At a regimental entertainment the other night, Lieut. Dorsey Patton, of the 1st Illinois Cav., referred to the regiment as 'Young's Smooth Riders,' and hereafter the regiment will go under that name. The camp of the 1st Illinois and Grigsby's cowboys are adjoining and there is considerable generous rivalry between the soldiers in the two commands. The western regiment has been dubbed 'Grigsby's Rough Riders…' A dinner party was given at the camp of the first this evening, among the invited guests being Mrs. Schryver, Miss Schryver, Chattanooga, Miss Miller, of Memphis, and Miss Fort, of Chicago. The ladies drove out from the inn on Lookout Mountain."

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "On the 10th it became generally known that Spain had given up the war and that hostilities had ceased, although the terms of peace yet remained to be decided. Thus did we see every hope of active service vanish and a certain unrest and discontent became apparent among both officers and men." (Sues 46)



The horse herd.

The *New York Times*, August 10, 1898, published the following article: "Capt. William F. Morris of Company K, Ninth New York Volunteers, returned yesterday from Camp Thomas, Chickamauga Park. The Captain was the second senior Captain in the Ninth Regiment before it left the National Guard to become part of the volunteer service. Capt. Morris is the Superintendent of Station D of the Brooklyn Post Office. He is one of the best known line officers in the New York National Guard, in which he has served twenty three years, in that time holding a commission sixteen years. For years he has been President of the Delinquency Court of the Ninth Regiment, where his decisions on important cases involving the rights of enlisted men have been widely quoted.

"Capt. Morris returned, boiling over with indignation against the way he alleges the New York troops are treated in Camp Thomas. When interviewed yesterday he spoke with great vehemence and force. He was a stanch advocate of Col. Greene before that officer was chosen to head the Ninth in place of Col. William Seward. It was largely through influence of the Captain that Col. Greene got the place. Of all the line officers who have resigned in the last few weeks, Capt. Morris was the last to go.

"I stood it as long as I could," he said yesterday. "but matters got so bad that I could not remain longer, realizing my inability to alleviate the sufferings of the men. No matter what interested gentleman may report to New York people after going to camp for a few days and being petted and banqueted by higher officers, I want to declare it as a fact that the camp is a modern Andersonville. Everything I say I am prepared to prove. I say nothing to anything which I did not see. As I look back on the scenes I witnessed there only a few days ago, it all seems like an awful dream. I left there Saturday. The day

before a Sergeant whom I had known long and well was taken to the hospital of the division. As he left the regiment he said to me that I need not look for him again, as he was going to the hospital, and, frankly, I doubt whether I shall ever seen him again. He was a noble fellow, too." The Captain's voice faltered and his eyes grew dim under the influence of the memory of his old friend.

"That's the idea," the Captain continued, "that the men have of the hospital. It seems like the door of despair to them. One would expect sick soldiers to welcome the hospital. In Camp Thomas they don't, so far as the Ninth Regiment men I saw go there are concerned. They look upon it as the house of doom. Here are some of the things I know of the hospital of the division. I heard one day that a man from the Ninth, one of my own company, was dying there. With Col. Greene I went there. The man was ill of typhoid fever, and his temperature was far above one hundred. When I reached his cot I nearly staggered with horror. The man's face was literally black with flies. His mouth, which was open - the poor fellow was too weak to close it - was filed with flies. Col. Greene denounced such a state of affairs, as did I. The person in charge nonchalantly remarked that there were not enough nurses to go around. Then I told him as emphatically as the solemnity of the place would permit, that his duty was to let the men of the company know, and they would gladly have acted as volunteer nurses. I sent a man from my quarters over.

"The man I sent over was a trained nurse before he joined the army as a soldier. He knew in an instant what was needed. He found that the man who was so ill with the fever had had no bath, although burning up with fever. He asked for some cold water. The doctor in charge wanted to know what for. When the man replied that he wished to give the patient a bath, the doctor told him to get the water out of a barrel which had been standing in the sun. The water was actually tepid. The nurse indignantly told the doctor he would not attempt to lower the temperature with water that would only increase it. "What do you know about it?, snapped the doctor. "Because I know about those things, and have been a nurse." was the answer. This convinced the person in charge that my representative knew too much to be smothered, and after several hours he managed to get some ice. Imagine how much it was. A pound, exactly. With this he expected to lower the temperature of the man dying with fever. Several days later the man was dead.

"In another case a man who died in the division hospital was found to be literally alive with maggots under his armpits, and his dying agonies were intensified by the movements of these vermin. There are other shocking cases of neglect which are too horrible to be recounted. It is incredible that such things should have happened in this, the richest country on the globe. When there were 280 men in the hospital at one time I found that there were but two thermometers to take the temperature, and remember, nearly all these patients were fever stricken. To have used the instruments for the purpose intended would have consumed exactly eleven hours and forty minutes. The want of ice was criminal. The moaning of the men for ice when they were burning up with fever is something I shall never forget. Why, officers of the regiment had to subscribe money out of their own pockets to get ice in the interest of humanity. And then the amount procured was totally inadequate to the need. The men knew all about the horrors of the hospital.

The Sergeant, who was taken to the hospital the day before I left, was so ill three weeks ago that he ought to have gone in, and he suffered the greatest pain day after day. He wouldn't listen to advice to go to the hospital. He said that would be the end of him, and he would keep out of it as long as he could, no matter how much he suffered. At last he collapsed. Convalescents who are still so weak they can hardly stand get boiled beef and boiled onions for breakfast, a tough meal for even the strongest of men at camp.

"Even when a man was dead it seemed that he was pursued. Two men in my company died. When the first one left us the Government furnished only a pine box for his body. It would not furnish the ammunition with which to fire a salute over the poor fellow's grave, nor would it pay for the transportation of the remains from camp to the cemetery, nor even to Lytle, where the men took the train for the cemetery. The company had to get an undertaker from Chattanooga, at considerable expense. The Government would not even pay the escort's carfare to and from the cemetery.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 10, 1898: Frankel & Harris went to Chattanooga. Visited Lookout Mt. Missed roll-call at retreat."

"Gen. Breckinridge has invited," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on August 11, "President McKinley and Secretary of War Alger to Chickamauga Park to review the army before it is divided up and separated. This being the largest army gathered together since the civil war, and being composed of some of the finest regiments mustered into the service for the war with Spain, its importance and the interest attached to it are enough, it is believed, to justify the two distinguished officials in paying a visit and making official inspection. The visit would also give the President and secretary of war an opportunity to see for themselves the condition of the encampment and the magnitude of the work that has been done at this great camp of instruction, and the vast work that has been done to care for the men while they are in camp… The invitation of Gen. Breckinridge will be seconded by [Chattanooga] Mayor Watkins, the Chamber of Commerce, Young men's business league, and other societies and by leading citizens…

"Yesterday morning, Mayor Watkins paid Gen. Breckinridge an official call at his headquarters at Chickamauga Park, and in behalf of the people and merchants of this city requested Gen. Breckinridge to allow more soldiers to come to this city than has been the case heretofore, or rather since the pay day prior to the one now in progress… After Mayor Watkins' visit, Gen. Breckinridge issued an order authorizing brigade and regimental commanders to issue three times as many passes to the men and hereafter, each company will be entitled to six rather than two passes as in the past… Gen. Breckinridge has also instructed Col. Whipple to send a provost guard to the city every day to preserve order and remove all soldiers who have overstayed their time. The provost guard will report each day at police headquarters, and will further act in concert with the police and under the orders of Chief Hill."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 11, 1898: Inspection. Cal and Will returned and were confined to their tent."

"Dr. Griffin" the *Chattanooga Times* stated on August 12, "is at work on a mammoth reserve hospital which is being constructed near the Wilder monument. It was first announced that this hospital would be arranged for the accommodation of about 800 patients, but it will accommodate fully 1,000 when completed. Dr. Griffin said yesterday that work on the hospital was to be vigorously prosecuted. Eleven great pavilions, 18x50 feet are to be constructed at once. In fact, the work commenced yesterday…



The Sternberg Hospital.

"Several large army wagons came to the city yesterday morning and returned to Camp Thomas loaded with galvanized iron water boilers, to be used by the soldiers in boiling Chickamauga creek water before it is used. A Chattanooga firm has the contract for making these boilers. They are of uniform size, and will hold about ten gallons each…

"A. S. Corbly, the well known fruit grower, was at Chickamauga Park a few days ago and met with Gen. Rosser under very different circumstances than when they first met a third of a century ago. Mr. Corbly was a member of the 34th Ohio Regiment, and early in 1863, his regiment was surprised by Gen. Rosser's command at Beverly, W. Va., and Mr. Corbly, with the larger part of the regiment, were taken prisoners and marched to Staunton, Va. Mr. Corbly recalled the 'incident' to Gen. Rosser, who remembered it very well, and inviting Mr. Corbly into his tent, they enjoyed a long chat over their experiences of that 'other war...'

"The provost guard at Camp Thomas did active duty yesterday, making life miserable for hucksters and venders who were selling edibles and articles of various kinds. All of the persons who were in the park at work without a permit from the chief

provost marshal were ordered out. If found later they were escorted to the boundary of the park by a cavalry and ordered not to return. Early yesterday morning two Negro women and two men were arrested by the provost guard on the charge of selling whiskey to soldiers. They were turned over to a civil officer, and sent to La Fayette, Ga., for trial before a commissioner."

Concerning Colonel Grigsby's regiment, the paper stated: "The gratifying report has been made by the surgeons that the measles has been wiped out of the regiment, and that the disease is now fully under control. There have been a large number of cases during the past few days, and the officers are greatly relieved, now that the physicians have the disease in check. The different troops of the regiment have begun placing board floors in the tents and it is probable that the entire regiment will be floored in a very short time. A board floor will soon be placed in the hospital. These floors are considered an excellent investment, as there is no doubt that they are conducive to the health of the men in camp."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 12, 1898: Nothing eventful. Harris on guard."

"The shifting of camps," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on August 13, "from the woodlands to the open fields was still in progress yesterday, a number of regiments having changed their locations. This is one of the important steps in the plan to better the sanitary conditions of Camp Thomas and to promote the health of the soldiers. While arrangements to move the Second and Third divisions of the First corps from this camp are in progress no time will be lost to make the conditions more favorable to the two divisions that are to remain. The work that is now being accomplished along this line amounts to an admission that the facilities for maintaining a high degree of health have not been what they should have been. While there has been no lack of interest on the part of the men to change, they have often been hampered in their undertakings, sometimes for want of material, and again for want of direct authority. That this has been the case has developed in the crowded conditions and inadequate accommodations in the division hospitals. These conditions have at last received recognition, and there is now an active movement on foot for more hospital room and for better accommodations generally. The unsanitary conditions that have been found to exist should not be confused with the natural conditions of this great national camping ground, for the reason that repeated investigations have shown that the fever existing among the soldiers there is due solely to indiscretions and to the failure on the part of commands to follow strictly the army sanitary regulation."

The paper also printed the following letter from President McKinley in response to his invitation to visit the Park:

"Major General Breckinridge
Chickamauga Park, Ga.

"Replying to your invitation, I beg to say that it would give me great pleasure to show by a personal visit to Chickamauga Park my high regard for the 40,000 troops of your command, who so patriotically responded to the call for volunteers, and who have been for upwards of two months making ready for any service or sacrifice that the country might require. My duties, however, will not admit an absence from Washington at this time. The highest tribute that can be paid to the soldier is to say that he performed his full duty. The field of duty is determined by the government and whatsoever that chances to be is the place of honor. All have helped in the great cause, whether in camp or in battle, and when peace comes all will be alike entitled to the nation's gratitude.

William M'Kinley"

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 13, 1898: Preparing to move Frankel on fatigue. Whetton on guard."

"The event yesterday at Camp Thomas," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on August 14, "was an informal review on the Alexander field of the Third division of the First corps by Brig. Gen. Sanger, commander of the division… Gen. Breckinridge has made up his mind to have the entire army at Camp Thomas pass in review again before the Second and Third divisions of the First corps are ordered to their new camp grounds at Knoxville and Lexington. While the time for this review has not been definitely decided upon, it will probably take place on Wednesday next…

"A mule belonging to Ferger & Co., Grocers, ran away on the Brotherton Road yesterday afternoon near the camp of the 1st Illinois. A small colored boy named Robert Burge, son of Esquire J. G. Burge, was thrown from the wagon and run over by one of the wheels. He is badly cut and bruised, but it is thought that his injuries are not necessarily dangerous. A man named Jones was driving. He also was tipped out of the wagon, and was slightly scratched. The colored boy was attended by Dr. Morrow of the Illinois regiment…

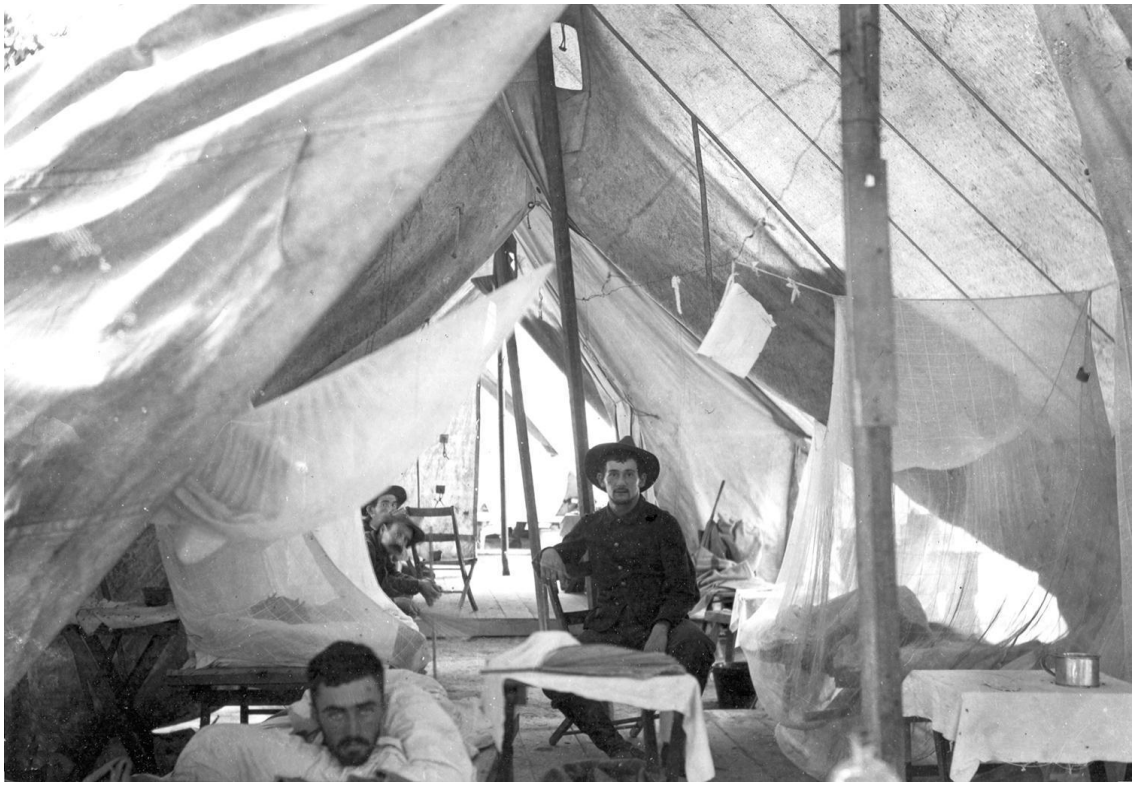
"The Rough Riders have not yet learned nothing definite as to their practice march. The engineer officers are still looking out for a suitable place to camp and also to map out the route to be taken by the troops. A large quantity of lime has been delivered to the camp, and the boys were busy yesterday placing it over the ground. All efforts are being made to keep down sickness, and disinfectants will be freely used in the camp."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 14, 1898: Co. E. moved, is now 2nd Co. in 3rd Battalion."

"Yesterday was quiet at the Park," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on August 15. "The usual Sunday services were held in the various commands, and the men generally rested from their labors… The details are now being arranged for the review of the army on Wednesday of this week as ordered by Gen. Breckinridge…

"One of the interesting side features of life at Camp Thomas is the work of the Salvation Army tent, which is situated about three quarters of a mile from Lytle station, diagonally opposite from the Brotherton house. There every evening the soldiers gather for a meeting of that free-and-easy character which is characteristic of Salvation Army work, and which seems to be appreciated by those who attend. The tent is not connected to any particular regiment but is nearer to the Rough Riders, whom by the way, the Salvationists have always looked on as their special champions. One night, word was passed along from street to street of the Rough Riders camp that some of the other soldier boys were planning some mischief with the Salvationist tent. Silently the gathered, prepared to defend the tent 'to their last drop of blood,' but that wasn't necessary, for the alarm was a false one, started by some soldiers just to see what the Rough Riders would do…

"Saturday several billions of typhoid fever germs were sent from Dr. Berlin's laboratory to the Leiter Hospital at Crawfish Springs. They will be used in making the diagnosis in cases of typhoid fever, their employment being the only certain method of determining the existence of that disease. There has been some discussion as to whether many cases, classed as typhoid fever by the field surgeons, are really that disease, and these germs will enable the authorities to arrive at a sure diagnosis…



Grigsby's Cavalry regimental hospital.

"The suggestions of the past few days as to crowding and inadequate hospitals at Camp Thomas are bearing fruit. A review of the whole situation has led to a realization

that official 'red tape' is a poor thing to use in connection with a hospital, where demands are usually of an urgent character. There are a number of examples to show that the hospitals would have been better managed had it not been for want of authority, due to looking to somebody for the privilege to do a matter of urgent need, when that somebody never responded, granting the authority, or responded when the hour was so late that the wan sufferer in need of prompt attention had already closed his eyes in 'that dreamless sleep,' without the happy privilege of being restored to his mother whose heart yearned for his safe return."

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "On August 15, Troop H relieved Troop D off provost guard, which, together with the camp and stable guard, was about the only duty performed by the regiment at this time. The rumors of muster-out were flying around thick and fast. It was also reported that the regiment would be sent to Cuba for garrison duty, which latter report was received with a great deal of dissatisfaction by the men. They had enlisted for the war with Spain, to take part in active hostilities, and did not feel inclined to perform garrison duty in Cuba or anywhere else. They reasoned that such duty belonged to the regular establishment and not to the volunteers." (Sues 46)

"August 15, 1898: Frankel on guard. Harris on fatigue and Cody and Whetton in kitchen. No drill in morning."

"There were no changes" the *Chattanooga Times* stated on August 16, "in the usual run of things at Camp Thomas yesterday, except that an order came from the war department for the 1st Vermont Infantry to return to Vermont and go into camp there, carrying with it a train of twelve wagons and twenty-four mules. The regiment will break camp the latter part of this week…

"Improvements are being made in the hospitals as rapidly as materials can be had. There are two new reserve hospitals ready to receive patients, and orders were issued yesterday afternoon to clear the regimental hospitals of patients and send the sick to the reserve hospitals. This order applies especially to the regiments that are to leave Camp Thomas soon.

"The details of the review of Gen. Breckinridge's entire command will be completed today and at 8:30 a.m. Wednesday the divisions will be formed, all commands forming in line of regiments, in column of mass. The cavalry will lead the march in review and Brig. Gen. Frank will be in command of the troops. The troops will go out in light marching order.

"Gen. Breckinridge has instituted a field day for the soldiers at Camp Thomas as a diversion from the monotony of camp routine. This day will roll around on the third Saturday of each month. Following the programme in detail for August 20:

1. 100 yard run.
2. 220 yards run.

3. 440 yards run.
4. 880 yards run.
5. 235 yards run, hurdle 2 feet 6 inches.
6. One mile run.
7. 880 yards walk.
9. Relay race; one mile; four men.
10. Running high jump.
11. Running broad jump.
12. Standing broad jump
13. Putting 16 pound shot.
14. Tug of war 5 men.

Military Events.

1. Steeplechase, mile and a quarter (open to officers only) private horses.
2. Exhibition rough riding.
3. 3.Music drill (Lieut. Butts manual)
4. Horse race, half mile (open to cavalry only).

"Considering the number of wrestlers who have during the past month or two stated their desire to meet any man at certain weights, I the undersigned, do now issue a challenge to any man in the park and from any regiment, to a collar and elbow bout, best two out of three falls; two points at any amount from $25 up, and at 165 pounds give or take five pounds. Also any amount for anyone to throw Fitzpatrick, Co. E. at 145 pounds, give or take three pounds. This is business and agreements will be signed immediately parties come forward. – Pvt. Spicer, Co. H. 1st Vermont…

"The hospitals at Camp Thomas are being improved as rapidly as possible, under Gen. Breckinridge's new order of things…The *Times* continued its investigation of the medical department yesterday. It is a hard matter to get at the exact truth in many of the hospitals… Yesterday, the colonel of a regiment from the northwest said: 'The medical department is just intolerable, that's all. We can't help it. I have sent official communication after communication, but it does no good. The medical officers tell me that they need a great many things. They have asked for them, but if we talk we are liable to be court-martialed. You can plainly see our position. We are afraid to say anything and let the facts be known.' Many of the surgeons in charge of hospitals admit that the men under their care do not receive the attention due them as patients. They all say: 'We are doing the best we can under the circumstances. We cannot get what we want over one half of the time, and what can we do?'"

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "On the 16th, Colonel Grigsby went to Washington to obtain permission to fill his regiment from the hundreds of applicants, to take the place of the men who desired to be discharged under the War Department order. His mission was misunderstood or misrepresented in the regiment, with the result that when he arrived at the War Department he was confronted with numerous telegrams and a petition from the regiment requesting to be mustered out,

as the war was over. This petition, or round-robin, was obtained in the regiment at meetings held by the enlisted men at night, at which the subject was fully discussed and the resolution "no garrison duty" unanimously passed. This action was taken by the men under the impression that the mission of Colonel Grigsby to Washington was for the purpose of forcing them to remain in service against their wishes, when, as a matter of fact, his purpose was to merely get authority to maintain the regimental organization by enlistments to take the place of such men as wanted to be discharged. Colonel Grigsby had not the slightest inkling of the existence of the round-robin until he was confronted therewith at the war department. Looking at the matter at this time in the view of subsequent events, there is not the slightest doubt that the agitation leading to the signing of the round-robin was ill advised. There was absolutely no obstruction in the way of those who wished to leave the service, and the same law which gave them a right to go home also gave those who did not want to leave a right to attempt to maintain the regimental organization. There is no question that those desiring active service would have had that opportunity in the Philippines if the regimental organization had not been disrupted by those who were over-anxious to get home. When what appeared to be the opinion of the majority of the men became known to Colonel Grigsby, he took no further steps to keep the regiment in service, but returned to camp to await the notice of muster-out." (Sues 46-48)

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 16, 1898: Finished gun-rack and shelves in our tent and we have one of the neatest tents in the line. The usual drills were held today. Very warm. Frankel has neuralgia [sic] and has taken up permanent quarters on Cody's cot."

"The notice from Washington," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on August 17, "that 100,000 of the volunteer army would be mustered out within thirty days, received by the Associated Press last night, had not reached Chickamauga park yesterday afternoon, and as a consequence regiments of the First and Second Divisions were expecting to go to new camping points. But it was the opinion of leading army officers who were seen in the city last night that there will not likely be any change of camps, but that the regiments to be mustered out will be sent directly from the park to their respective states to be mustered out…

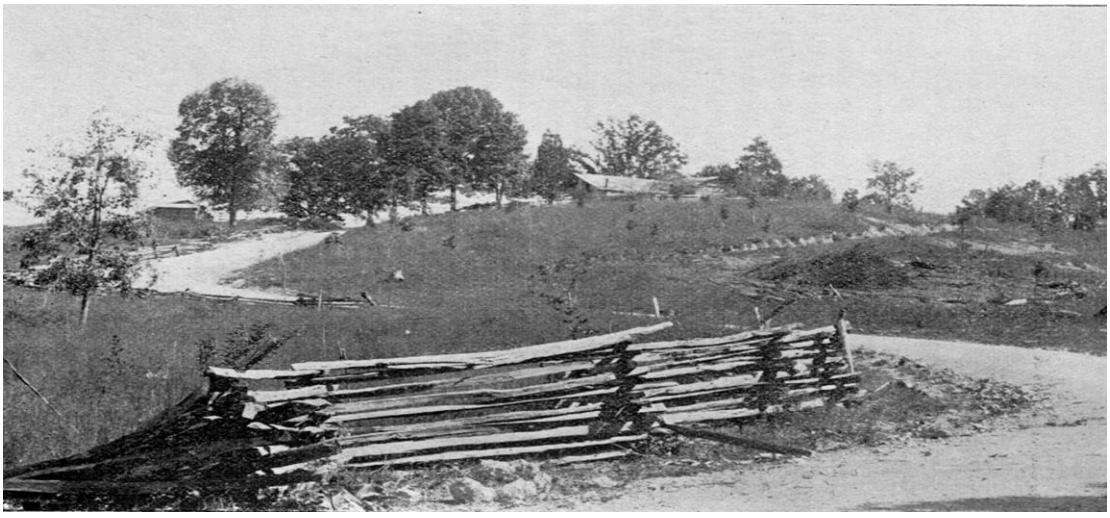
"Capt. McDowell, local quartermaster, stationed at the Chattanooga army supply depot, stated to a reporter last night that the hospital surgeons at Camp Chickamauga Park, were making all sorts of blunders in carrying out order No. 114, relating to giving furloughs and free transportation to soldiers just out of the hospital… In order that the surgeons may avoid such mistakes, Capt. McDowell asks leave to submit the following instructions not only for their benefit, but for the good of convalescent soldiers who desire to visit their homes. Before a furloughed soldier can be furnished transportation, he must be furloughed by the surgeon in charge of his hospital. Furlough must state that it is granted under authority of General Order No. 114. There should be an endorsement over his signature: 'Quartermaster's department will furnish necessary transportation. Sleeping car accommodations are necessary to this soldier…

"As the Rev. Dr. Toy and Mr. J. Bert were returning from a meeting Monday night they were nearly the innocent cause of a terrible accident. Near the headquarters of the Y.M.C.A. a drunken soldier had laid down to sleep right in the driveway. Mr. Toy who was driving a spirited team, happened to see something on the ground and at once pulled up the horses just in time to save that drunk soldier from losing some of his limbs, if not his life. The man was roused from his drunken stupor and sent to his regiment."

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "On August 17 occurred the second grand review of the troops in camp, and on the 20th "field day," occasions that will be long remembered." (Sues, 48)

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 17, 1898: Visited by Mrs. Dollee. Ground review of all troops in the park; some 43,000. Pronounced by competent judges the grandest military display of America since the Civil War. Missouri's troops heartily cheered, sharing first honors with the Tennessee troops in the applause of spectators. Co. "E", 1st Mo. held a fine line and our captain was personally complimented by Col. Batdorf for the company's excellent showing. Representatives of Murray D. Borden's army witnessed the review. Governor of Georgia, Mayor of Chattanooga and many other notables were present. It is estimated that 25,000 persons from Chattanooga and vicinity were present. The review took place on the Dyer Field near Snodgrass Hill. The cavalry passed the stand first, followed by the artillery, the Infantry coming after in company frmt. Cody on guard."





The back side of Snodgrass Hill.

"There was never a Sunday," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on August 18, "on which things were quieter and the streets more deserted than yesterday morning. Nearly all the stores were closed, and fully two thirds of the local population were at the Park… Rarely in the history of a great nation, whose tendencies are toward peace, and not war, is there an opportunity for such display of military splendor as that witnessed at Camp Thomas yesterday. The occasion was that of the review of Gen. Breckinridge's whole command, including cavalry, artillery, infantry, together with the ambulance companies of the respective divisions and the signal corps. Fully 44,000 soldiers passed the reviewing stand between 9:45 a.m., the starting hour, and noon. The day was an ideal one for so great an event. There was a clear sky, but a refreshing breeze tempered the heat, which otherwise might have caused some of the men to become overcome and drop out. The throng of 25,000 spectators that lined the crest of Snodgrass Hill from one end to the other of the far reaching Dyer field, found its position early in the morning and waited, anticipating the pageantry that was approaching, but it is stating it mildly to say that the crowd was not in a position to comprehend in its anticipation the half that later passed before it—a military panorama of such great proportions and such triumphant splendor as to create wonder in the mind of the most conservative. There were numerous veterans among the spectators, men who had a clear recollection of some of the most vivid scenes of the late war, as witnessed by the blue and gray when they faced each other in deadly combat. These heroes of that other war could not have failed to be impressed with the idea that the military spirit is alive and active among the young men of today, that for soldiers and military display on short order, as it were, this country is just as productive, if not more so, than it was thirty-five years ago…

"The procession was led by the cavalry at a walk. Col. Melvin Grigsby commanding the cavalry brigade, and his staff being the first to pass the stand. After passing the reviewing officer, Col. Grigsby and staff turned out of the column to the right, Col. Grigsby taking a position on the right of the reviewing officer, while his staff occupied a position in the rear of Gen. Breckinridge's staff. As the different organizations passed by, the division, brigade, and regimental commanders, and their respective staffs, took a similar position by the reviewing stand, each commander again joining his command as it passed the reviewing officer. Following the cavalry, came the artillery brigade, commanded by Maj. Atwell; then the infantry in the order of its formation. The cavalry passed by troops and the artillery by batteries. The infantry passed in columns of companies in mass, with arms at the ports, and taking the double-quick time when well past the reviewing officer. In order to shorten as much as possible the time required for the army to pass in review, the companies not only passed in mass, but were separated from one another by a distance of only eight paces, while the distances between regiments was reduced to one third the ordinary distance. After the band of each regiment had passed the reviewing stand it turned out of column to the left and played a select air while the regiment was passing, then joined the rear, and marched off with the regiment. Each regiment marched to camp upon leaving the field, except the cavalry and artillery, which circled around and concluded the review by passing the stand a second time.

"A more brilliant and imposing scene than the passing of the army in review for the last time before breaking up this camp and sending many of the volunteers home to be mustered out of the service, was perhaps never witnessed anywhere in the country, and the like may not occur again in a century. The regiments were, without exception, in splendid order. Their carriage and military bearing were such as characterize the soldier of years of experience. Their lines, as a rule were as perfect as could be wished for, while there step was the firm step of an ideal patriot… The clatter of the hoofs of dashing cavalry horses, the show of brilliant uniforms, the glitter of polished swords, ponderous rumble of artillery wagons, the continuous tramp of infantry, the martial music of a score and more of regimental bands, all blended in one scent, where nearly 50,000 soldiers go sweeping by, under the folds of 'Old Glory,' keeping up an incredible march for almost two hours and a half, constitutes a scene that can no sooner cease to inspire pride in one's country than it can die from the minds of a patriotic people."



Visitors in camp.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 18, 1898: Frankel still on Cody's cot. Harris on guard. The 8th New York regiment thundered? to raise a row with our regiment and put our canteen "on the burn" but we bluffed them out of it by a show of force."

"Yesterday afternoon, the *Chattanooga Times* stated on August 19, "Gen. Breckinridge, acting under instructions from Washington, issued orders to Gen. McKee, commanding the Second division, and Gen. Sanger, commanding the Third division, to hold their respective commands in readiness for the departure. The camp at Knoxville, Tenn., and that at Lexington, Ky., are being put in proper condition to as rapidly as

possible. Water pipes are being laid and all the details are expected to be ready within a few days. It is Gen. Breckinridge's opinion that the order to move camp will be executed during the early part of next week. Gen. McKee's division will probably march to Knoxville, a distance of 120 miles…

"The 1st Vermont, which was recently ordered back to Vermont to go into camp, will leave at 8 o'clock this morning, via the Southern, Norfolk, and Western railways. The regiment will march to Rossville, where its trains are in readiness.

"During the last day or two, including yesterday, a large number of patients have been removed from the regimental hospitals to the Sternberg reserve hospital. The work of furloughing convalescents also continues at a lively rate.

"Last night orders were issued to the 1st Maine Infantry and the 1st Illinois Cav., to move at once to their state capitols, by the war department. This is taken to mean that the government will gradually reduce the army by sending troops home to be mustered out, leaving those that are to do garrison work in the camps. In this event it may be possible that there will be no movement shortly from Chickamauga.

"A number of petitions have been circulated among the troops at Camp Thomas by privates who desire to be mustered out of the service. The purpose, it seems, being to secure a large number of signers and send the petitions to influential men to be used in securing a muster out. The petitions have resulted in arrests in two or three of the camps…

"The work of sending away the sick soldiers is being prosecuted in all divisions of the Camp Thomas army. It is the disposition of the department to send home all sick men on thirty-day furloughs. Yesterday morning an order was issued from the Second division, First corps, headquarters, directing all officers to send in the list of names of persons whom they expected to send home on furloughs. It is the policy of Gen. McKee to send all of these men home before the move to the new camp. There will be several hundred men to go from the division."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 19, 1898: Frankel still on Cody's cot. Harris on guard. The 8th New York regiment thundered? to raise a row with our regiment and put our canteen "on the burn" but we bluffed them out of it by a show of force."

"The work," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on August 20, "of preparing the Second and Third divisions of the First corps for their removal from Camp Thomas to Knoxville and Lexington, respectively, assumed definite shape yesterday. Orders were sent to the various regiments directing that they immediately to get the sick in their hospitals ready to be taken to the Sternberg reserve hospital. The work of removal was begun yesterday afternoon, and the ambulance companies of the two divisions were busy. Numerous furloughs have been granted for convalescents and by noon today the divisions going away will be without sick men…



Breaking camp for departure.

"The 1st Vermont left yesterday for Vermont, via the Southern railway. The regiment marched to Rossville, a distance of seven miles before daybreak, and loaded its effects between 7 and 9 o'clock. The regiment left in six sections of ten cars each. It is ordered to go into camp at Fort Ethan Allen, Vt…

"Today will be field day among the troops at Camp Thomas, and various athletic sports will be indulged in for a liberal cash prizes. Numerous entries have been made, showing marked interest. The Rough Ridges will give an exhibition.

"The 1st Illinois Cav. Has received orders to proceed to Springfield at as early a period as possible. The regiment had gone to Lookout Mountain for a three day practice march when the order reached them yesterday. They will probably get away next week. The regiment will remain on the mountain until Sunday or Monday, where they will enjoy the magnificent scenery and balmy atmosphere and rest from their labors…

"The Second division, First army corps, under Brig. Gen. William J. McKee will not march to Knoxville as expected, but will go by rail. This was determined yesterday, and the regiments in his command are making arrangements accordingly. They expect to start for the town Sunday or Monday. The exact date has not been set…

"James Nendorf, aged 30, private in Co. M, 1st Missouri, died yesterday of acute alcoholism at the regimental hospital. It is said that for two weeks he drank a quart of

corn whiskey every day until discovered by the surgeon in charge. The remains were shipped to St. Louis last night…

"Corpl. Otto Hoffner, of the 9th New York, was instantly killed by lightning yesterday afternoon. The young man was standing under his tent when the lightning struck the pole, reducing it to splinters, and appears to have passed down the side of the unfortunate man's leg. After the flash, he fell to the ground dead. The body was removed to an adjacent tent and his family notified. The remains will probably be sent home. The deceased was a streetcar motorman. Hoffner was a good soldier and well liked in the regiment…

"The Philadelphia hospital train of ten coaches arrived at the Central depot from Chickamauga Park at 6:15 o'clock last night, and vegetables were taken on at the Central depot, and at 7:40 o'clock the train left on its long journey to Philadelphia. The train contained an even 102 sick and convalescing soldiers of the three Pennsylvania regiments at Chickamauga Park. The train was made up of six ordinary passenger coaches from which the seats had been removed, and one baggage, two combination, and one kitchen cars. In the six passenger coaches, cots were arranged in place of the seats, and each car contained seventeen soldiers, each on a cot. Judging from the appearance of the men, only those who were very ill were sent home, very few of them being able to sit in a chair, much less stand on their feet."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 20, 1898: Grand Field Day in which every regiment in the park took part. Col. Cavender gave out the pleasing information that our regiment would be in St. Louis within ten days. Everybody in camp happy as consequence."

"Brig. Gen. Sanger," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on August 21, "commanding the Third division of the First corps, will move his headquarters from Camp Thomas today. The headquarters baggage was packed yesterday afternoon and the general and his staff will leave Lytle for the division's new camp at Lexington, Ky., at noon. Col. Wheeler, chief quartermaster has been notified to have cars in readiness.

"The first of the proposed practice marches for troops will be commenced Monday morning when the 3rd Tennessee and 8th New York will leave camp under Brig. Gen. Colby, with ten days rations for Kennsington, Ga., a distance of twenty-five miles. These regiments will camp at three or four different places, spending two or three days at the most suitable locations. When they return to Camp Thomas they will have marched fifty miles…



Washing up after a long march.

"Brig. Gen. McKee, commanding the Second Division of the First corps, issued orders to the regiments of his division yesterday to proceed to Knoxville. This division will go out this week as rapidly as transportation can be provided. The regiments will leave by brigades and with the best possible speed, it will require more than a week to load and get the division off.

"The orders of the 1st Illinois Cav., were changed today and instead of going to Springfield the regiment will go to Fort Sheridan, taking horses and wagon transport along. This change of orders will cause a delay in arranging railroad transportation, since new contracts will have to be made, and that will not be reached before Monday.

"All agree that neither the cause of nor the propagation of typhoid fever at Camp Thomas is due to the water supply. The germs found a footing in boiled water regiments as well as in those that were not accustomed to boiling their drinking water. Exposed sinks too near the company messes and kitchens in all probability were responsible for the spread of disease germs in the various regiments. The men were in a healthy

atmosphere and did not realize the necessity of strict precautions until it was too late. Even now it is a very common thing to see at a company mess tent during the progress of a meal a swarm of green flies, insisting on sharing the bread and meat before the men. These flies are of and from the sinks, and they carry illness to the mess.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 21, 1898: Harris detailed in kitchen. Whetton on guard. Cody has gone on a foraging expedition to hunt a good Sunday dinner. Frankel on guard."

On August 21 and 22, the *Chattanooga Times* published a series of letters written by enlisted men at Camp Thomas. The overwhelming majority of them expressed a desire to be mustered out of the service. If they could not go to take part in the fighting, as they had been trained to do, they wanted to return to their homes.

"Col. Grigsby's Rough Riders are still of the opinion that they should be mustered out and sent to their homes, although it is stated that there has been a reaction among the men on this line and that some of them are not now so anxious."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 22, 1898: Nothing of importance. Rumors of movement of our regiment still going the rounds. Cody on guard."

"Late yesterday afternoon," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on August 23, "Maj. Gen. Breckinridge received instructions from the war department to send the Third Corps to Huntsville, Ala., as speedily as practicable. This corps will report to Gen. Coppinger and will go into camp at Huntsville. This order disposes of all troops at Camp Thomas and will result in sending away for the present all troops encamped here. The purpose appears to be twofold, that of gratifying the troops by change of scenes and that of giving the great camp ground at Chickamauga a chance to rest after four months of constant use by 40,000 to 60,000 soldiers. Gen. Breckinridge will at once send an officer to Huntsville to consult with Gen. Coppinger about the arrangement of the camp. The regiments of the Third corps will, perhaps, begin leaving this camp next week and will go out as rapidly as transportation can be provided."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 23, 1898 Whetton on fatigue duty. Papers state we are to go to Huntsville, Alabama."

On August 24, the *Chattanooga Times* stated: "It was not until early yesterday morning that the 12th Minnesota and the 5th Pennsylvania, which broke camp Monday morning, finished loading and got started for Lexington, Ky. Thus far the railroads have not been able to provide trains fast enough to suit the convenience of the regiments leaving, and for this reason it would not be surprising if Gen. Breckinridge ordered some of the regiments of the Second division, First corps to march to Knoxville, a distance of 115 miles…

"The Catholic Church, through that noble organization known as the Sisters of Mercy, and through the efficient work of the priests, is doing a commendable work among the sick soldiers at Camp Thomas. Prior to heavy demands in the hospitals, the priests were doing work among the Catholics in the various regiments. Having read of the crowded conditions of some of the hospitals at the camp, eleven of the Sisters of Mercy, whose lives are devoted to the betterment of humanity by kind deeds in caring for the unfortunate, reached the Park Monday and proceeded to the Sternberg hospital, where their services were offered and accepted in the capacity of caring for the sick. The sisters are in the charge of Mrs. Mary Bernard, who seeing that the patients in the Sternberg hospital were well off in point of comfort and care, went yesterday to the hospitals of the Second division, Third corps, where their services were greatly needed…



"It seems to be an almost assured fact that Col. Grigsby's Rough Riders will not be mustered out of the service for the present. It is stated that a telegram has been received from Col. Grigsby, who has been in Washington for several days, to the effect that from what he can learn the regiment will not be mustered out. It is also stated that the colonel wanted the officers of the regiment to sign a telegram, asking that the regiment be kept in the service, but for some cause this telegram was not forwarded to Washington."

The August 24, 1898 edition of the *New York Times* contained the following material: "Col. S. E. Japha of the One Hundred and Ninth Regiment had received a dispatch announcing the death, at Camp Thomas, of First Sergt. Harry Simpson of Company B, Ninth Regiment. The dead man was one of the most popular men in the regiment. He was so determined to go to the front that when the surgeon at Peekskill rejected him, he had Capt. Tompkins hold his place open for him, and went to a hospital in this city, where he submitted to an operation, to have removed a growth that had caused his rejection. He then joined the regiment at Camp Thomas, where he was joyfully received by his comrades, who at first had threatened not to enlist unless he was to go with them. Typhoid fever was the cause of death. The remains will be brought home."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 24, 1898: Frankel on fatigue. In the evening a gathering of the boys took place to agitate the question of getting the regiment mustered out. Judge Marshall was to address us but Col. Cavender put a stop to it by calling out the guard and dispersing assemblage."

"A well founded report," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on August 25, "gained currency last night that the order to remove the Third corps from the park to Huntsville has been revoked. It is stated that the regiments of the Third corps will make practice marches to nearby towns to give the park 'a rest,' and that in the meantime Gen. Boynton will be in command of the park on the departure of Gen. Breckinridge, who will remove

his headquarters to Lexington, Ky., on Sept. 1. Gen. Boynton, as stated by the *Times*, has been authorized and empowered to employ all necessary means to get the park in good condition and clean up the dirt and filth that have been allowed to accumulate and impair its sanitation. The Third corps will then return to the park, with Gen. Boynton in command, there will be no repetitions of the situation heretofore existing. Gen. Boynton will appoint a member of his staff as corps inspector, whose duty it will be to inspect the sanitary conditions of every camp. The colonel of each regiment will be held to rigid account for the conditions of his camp, and for any infractions of the regulations, which are to be strictly enforced, he will be subject to court martial. The hospital arrangements, now in much better condition, also will be under Gen. Boynton's control, and it is therefore safe to say that they will be still further improved…

"The regiments are impatient to get started for their new camps, and are, therefore, vexed because of the delay in securing trains sufficient to make as speedy departure as was planned by Gen. Breckinridge. The regiments are further delayed by the work of loading. They came here without equipment and now are learning what it is to load the baggage and equipage that goes with an army…

"When an official investigation shall have been made of the causes leading up to the sickness and death of so many soldiers in the volunteer army at Chickamauga Park, it will reveal a degree of negligence and ignorance on the part of the officers and surgeons that is hardly to be credited as having occurred in the United States of America during the close of the nineteenth century… The surgeons themselves state that their supplies were inadequate the accommodations ill equipped, the nurses and attendants few and inexperienced, and as one surgeon said 'It is a wonder that every fever patient did not die.' It is stated that the department did not know of the situation for some time… Since Gen. Breckinridge came the conditions have improved… but he does not know one half of the suffering of the men or of the negligence and indifference of some of the surgeons in charge… About a week or two ago, a private in the 6th Ohio, an estimable and reliable man wrenched his knee in town, and split the bone. He was picked up by a wagon laden with hospital supplies in charge of a surgeon. The latter knew the private was in pain and badly crippled, yet he never… [gave] a word of inquiry of offered to render him any assistance. The wagon was driven to its destination in an open field. The injured man was ordered out and left several miles away from his camp in the open field, whence in great suffering he found his way to his regiment."

On August 25, 1898, Private Fred Williams. Company K, 52nd Iowa Volunteer Infantry Regiment, sent the following letter, addressed to his Father, Mother, Brothers, and Sister: "Last Sunday we were off to the top of Lookout Mt. We could see out ...[unreadable words]... states. We took the electric car from Chattanooga to the foot of the Mt. and from there to the top we took the car. We rode three ...[several sentences faded and unreadable]...Well I tell you it is getting risky down here. There was one case of yellow fever. The man died about two days ago. There is some talk of quarantining us here or in Des Moines. The boys say if they don't get us out of here in a short time we will march out. It is getting pretty tough. It is thought that we may get out of here Saturday mourning. And yet it is doubtfull. I sat up with some of the boys in Co K one

night last week. It almost made me sick to see the boys. Some were so weak that they could not brush their faces and there mouth, eyes and noses would be just full with flies, and no one to brush them off. It kept us busy tending our boys so we could not ...[cannot read rest of sentence]. It is raining now. We need it very bad. Well hoping to hear from you soon. I will close for this time. Love to all."



The tent of Captain Charles Evans.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 25, 1898: Harris on fatigue. Co. E took a long practice march to Blue Springs. Cody in kitchen. The question of leaving the service has become the most absorbing topic. This morn it was announced that personal petitions could be signed which the Capt. would approve and this would be, thro. Military channels, would get to Adj't Gen'l Corbin. Some ambigious[sic] statements by Capt. M. has had the effect of making some of the boys doubtful about whether the discharge obtained in this manner would be honorable or not. Boxing in our street in evening."



Boxing at Camp Thomas.

"All the regiments of the first corps," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on August 26, "will hardly get away from Camp Thomas before Sunday or Monday… The Third brigade of the Third division, First corps, commanded by Brig. Gen. Andrews will start for Lexington today. Gen. Andrews and his headquarters and the 9th Pennsylvania reached Rossville early yesterday evening and will load early this morning. The remaining two regiments of the division, the 2nd Missouri and the 1st New Hampshire, will load at Ringgold today and proceed to Lexington…

"When orders came to send the troops away from Camp Thomas, the Midway, that popular place of fresh lunches, cold drinks, quarrels, and petty disturbances, read its death warrant. It meant the end of what has been 'great' on the Midway, for with nobody left to buy, it will be worse off than will be the world when it has left to it only the last man. The Midway will be wholly a thing of the past in less than two weeks. Already it begins to present a partially forsaken appearance. The merchants and candy-shop keepers are permitting their stocks to run low. Some of them are closing out and will be out of business until they get in somewhere else. Others will come down until they are left with only the place where the Midway once was. There is no discounting it though, the reign of the Midway has been a golden reign, and the men who have stayed there for months to toil and sweat for the soldiers shekels will come away with eagles in their pockets and an abundance saved up to enjoy a good coal fire this winter and hot buckwheat cakes every morning in the week…

"Col. Grigsby's Rough Riders are still anxiously awaiting orders to break camp and leave, either for Huntsville, or Knoxville. Now that the 1st Illinois Cav., has left Camp Thomas, the cowboys are of opinion that they are next in line and expect orders to move in a short time…

"The articles recently published in The Times about the lack of care and sanitation that has characterized the treatment of the sick soldiers at Camp Thomas by many of the surgeons and officers, have aroused the greatest interest and indignation in the city and all over the country. As one gentleman said yesterday afternoon to a reporter for the *Times*: 'You have entered on a good work, and it is a pity that you cannot print all the facts; atrocious cases known to the nurses and the poor men who have had to suffer. It has been a disgrace to civilization and a crime against the age, and one for which the government will have to answer to the people.'

"Efforts are being made by certain parties, who are either culpable themselves or represent those who are to blame, to shift the responsibility for the existing sickness at Chickamauga Park upon the water supply, in the face of the notorious fact that the sanitary rules and regulations were shamelessly ignored and disregarded by the commanding officers of many of the regiments, and that filth and dirt were the contributing causes for the spread of disease. Far-fetched efforts to make people believe that the limestone water of the Park is deleterious to the health of an army, in spite of the fact that the same water drunk by the volunteer army has been the drinking water for this entire section for generations, and that epidemics of typhoid have been unknown in this entire region. The regular soldiers drank the park water before the volunteers came for months and they never had any sickness. Regulars camped at the park for four or five months in 1897 from Jackson barracks, near New Orleans, and none of them were ever sick with fever. Large numbers of laborers engaged in work on the park have camped for years at a time in the reservation without any of the supposed protection afforded the soldier by the government, and Gen. Boynton states that none of these men were ever sick with typhoid fever.

"Investigations have been made that show irrefutably that the most shameful laxity prevailed in most of the commands in taking care of garbage and the camp sinks. Filth and dirt were allowed to accumulate in and near the camps, and sinks were allowed to become the breeding holes for all sorts of disease. It has been explained that these regimental commanders did not know that they were to be kept at the park for such a long time, and therefore did not see the necessity of being so careful about sanitation, and hence the typhoid germs brought from state camps were scattered through the negligence of the medical department, into the open air and thence into the filth holes in and about the regimental camps, which became excellent cultures for the poison. Instead of providing against the spread of the disease, the physicians in charge were satisfied to do the best they could with present conditions, and expecting to be away soon, let the future take care of the pest holes created by their negligence, indifference, and inefficiency. These are not wild statements, but facts as will be shown by subsequent developments. As evidence of the carelessness and criminal neglect of some of the medical staff, some incidents in point age given below.

"In one of the division hospitals a typhoid fever patient died, and as was the custom, the body was put in the dead ward to await the undertaker. In the case in point the remains were placed in one corner of the dead tent and in some way a flap of the tent dropped over the body and hid it from view. No record seems to have been made of the poor fellow, and his body not being called for, it was allowed to remain in the tent for nearly forty-eight hours. The body was accidentally discovered by the undertaker, who had been called to carry away another man who died nearly two days after the one in point, by the terrible odor which the decaying corps exhaled. Pulling aside the tent flat, the undertaker found the remains, and a horrible sight it was. The body had begun to decay; it was frightfully fly-blown and maggots had begun their disgusting work. It was with difficulty that men could approach the repulsive mass of putrefaction in order to finally give the poor fellow decent care. This one case would be enough to force an investigation except at the hands of the ordinary army surgeon. The story is vouched for by one of the nurses at the hospital.

"The case of the sick soldier who was forcibly removed from Lookout Mountain to Chickamauga by his commanding officer over the protest of not only the poor fellow himself but of all his comrades, and who died while in transit promises to be a cause celebre, and may lead to an investigation which will officially expose cruelty and neglect of some of the commanding officers. A reputable lady on Lookout Mountain, wife of a captain of the same regiment is responsible for the statement that the soldier in question was ordered to the camp by the lieutenant colonel of his regiment, notwithstanding he was informed that the boy too ill to be moved. A court martial for this officer is brewing as soon as the relatives of the deceased can bring the facts to the attention of the authorities.

"Dante's Inferno is tame compared to conditions of the sick in some of the camps at Chickamauga Park. In one of the Ohio batteries a few days ago eight men, all sick with fever were huddled in one little tent about ten by twelve feet, and were so close that they could not turn without coming in contact with each other. There they lay, moaning and reeking in filth, having no ice to cool their raging fever, and the condition of the bodies of these poor victims was uncleanly and revolting in the extreme. And these poor victims lay there with the hot sun bearing down on the tent with nothing to sooth them but the groans of their companions and the medical authorities went about their work as nonchalantly as if they were Zulus, and not supposed civilized Americans. This is one instance of many."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 26, 1898: March to Crawfish Spgs. 10 mi."

"By Sunday night or Monday morning," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on August 27, "the entire First corps will have gone from Camp Thomas. The regiments that left yesterday were the 9th Pennsylvania and 1st New Hampshire, for Lexington, and the 1st West Virginia for Knoxville…

"A number of citizens conspicuous in the business circles of Chattanooga who have had extensive dealings at the Park for the past four months, and who have been in a position to carefully oversee the management, have called the *Times* offices within the past two or three days to express their gratification over the exposure of the negligence and criminal carelessness that has prevailed in official circles at the camp. One prominent gentleman states that a few days after the volunteers began to arrive, he called on Surgeon General Hartsuff, who was in charge of the surgical and medical corps at the park, and called his attention to the necessity for careful sanitation and the adoption of most rigorous hygienic regulations, and instead of receiving any encouragement from Col. Hartsuff, he was very brusquely received and almost rudely treated. It is hinted that Col. Hartsuff's transfer from Chickamauga Park is in a measure due to his indifference and careless management of affairs at the camp.

"It is a fact that for weeks after the volunteer army was camped at the park no orders were received for any lime for disinfecting purposes; in fact no disinfectants, except in the most gingerly manner, were employed. Experienced old soldiers, who went through the civil war, who saw what was being done at the camp, repeatedly warned Gen. Brooke and Col. Hartsuff that the carelessness and neglect to provide proper sanitation would not only jeopardize the health of the men, but would endanger their lives. Their warnings fell on heedless ears. The result is that hundreds of poor fellows, whose lives would have been spared, have fallen victim to the negligence and carelessness of the superior officers at the camp…

"One of the most sensational incidents that the horrible condition of affairs in the mismanagement of hospitals and bad sanitary arrangements at Camp Thomas has developed was brought to light yesterday. The statement is vouched for by a number of soldiers who were in the division hospital and who witnessed the incident. They stated to a *Times* reporter that at one of the division hospitals at Camp Thomas where there were confined with sickness, a number of packages of fine wines and liquors were consigned to them through the means of the Red Cross society and other charitable organizations, and instead of having these beverages delivered to the patients, it seems that the surgeons appropriated the wines and liquors to their own use and became in a beastly state of intoxication, leaving the patients to their own devices, and that some of the latter suffered a serious relapse through this neglect…

"Another striking instance of official carelessness in the hospital department, bordering closely on official murder, came to light yesterday. At one of the division hospitals a few days ago, a fellow was brought in who had a high fever and was apparently in great pain. The young surgeon who was sent to wait on him diagnosed his case as appendicitis. The chief surgeon was consulted, and he examined the patient and reached the conclusion that he did not have appendicitis, and he instructed the attending surgeon not to operate upon him for that disease. The chief surgeon afterwards had occasion to leave the hospital camp, and during his absence the attending surgeon enlisted the services of another young surgeon, who was looking for 'experience' in surgery, and the two performed an operation for appendicitis upon the poor soldier. On

examining the vermiform appendix they found that they were mistaken in their diagnosis, but as a result the poor soldier was shortly afterward taken away by the undertaker…

"A sad story is told on good authority in connection with the Sternberg hospital, which shows that somebody's business has been shamefully neglected. A soldier, it is related, died, and there was no means of ascertaining his name or to what regiment he belonged. As a result he sleeps in the National Cemetery among the pathetic graves marked 'Unknown.'"

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, made no entry in his diary on August 27, 1898.



This is a photograph, apparently of Aubrey L. Whetton, and his friends Harris, Cody and Frankel - posing during kitchen duty.

"Orders came from the war department," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on August 28, "yesterday, to prepare for the mustering out of the 8th New York and 5th Missouri. The 8th New York will probably turn in its equipage at this camp and then proceed to New York state to be mustered out, while the details for the mustering out of the 5th Missouri will be consummated at the Lexington Camp. Gen. Breckinridge will hasten the departure of the Third corps as soon as the regiments of the First corps have all left the park…

"The sickness at Camp Thomas has been greatly exaggerated by articles that have been published in some parts of the country. While there are all told 1,500 sick soldiers at the park, only about 300 of that number are pronounced typhoid fever cases, and a majority of these are not of the virulent type. This statement is born out by the death rate.

For instance, at the Sternberg hospital where there are about 470 patients, the death rate has been one and one-half per day, or three patients every two days. Immediately upon the opening of the Sternberg hospital, on the 16th instant, all the most virulent cases of typhoid fever were transferred to it from the division and regimental hospitals. This considered, as expressed by Maj. Griffen, in charge, the death rate is exceedingly low. Instead of deaths by the whole sale a visit to the Sternberg hospital reveals that a large majority of the patients are improving, and that as a rule they are cheerful and hopeful. In ten days ninety patients have so far recovered as to be sent home on furloughs…

"It is a fact that an official investigation will develop that the relief commission of this city, when the volunteers first reached the camp, recommended to the commanding general and chief surgeon certain precautionary measures to guard against fevers, but their advise was totally disregarded. The first ten cases of typhoid fever were imported into the camp from new regiments. It will be shown that these cases were not properly isolated, nor were the proper precautions taken to disinfect their tents. It will be shown that many private soldiers who suffered from illness, fearing the neglect and treatment which they apprehended in the larger hospitals, refused to state their true condition, and were kept in their regimental camps with typhoid and other fevers, scattering the pollution and poison among all their comrades…

"The following story is being told all over the park by guardsmen and soldiers. In one of the regimental hospitals a few nights ago a man was confined with a raging fever. So acute were his sufferings that he groaned, shouted, and in his delirium called for relatives and friends hundreds of miles away. The noise made by this typhoid patients annoyed a surgeon whose tent adjoined the hospital, who ordered the guard to 'make that d---ed fellow stop that infernal noise' if he had to 'stick a bayonet in him.' The guard was obliged to make the patient keep quiet."

The August 28, 1898 edition of the *New York Times* stated: "The remains of First Sergt. Harry Simpson of Company B, Ninth New York Volunteers, who died a few days since at Camp Thomas, will be buried in the National Cemetery at Chattanooga, instead of being brought back North for interment, as was expected."

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "On Sunday, August 28, official notice of muster-out on September 8 was received." (Sues, 48)

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 28, 1898: Co. E took practice march to Ringgold covering 25 miles there and return. Attended services at M.E. church. Only 6 men dropped out on way home. Longest march taken by any company in our regiment."



Cooking in camp.

On August 29, the front page of the *Chattanooga Times* stated: "A few days ago, Secretary Alger issued an order to Gen. H. V. Boynton at Chickamauga Park to make a thorough and searching investigation of all the hospitals in Camp Thomas, and to report instantly any lack of attention to the inmates, any inefficiency in the medical officers, or any need of supplies of whatever kind. Gen. Boynton's attention was attracted to the sensational charges made by a Dr. Terry against the conduct of the hospitals at Camp Thomas, and he was urged to make a prompt report of the exact conditions as he should find them…

"If one can believe the statements of reputable physicians of this section, the trouble at Camp Thomas has not been in the environment, but in the government… To illustrate the incompetence of many of these officials a story told by one of the 12th New York men will amply serve. The sergeants of one of the companies were engaged in digging a pit a certain distance from the kitchens of the camp as the regulations specify (300 to 500 feet). The officer of the day, who by the way, was the son of a prominent general of the late war, and himself a graduate of West Point, asked the sergeant who had ordered him to dig the pit at that place. The sergeant replied that his colonel had issued the order. The general then ordered him to fill up the pit and did a new one close to the tents of his company, giving as the reason for the command that the pits spoiled the beauty of that part of the park….

"The last of this week will see almost every regiment of volunteers gone from Camp Thomas… The removal of Gen. Breckinridge's headquarters from Camp Thomas will likely occur on Sept. 1. Just yet the general has not decided where he will go, but it will be Knoxville, Tenn., or Lexington, Ky."



Company C, 12th New York Infantry Regiment.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 29, 1898: No drill today on account of long march taken yesterday."

"A lull has occurred," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on August 30, "in the exodus of troops from Chickamauga Park and none of the regiments will depart today… It is the general opinion that all of the soldiers now in the park, with the exception of the 6th U.S. Vols., which are left for guard duty, will have departed by Saturday night…

"Capt. O'Connor [9th New York Infantry] says he has served eight years in the British army, in South Africa, on the Nile and elsewhere, and he never saw better managed hospitals than the Leiter and Sternberg hospitals at Chickamauga. 'They are models,' said the veteran. 'But,' he added, 'the division hospitals are rotten, utterly rotten, in every way. I would not expect to see a sick man of mine alive again if he were went to one of these horrible places.' As for the camp, Capt. O'Connor says: 'In all my years of soldering, I was never camped in so healthy and pleasant a place as the 9th New York occupy in Chickamauga Park. It is a model in every way.' He says there is nothing wrong about the camp, the water, or anything but carelessness and neglect have made a bad condition in spots, while the division hospitals are little better than pest houses, places of death and misery. They are a disgrace to the army and the country."

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "On August 25 and 30 about one hundred and fifty men from among those who were able to travel were sent North on sick furlough. Dr. Grigsby, who was at that time in charge of the

medical affairs of the regiment, deserves great credit for his untiring efforts in bringing about this movement to the North, no doubt saving many lives thereby." (Sues, 45)

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 30, 1898: All drills discontinued."



Grooming horses in Chickamauga Creek.

"Owing to the fact," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on August 31, "that there has been delay in the completion of the arrangements for the transportation of the troops at the park, none of the regiments left yesterday and the present indications are that it will be Thursday, before the movement begins again…

"Capt. H. P. Young, who now has charge of the sanitary department, under the direction of Gen. Boynton, at Camp Thomas, has taken up this important work in an energetic manner that promises quick and permanent relief… Chattanooga is intensely interested in this matter for the camp is drained by Chickamauga creek, into the Tennessee River but a short distance above the city pumping station, and the infected water from the park fills the water mains and threatens the health of the entire city. If this refuse and water so full of typhoid germs is not absolutely destroyed the water of the Tennessee River will be polluted for months to come with the germ filled water that has seeped through the decaying refuse at the camp. It is stated on good authority that there is no safety for Chattanooga except in the absolute destruction of these typhoid germs, and they cannot be destroyed except by fire. A crematory would not only destroy the

daily refuse of the camp, but the contents of the sinks could be dug up and cremated instead of saturating the ground, and polluting for months to come the water we drink.

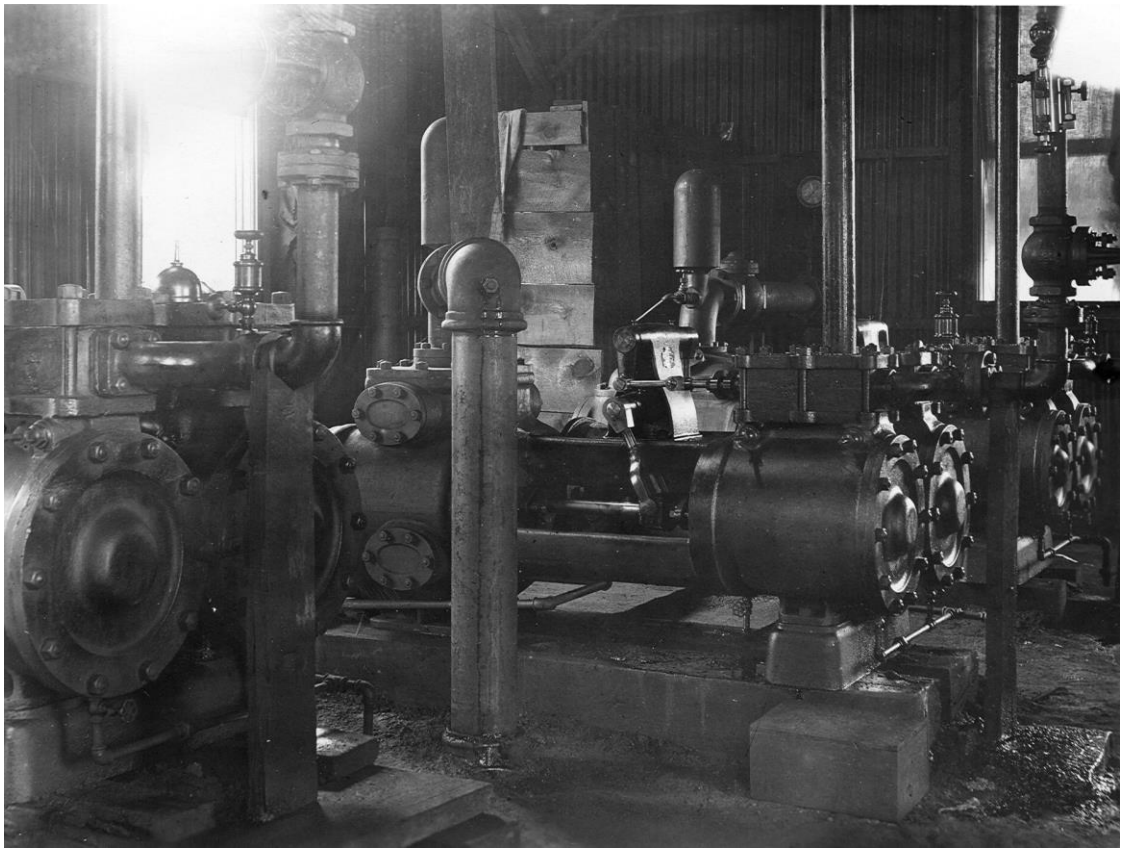
Governor S. F. Black, of New York, came to Camp Thomas to examine the hospitals and see to the health and safety of the New York men in the regiments there. He gave the following interview to the Chattanooga Times: "'My impression,' said he, 'of the camp of the New York troops at Chickamauga is not half as bad as I expected it would be. The unfavorable condition of the camp and hospitals has, beyond doubt, been very greatly exaggerated by the press. The division hospital in which the sick soldiers of the 9th New York infantry are quartered is certainly in a very bad condition. The present state of the hospital ought never to have been permitted to exist, and should be corrected at once. I think that the troops at Chickamauga Park should have been moved long before any sickness broke out in the ranks. The Sternberg hospital is in excellent condition. I do not see that it could be made any better. It is admirable in both plan and management. As to the New York troops at Chickamauga, I intend to take as many home to New York as I can. I shall also endeavor to have as many mustered out as possible, and those that I cannot have mustered out, I will employ every endeavor to have moved to northern camps at the earliest possible date.'"



Posing for the camera.

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "August 29 all ordnance and ordnance stores were turned in, and all horses turned over to the Depot Quartermaster on the 30th. On August 31, Lieutenant Colonel Cabell, First Arkansas Volunteer Infantry (Lieutenant Fifth U. S. Cavalry), was designated as mustering officer for the regiment, and began his duties at once." (Sues, 48)

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "August 31, 1898: Rumors of the 1st Reg. going home. Rain."



Interior of pumping station for emergency water system showing three Worthington pumps of a combined capacity of 1,800,000 gallons in twenty-four hours. The full capacity of this plant was never utilized. Photo by Edward E. Betts.



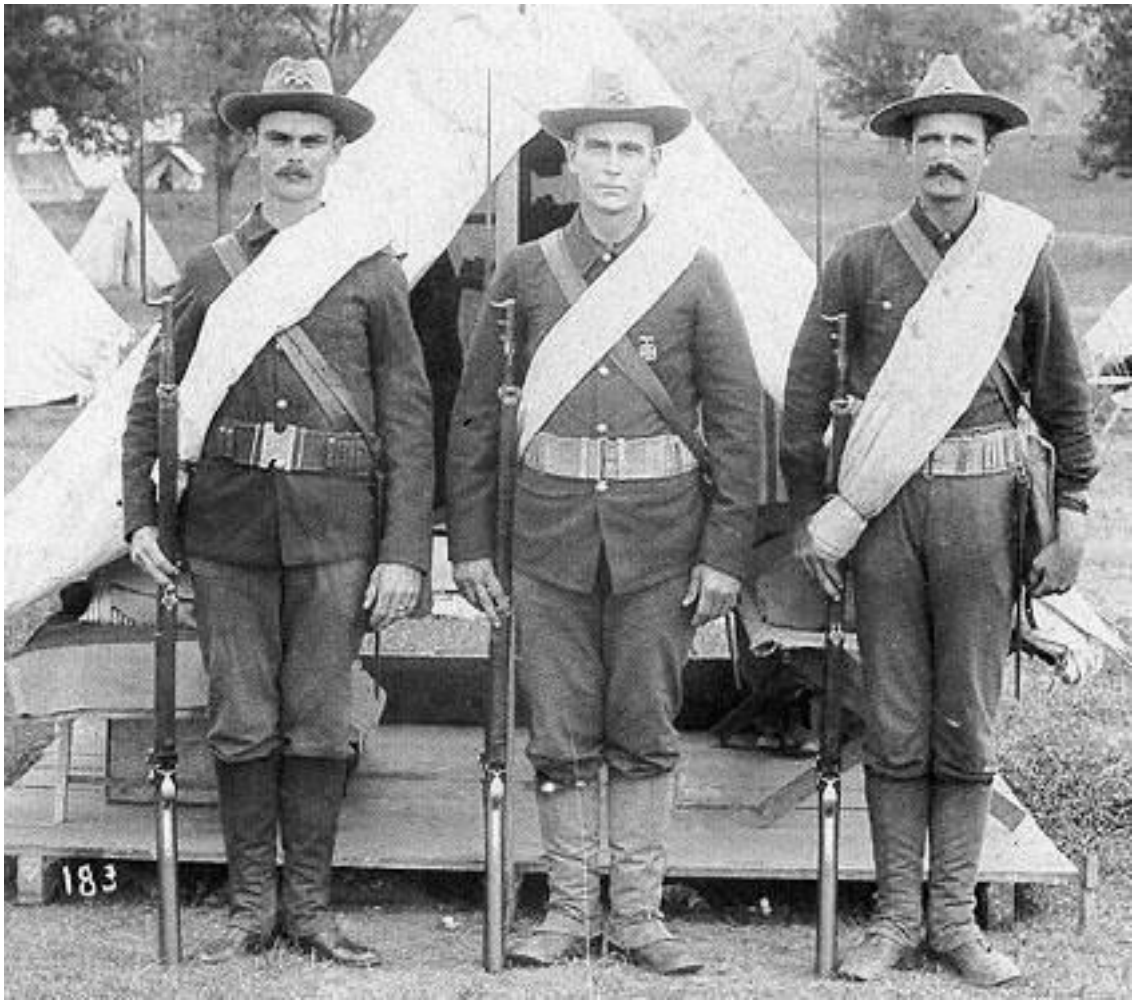
Part of pumping station for water system. Photo by Edward E. Betts.



Water storage tank for the Camp Thomas water system. Photo by Edward E. Betts.

Location of Wells, 1898, Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park.
From:

No.	Location of Wells	Depth Ft. In.	Remarks
1	Brotherton House, Lafayette road	104 6	Drilled 1865.
2	Snodgrass and Glenn-Kelly crossroads	44	Do.
3	Lafayette road at Alexanders Bridge road	64	Do.
4	Kelly House, Lafayette road	146 10	Do.
5	Vittetoe road at Vittetoe House	70 4	Do.
6	Dyer road, at Chickamauga-Vittetoe road	105	Do.
7	Rostrum, foot of Snodgrass Hill	84	Do.
8	Park Headquarters, Dyer House yard	126	Drilled 1898.
9	Viniard-Alexander, Walthall's shop	92 6	Do.
10	Lafayette road, 250 yards S. of Brothertons	97 2	Do.
11	Viniard-Alexander road, Confederate works	107 9	Do.
12	Brotherton road, Alexander (County) road	136 10	Do.
13	Alexanders Bridge road, opst. Tom Little's	95 2	Do.
14	Alexanders Bridge rd., Winfrey & Benton's	106 11	Do.
15	Jays Mill road, south of Brotherton Junction	93 6	Do.
16	Reeds Bridge road, at Brannans	104 11	Do.
17	Park Headquarters, Wood's dwelling	105 10	Deepen 1898.
18	Glenn-Kelly road, opst. center Kelly field	158 6	Drilled 1898.
19	Glenn-Viniards, at Blackers (Hortons)	75	Do.
20	Alexander (County) road, SW of Benton's	70 2	Do.
21	Alexanders Bridge road, opposite Benton's	121	Do.
22	Glenn-Kelly (west fork), N of Snodgrass rd	103	Do.
23	Glenn-Kelly (west fork), south of quarry	116	Do.
24	Dyer's field, on Glenn-Kelly road at Baird	35 9	Do.
25	Lafayette road, Kelly's field, N of Kelly's	106 6	Do.
26	Lafayette road, south of Sawmill fork	78 6	Do.
27	Reeds Bridge road (S of), W of Brannan's	108 5	Do.
28	Lafayette and Reeds Bridge roads	156 9	Do.
29	Glenn-Kelly road, at Lytle Hill	68	Do.
30	Brotherton road at Bragg's HQ Monument	114 3	Do.
31	Brotherton rd., Howell's Batt., E of Winfrey	45	Do.
32	Poe field, 200 yards east of Georgia Mon.	74 3	Do.
33	Poe field, northeast of Georgia Monument	37 6	Do.
34	Jays Mill road, 200 yards N of Alexander's	25 4	Do.
35	Park Headquarters road, near spring	87	Drilled 1897.
36	Reeds Bridge r, W of 2nd Minnesota Mon.	156 6	Drilled 1898.



Members of the 2nd Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Co. M From left to right are J. E. Bays, James M. Symington, and William Perry Smith



Unidentified men from 2nd Missouri Infantry Regiment.

Chapter VI: SEPTEMBER

"Although a strong effort has been made, the September 1 issue of the *Chattanooga Times* stated, "to have all the troops removed from Chickamauga Park by tomorrow night, the present indications are that the park will not be vacated before next Thursday or Friday. Gen. Frank has charge of the moving of the Third corps and he stated yesterday that the corps should be out of the park by the above stated time. The movement of troops begun again yesterday and the park resumed its busy appearance, which has been prevalent the past few days…



A regiment moving from the park.

"Some very sensational developments are expected to occur soon in the quartermaster's department at Chickamauga Park. The facts, as known so far, are as follows: One of the regimental quartermasters, it is charged, has been selling large quantities of forage, (oats, corn, hay, and straw) to parties in this city and section and so great has been the quantity sold, that he has come into direct and very keen competition with local dealers. The local dealers have notified Quartermaster Chief Wheeler of what has been going on, and have discovered that the quartermaster in question has carried on his business on his own account, and not by any authority from his superiors or the government…

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "September 1 to 8 were spent in the preparation of the muster-out rolls and the final medical examinations." (Sues 48)

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "September 1, 1898 Rain. Rumors confirmed."

The *Chattanooga Times*, on September 2, stated: "The movement of the Third corps from Chickamauga Park was begun late yesterday afternoon, and within a week the entire division will have departed. The First division hospital left yesterday for Anniston [Alabama] and this morning corps headquarters, division headquarters, and the ambulance company will leave. Gen. Frank spent last night in Chattanooga, and this morning, in company with his staff, left for Alabama…



Private Reuben L. Bowen, Troop K, 3rd U. S. Volunteer Calvary.

"Gen. Breckinridge yesterday forwarded to Washington the report of Brig. Gens. J. P. Sanger, Chas. P. Mattocks, and Chas. E. Row, in reference to the hospitals at Chickamauga Park, which reports are the result of an investigation by the three generals. The report on the healthfulness of the camp states that the men should not be blamed for the sickness at the park, but that the blame should rest on the government. The report states that the government is responsible for the sickness in that it has failed to issue the proper supplies for the proper policing of the park. The report further states that the officers and men have endeavored to police the camps and prevent sickness, but that the means for this work being inadequate, resulting in sickness…

"The good work of ascertaining the exact truth of the hospital situation has been begun by Gen. Breckinridge, who has directed that a searching and rigid investigation of

the Second division, Third corps hospital be made and the work was begun yesterday in earnest…A large number of soldiers who have been sick in the hospital will be introduced as witnesses, also other persons who have gained an insight into the workings of the hospital…

The same issue of the paper published a letter that was sent by Surgeon General Sternberg to a New York publishing house explaining his position on the question of health care at Camp Thomas. In it he stated: "I am ready at any moment for an investigation with reference to my administration of the affairs of the medical department, but the war department is not disposed to make such an investigation as the result of sensational newspaper articles. There is at present an evident craze to criticize without regard to the truth or justice. I have no doubt that there will be a congressional investigation into the conduct of the war, but I do not feel at liberty at present to insist upon an investigation for my own vindication. It would make it necessary for me to give up all the important official work, which at present time almost overwhelms me, for the purpose of devoting myself to a representation of the facts relating to my administration. It would make it necessary to take clerks away from their daily tasks in order to look up the documentary evidence on file in my office, and in the meantime important matters would necessarily be neglected and the sick in all parts of the country would suffer. It would make it necessary to call upon the medical officers who are now urgently needed for the care of the sick in our various camps and hospitals to come to Washington as witnesses, and all this to satisfy the clamor of irresponsible newspaper reporters. There has been no other complaint with reference to my administration of the medical department."

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "September 2, 1898 Rain. Payroll signed. Cannot break camp on account of weather."

"Yesterday was the 'roughest' day," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on September 3, "experienced at Chickamauga Park since the troops have been encamped there. All day a steady downpour of rain flooded the camps, and many of the men were thoroughly drenched. The greatest trouble was probably experienced Thursday night, when in addition to the rain, a heavy windstorm blew over the park, leveling a large number of tents to the ground. It is stated that a regular hurricane blew for several hours and those camps located on a slight elevation suffered greatly. Yesterday the rain came down in earnest, ceasing only at short intervals during the day and as a result no work of any character was done about the camps. The guards were the greatest sufferers, being compelled to walk their beats until there was not a dry thread of clothing on them. As a result of the heavy rain, the troops were unable to do much cooking and the men were compelled to go hungry or eat wet food. In some of the camps special rations were issued to the men and in this way they were not allowed to suffer. Despite the rain, the movement of the troops from the park will continue un-halted and today the headquarters of the First and Second brigades of the First division and the 14th New York will depart for Anniston.

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "September 3, 1898 Boys are selling everything they can. Expected to break camp at 3 o'clock but rain prevented. Had to sleep on the ground."

"Today," The *Chattanooga Times* stated on September 4, "will no doubt be the quietest Sunday passed at Chickamauga Park since the arrival of the first volunteer regiment about four months ago. There will be no movement of troops during the day, the Midway will be deserted, the usual through of soldiers, citizens, and hack drivers usually congregated about the depot will be conspicuous by its absence and the day will probably be passed without special interest. The Park is rapidly assuming its former quiet state. Today may be quiet, but the present indications are that next Sunday will have seen the last of the great Chickamauga army, and the little village of Lytle, which for the past three months has been the scene of hustle, bustle, and excitement, will again settle down to a supreme state of tranquility…



Private Roy Virgin, 3rd U.S. Volunteer Cavalry Regiment.

"Gen. Breckinridge has turned over to Gen. Boynton the sum of $1,500 for the purpose of cleaning the Park after the departure of the remaining troops. The money was recently forwarded to Gen. Breckinridge by the secretary of war. As soon as the general assumed command of the park, he had 500 men detailed from the different regiments to do police duty about the park, and in this manner, the camps were kept clean. Now that the troops are leaving, however, this detail will be discontinued and the park commission will be compelled to employ civilians for the work…

"The members of Col. Grigsby's regiment were certainly well pleased yesterday when they learned that they were to be mustered out at the park. The officers have worked hard to accomplish this end, as the men will receive more money and be allowed to return to their homes at their leisure…Some of them will doubtless visit a few days in the city."

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "On September 4 occurred the last regular guard mounting, with Lieutenant Charles E. Stowers commanding the guard. (Sues 48)

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "September 4, 1898 Broke camp at 9 a.m. and marched to Lytle where we boarded train at 4 o'clock and left at 6:11 sharp."

"The 1st Missouri," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on September 5, "which left the park yesterday, has had quite a record since it arrived here. It was one of the first regiments to arrive at the park, coming when the excitement over the war was at its highest. While going to the park from Chattanooga, one of the sections in front was run into by a passenger train of the Chattanooga, Rome and Southern and one of the privates killed instantly and several others painfully injured. The regiment left this city last night between the hours of 6 and 10 o'clock for Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis, Mo."

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "On September 5 Colonel Grigsby issued the following farewell to the regiment:

> General Orders No. 63, Headquarters Third U. S. Vol. Cav.,
> Camp George H. Thomas, Chickamauga Park, Ga.,
> Sept. 5, 1898.
> The time being close at hand when this organization will cease to exist as a military body, I take this opportunity to thank the officers and men of this regiment for their patriotism, fidelity, zeal and attention to duty. The regiment is one that it has been an honor to command and of which any commander could be justly proud. Although it is a great disappointment to all of us that we were not permitted to form a part of the line of battle at the front, it cannot be said of the "Cowboy Regiment"-either officers or men-that they did not do everything possible, not only to get ready at the earliest possible moment for active service, but also to induce those in authority to select this regiment as a part of the army of invasion. It has been well and justly said by President McKinley that those soldiers who tendered their lives to the country and performed uncomplainingly their duties in camps of instruction, under conditions most unfavorable to health and comfort-most of them subjected to dangers from diseases that are liable to affect men who leave their Northern homes for a Southern climate in midsummer and who did not get a chance to get to the front-are deserving of as much credit as those who were chosen to go against the enemy. And I wish to add in this connection that it has been a matter of infinite pride and satisfaction to your

commander to hear from all sides favorable 'and complimentary comments upon your soldierly appearance, your proficiency in drill and perfect gentility and soldierly courtesy that has characterized your relations with the camp at large and the citizens of Chattanooga and vicinity. You have so well maintained your characters as gentlemen that it is everywhere remarked that the "Cowboy Cavalry" was one of the most orderly and gentlemanly organizations that has been in Camp Thomas. This reputation carries with it a responsibility, and that responsibility is to see that we live up to our reputation and leave Chattanooga and go to our homes quietly, satisfied that we have done our whole duty and have left an example of the true type of the American citizen soldier. Do not imagine that the time spent in this camp has been wasted for yourselves or that your country has not received full value for all expenses incurred. You have but to consult the records of the nation to discover that a knowledge of the duties of a soldier fits men to better perform the functions of civil life. The present President of the United States was a private soldier in 1861. It is not unreasonable to predict that members of this "Cowboy Regiment" will hereafter be found in the legislative halls, in congress, and in armies that will hereafter be called into service. In any and all of these positions, as well as in the humbler stations, the knowledge and discipline that you have acquired will be invaluable to many of you as well as to your country. Whatever may be your future condition of life, whether of low or high degree, you will all be ever gratefully remembered by your late commander, whose latch string will always hang out for every man-officer or private-of the "Cowboy Cavalry." MELVIN GRIGSBY, Colonel Commanding Third U. S. Volunteer Cavalry." (Sues, 48-49)

Aubrey L. Whetton, 1st Missouri Volunteer Infantry, Company E, wrote: "September 5, 1898 Nothing eventful on the way home. Arrived at Union Station at 8:30 a.m. Great demonstration. Harris sick & taken home from station. Coffee & sandwitches[sic] given to the boys. Train pulled down to Ivory Station for the night."

"Soldier Boys Slowly Evacuating Chickamauga," read a headline in the *Chattanooga Times* on August 6. "Several of the boys of the Ohio battery became boisterous in Lytle yesterday afternoon and attempted to take charge of a clothing and refreshment store on the 'Midway.' Only one member of the provost guard was present, and he had little chance with the crowd, and when the corporal of the guard arrived the 'cannon' boys had everything their own way. The corporal, however, with two members of the 'reserve' soon made short work of the crowd and the store was soon placed in order and the excitement was quickly over. This is the first disturbance that has occurred in Lytle in several days.

"Grigsby's Rough Riders are to be paid off today or tomorrow, mustered out, and turned loose in Chickamauga. The Rough Riders did not want to go home to be mustered out, but preferred to receive their mileage and go free in Chattanooga. The town will be flooded as soon as the boys are mustered out."

"The movement of troops from Chickamauga Park," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on September 7, "has been temporarily suspended…yesterday afternoon Col. Gaither was ordered by Gen. Breckinridge to suspend preparations to move until further orders…

"Gen. Breckinridge has reached a conclusion in reference to which point, Lexington or Knoxville, he will make his general headquarters, and has selected Lexington as that point. As part of his command will be in Knoxville, he will visit Knoxville at intervals. The general has as yet received no orders about leaving the Park, but it is very likely that he will go before Saturday night or Sunday morning. The general has become very much attached to Chickamauga Park and Chattanooga and regrets to leave. He is favorably impressed with the park as a camping site and states that in his opinion no better location could be found in the United States…

"Gen. Breckinridge's headquarters is the prettiest and most neatly arranged of any headquarters ever established in the park. When the general arrived he had the formation of the headquarters changed, making two rows of tents facing each other with a wide street between. The street is kept clean at all times, no trash is allowed to accumulate around the tents. No horses or vehicles are allowed to pass through the street. The corral has been moved on the lower side of the hill and every precaution has been taken to prevent un-cleanliness or sickness. This same plan was ordered instituted in the various camps by the general, and he entered upon his duties as commander of the army here with the full intentions of instituting reform, and in this he was successful. The change for the better begun within a short time after he assumed command, and has continued steadily ever since."

There was a death reported in Colonel Grigsby's Regiment: "Pvt. Geo. A. MacLaren, of Troop A, died in the division hospital yesterday, after a lingering illness with typhoid fever. The young man resided in Humphrey, Neb., and a telegram was sent to his mother notifying her of his death. The remains were interred in the National Cemetery yesterday afternoon. MacLaren was one of the most popular men in the regiment and was considered by his officers, Capt. Bullock and Lieut. Cuissick, the best man in Troop A. His death is generally regretted and has caused much sorrow throughout the regiment…

"At the close of the day," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on September 8, "two more regiments will have taken their departure from Chickamauga Park… The departure of the two above named regiments will leave only five regiments in the park… making a total of about five thousand soldiers…

"A very interesting and important part of the Chickamauga army is the two great hospitals, Leiter and Sternberg, and the question is now being asked: 'What disposition will be made of the hospitals?' So far no intimation has been received from Washington, by the officials at the park, as to the future of the hospitals and it is therefore not known if they will be continued or disbanded. Talk has been very free of late, to the effect that government would probably establish a permanent post and the park, sending regulars

here, and that the two hospitals would be retained for the benefit of this post. Leiter and Sternberg are perhaps the finest army hospitals in the country and much interest is being felt for their future…



Nurses and some of the patients at the Sternberg hospital.

"The work of cleaning out Chickamauga Park is progressing in a very vigorous manner, being conducted under the personal supervision of Gen. Boynton himself. Over 100 men are employed in cleaning out the debris. The abandoned sinks of the various camps are being filled with wood and burned out. Fire being the best purifier of germs, and the dangerous elements of the sinks will be entirely removed. Several hundred barrels of lime have already been purchased and before the work of cleansing is finished several thousand will be distributed throughout the park. Gen. Boynton intents to continue the work unremittingly. Some of the trees have been injured by the horses gnawing on them, but these will be removed and the injured trees are at such wide intervals that it will hardly make any appreciable difference in the aspect of the park. Gen. Boynton states that he thinks the work will be entirely complete before Oct. 1."

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "On Thursday, September 8, Troop L was paid and mustered out. This was the first troop mustered out of the service, and Captain D. Gay Stivers was the first member of the organization to sever his official connection with the regiment by muster-out at the expiration of his service. (Sues 49)



An abandoned camp site. Photo by Edward E. Betts.



Sink of the ambulance train 2nd Division 3rd Corps hospital over sink hole. Photo by Edward E. Betts.



Piles of refuse. Photo by Edward E. Betts.



More piles of refuse. Photo by Edward E. Betts.



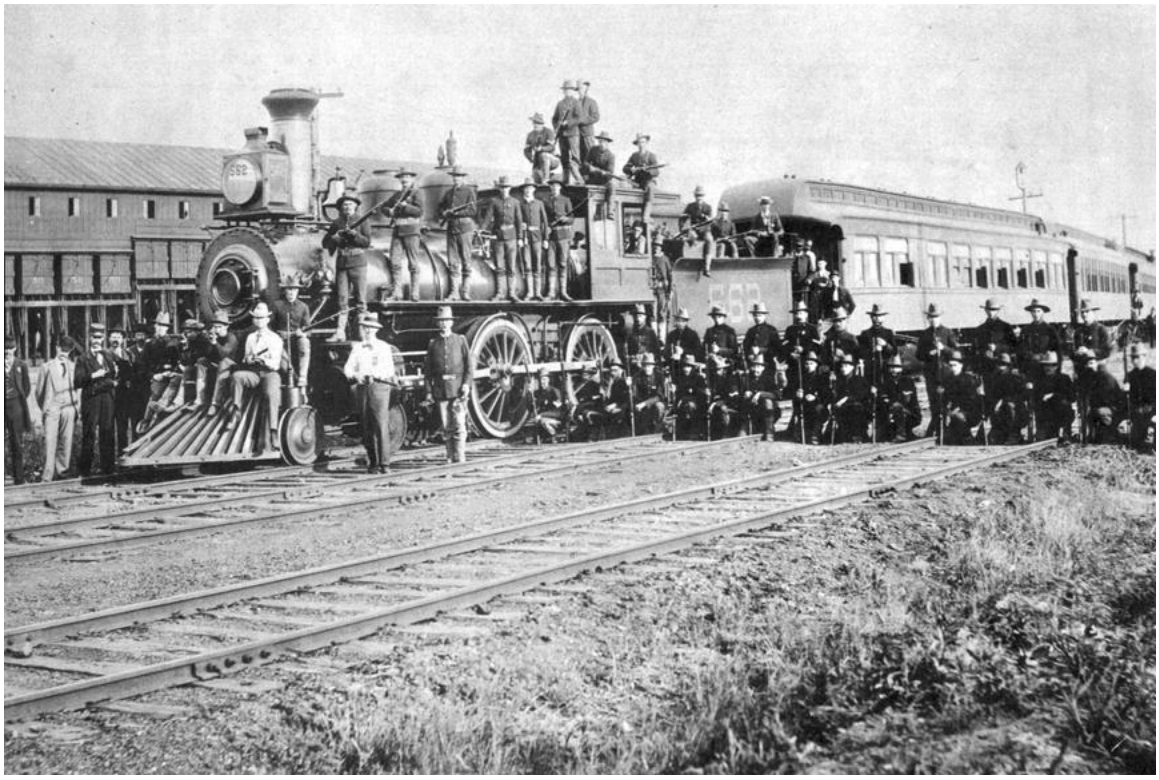
Park workers at 2nd Division Hospital site on Brock field near Bragg headquarters. Photo by Edward E. Betts.



Spreading lime at hospital sinks on Brock field. Photo by Edward E. Betts.



Low buildings and train cars behind a rail fence. 1900. Photo by Edward E. Betts.



Soldiers posing on a train.

"The existence of the great army at Chickamauga will end Sunday," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on September 9… The Camp Thomas field hospital, formerly the First division, First corps hospital, was transferred to the Sternberg hospital yesterday, and the field hospital disbanded. All of the tents which have been used by the hospital will be at once turned over to the quartermaster. About twenty-five sick men who have been in the hospital were sent to Sternberg, and the hospital corps was also transferred there. Nearly all of the patients were suffering from typhoid fever…

"In order to properly celebrate their being mustered out of the service, the Rough Riders engaged in a lively demonstration at the camp Wednesday night. The first thing the boys did was to remove all the benches from the Chickamauga Park theater and stack them near the camp to the height of about twenty-five feet and then set fire to them. The entire park was illuminated in the most brilliant manner, and as the fire blazed up the cowboys began a wild Indian war dance around the benches which continued for some time in the approved western style. The boys appeared to be in the best of humor, and did nothing more serious than chase everybody else but their own men away from the scene. After the war dance, someone yelled 'On to Lytle!' and if cooler heads had not interfered, the Midway would have enjoyed a sample of wild western hilarity. The owners of the theater benches are very complacent over the matter, assured as they are that Uncle Sam will pay for the fun the boys had."

"The paying and mustering out of Col. Grigsby's Rough Riders," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on September 10, "has begun and this afternoon the famous regiment will have ceased its connection with Uncle Sam… It requires on an average two hours to pay and muster out a troop. The boys are at liberty to do as they please as soon as they receive their pay, and a large number departed for their homes yesterday and last night. Several of the officers and men, however, will probably remain in Chattanooga for two or three days, visiting the friends they have made during their stay at the park. The mustering out ceremony is a very simple one and easy of accomplishment only requiring a little time. Each man as he is paid, is furnished with a discharge, signed by the mustering officer, and on the back with the commanding officer of his troop. That ends the whole matter, and when accepted the trooper, or private, is no longer in the service of the government. All the arrangements for caring for the sick of the regiment have been completed and they will remain in the Sternberg hospital only until they are able to travel and return to their homes. It was first thought that Col. Grigsby would remain in the city for several days, but it is now probable that he will leave tonight for his home in Sioux Falls, S.D. A number of officers have arranged a party, which will leave Chattanooga tonight, and Col. Grigsby will no doubt leave with the party…

"The Rough Riders, Colonel Grigsby's regiment, who are being mustered out at the park, have made hosts of friends in this city. When they came here everybody was expecting that they would be the "toughs" of the park, more because of the name "cowboy" than from any knowledge anybody had of them. But everybody was agreeably disappointed. They have been among the most orderly men in the park, and have made more individual friends than any command in the park, except possibly the Second Kentucky and Colonel Tyson's regiment (Tennessee). The cowboys have especial

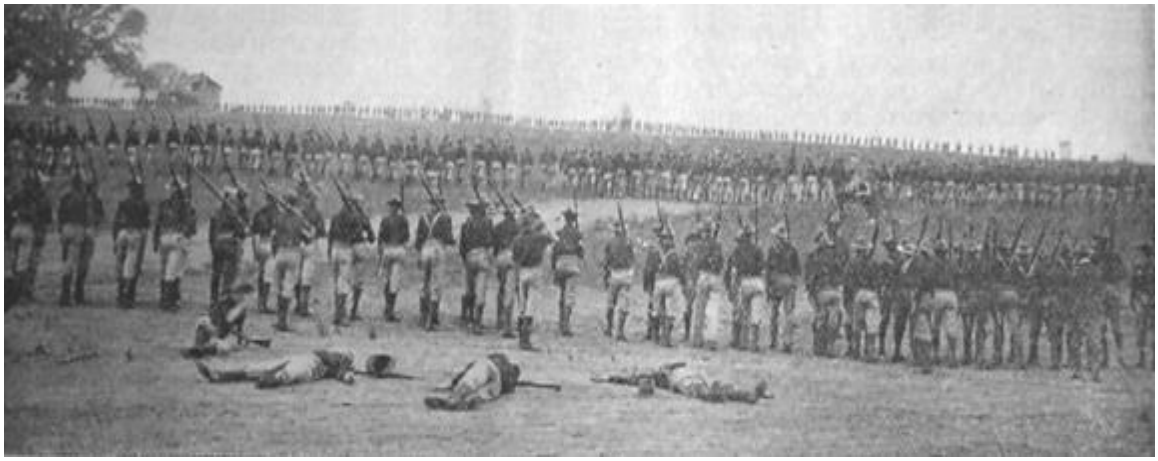
champions in the ladies of the city, because they have been proverbially the protectors of lady visitors to the park. A number of ladies have stated to The Times that the cowboys ought to have a great send-off from the people of Chattanooga, because on several occasions they interfered when ruffianly infantrymen were insulting women, and with the chivalry of the true knight drove them off. One lady writing to The Times about the Rough Riders, said of them, 'I have been among these boys and have helped look after their sick, and I have never seen a more royal set of gentlemen anywhere than were to be found in the cowboy camp, and they deserve all the praise and credit you can give them.'"

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "On Saturday, the 10th, all tents were down and all Quartermaster's property turned in, excepting one tent at regimental headquarters being used by the Paymaster as an office. The tents of Troop H were the last to come down-they fell at 1:30 p. m. on the 10th. The work of paying the troops and mustering them out was progressing as fast as possible under Paymaster Wilkins and Major Baldwin, Assistant Inspector General. The latter had superseded Colonel Cabell as mustering officer, the Colonel having been hurt by the falling of his horse… The mental strain upon Major Wilkins, who had been at work incessantly for several days, was plainly visible. At 10:05 p. m. on the night of the 10th the Chickamauga Park Theater, built by some speculators in the early days of the war, and which was just across the road from Brotherton Field, went up in flames. The excitement of this fire seemed to affect the already overstrained nerves of the Paymaster to such an extent that he collapsed entirely and fell into a dead faint under the table piled high with thousands of dollars. The guard immediately formed a cordon around the pay table, while the clerk hastily began to pack away the money in the strong box. In the meantime Surgeons Wilson and Grigsby had the Paymaster in hand and were applying restoratives. He regained consciousness in a short time, but was too weak to finish paying that night. As there was no shelter in camp, nothing remained for those yet unpaid but to proceed to Chattanooga." (Sues, 49-50)

"Chickamauga Park," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on September 11, "will not be deserted by the troops which are to leave until Tuesday afternoon. The delay is occasioned by the fact that orders have been issued directing the 2nd Kentucky to check and arrange all the papers of the regiment before departing for Lexington…

"The sham battle by the 2nd Kentucky yesterday morning was one of the prettiest and one of the most interesting sights that has ever been witnessed at Chickamauga Park. The battle was for the purpose of representing the famous fight that occurred on Snodgrass Hill in 1863, and a number of persons who were in that engagement and who witnessed the sham battle yesterday say it was a most correct representation. Cos. I, M. K. D, and G represented the federal forces and occupied a position on the crest of Snodgrass Hill. The boys were dressed in blue and were stationed on the exact point occupied by the federals. The attacking force, representing the Confederates, consisted of Cos. H, L, E, C, F, and B, and occupied the position of the Confederates. These boys were dressed in kaki trousers to distinguish them from the federals. The Confederates came out of the woods at the foot of the hill and went into position in sight of the enemy.

The federal line was already formed, and it was only a short time until the Confederates were arranged in battle formation. The federals opened the engagement by firing two volleys. At this, the Confederates advanced a short distance and returned the fire. The firing then became general, the federals firing in volleys and the Confederates replying with two or three volleys and then firing at will. This firing was kept up for several minutes until the air was dense with smoke and it was impossible to see the combatants. During the firing, the Confederates had advanced some distance, and when the smoke cleared away, the federals found them much nearer. At this they were ordered to lie on the ground, and in this position began another heavy fire. The Confederates opened up a terrific fire at the same time and then began the repetition of the famous charge up the hill. Issuing from the dense smoke and mingled with the din and roar of the fight, could be heard the rebel yell as the Confederates wildly charged the Union line. A large number of spectators witnessed the fight, and as the charge was made they were seized with the excitement and ran nearer the soldiers to see the result. The volleys and rapid firing of the guns made a terrific din and could be hard for miles. The battle was a great success, and the Kentuckians were complimented on the excellent manner in which they executed the maneuvers. Maj. Helburn was in command of the federal forces, and Maj. Owens was in command of the Confederates…



Battle re-enactment at Snodgrass Hill.

Adjutant Otto Sues, with Grigsby's Cowboy Regiment later wrote: "All discharges are dated as of September 8, and the official date of muster-out is so designated, although but two troops were mustered out on that date, the others being mustered between that date and September 11… However, all the men who were on sick furlough at the time of muster-out were discharged and paid at a date subsequent to that mentioned above. The men began to leave for home almost as soon as mustered out, and the old familiar tune, "When Johnny Comes Marching Home," could be heard on every hand, emanating from every conceivable instrument and in vocal chorus. The boys were citizens once more and on their way back to the life that would require that their sabers be made into branding irons, mining tools or plowshares. The story of our days in camp would be incomplete should we fail to mention the many friendships that were formed and fraternal bonds that were forged in those days at Camp Thomas… Nor have we forgotten the many favors and the friendships for which we are indebted to the citizens of

Chattanooga. Coming among them as entire strangers, with a reputation as cowboys that did not commend itself to them, yet in less than one short month they were our very best friends. There was not a home in the entire city that was not open to the sick boys of Camp Thomas, and where the treatment received was as careful and painstaking as was ever received by any invalid in his own home. For these kindnesses and the hospitality you extended in true Southern style, to these boys from the Western plains, we thank you, citizens of Chattanooga, in behalf of our regiment, which is deeply conscious of the many favors for which they are in your debt. (Sues 50-52)



Soldiers at a Company Mess.

On September 12, one of the reporters from the *Chattanooga Times* went to Knoxville to visit Camp Poland where some of the men who had been at Chickamauga Park had been transferred. He found them complaining bitterly about the new location and wishing they were back at the park. Things were much quieter at Chickamauga. "The 2nd Kentucky and 9th New York spent their last Sunday at Chickamauga Park yesterday and another Sunday will find them at their homes and probably mustered out of the service. The great army camp at Chickamauga will then be no more. Yesterday was quiet, extremely so, there were no movements of troops and no excitement occurred to enliven the day. Not a breath of air stirred during the day; only a few straggling soldiers were about the lonely depot, and the trains from the city brought to the park mostly empty cars. After leaving Lytle it was a rare occurrence to see a soldier and the only noise to relieve the monotonous quiet was the chirping of birds or the low rumble of a distant wagon as it moved over the hard government roads.

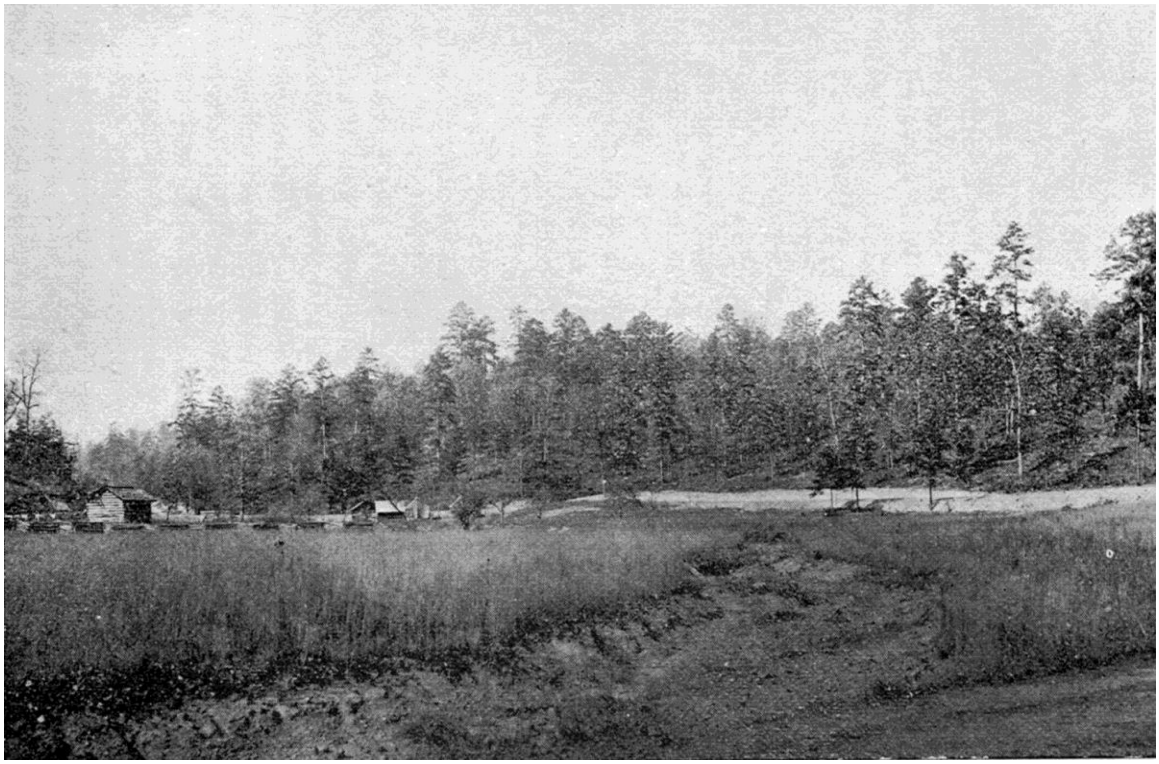


Lytle Midway.

"There was one incident that occurred about 12 o'clock, however, which is filled with interest, in that it marked the death and destruction of Chickamauga's famous 'Midway.' Shortly before 12, Gen. Breckinridge called Col. Cecil, his adjutant-general to his tent, and the two held a lengthy consultation. Immediately afterward, Col. Cecil drew up an order to which was affixed the signature of Gen. Breckinridge. The order was to the effect that the time had come for abolishing the 'Midway,' and Col. Whipple, the provost marshal was given the order, with instructions to see that it was immediately put into effect. The "Midway' was doomed. It had lived a fast life, but its time had now come. Col. Whipple at once visited Lytle to carry out his instructions, and just at the noon hour the famous 'Midway' expired without even a struggle. Col. Whipple was the executioner, and he did his work with coolness and efficiency. With one fatal stroke he had closed every fresh pie, lemonade, and milk shake stand on the thoroughfare and undisturbed quiet reigned the remainder of the day. The order was to allow no soldier to visit the Midway, and that settled the business. The sad hearted pie man will now be compelled to seek pastures new."

"Today," the *Chattanooga Times* stated on September 13, "Only two regiments are left in Chickamauga Park. They are the 9th New York and the 5th United States Vols., and by tonight the 9th will have taken its departure, leaving Col. Tyson's in charge of the park…

"Gen. Breckinridge is still patiently waiting for orders to move, but no such orders were received at headquarters yesterday, although it is the general opinion that they will be received no later than tomorrow night, as all the troops will the have departed with the exception of Col. Tyson's regiment…



Vittitoe House on the west side of the Park.

"One of Col. Tyson's provost guards had an exciting experience Sunday night with a couple of drunken soldiers who were found in one of the nasty blind tigers that infest the Midway, and which, in defiance of all law and order, kept open Sunday and Sunday night, notwithstanding the order of Gen. Breckinridge. The guard ordered the two soldiers out of the saloon. They refused and opened fire. The guard returned fire, wounding one of the men in the fleshy part of the leg. The two men were then arrested and put in the guard house.

"Another one of Col. Tyson's guards had a very unpleasant experience Sunday, also. He was on board the train coming into the city, and it was necessary for him to eject a boisterous Negro from one of the cars. Just as the train left the place where the Negro was put off, he hurled a large rock at the guard, striking him in the mouth, severely bruising him. The Negro then made good his escape…

"A *Times* reporter learned yesterday that the official report has been forwarded to the secretary of war showing the exact number of soldiers, regular and volunteer, that were encamped at Chickamauga Park from April 20 to the breaking up of the camp. The

report shows that 67,000 arrived in organizations; and 5,000 recruits, making a total of 72,000 regulars and volunteers at the park in the past five months…



Sternberg Hospital.

"Less than forty days ago, work was begun to built and equip Sternberg hospital to supply a crying demand for better accommodations and more careful treatment of the sick of this command who were daily increasing in numbers when I assumed command on Aug. 2. Maj. Giffin was put in charge of this hospital and it has been in that time an infinite comfort to the hundreds of sick that have been in its wards, and is now a model field hospital in every way. He deserves great praise and commendation for the work he has done. (signed) J. C. Breckinridge, Maj, Gen. Commanding."

"The reports issued from Leiter and Sternsberg hospitals yesterday show a most encouraging condition in reference to the sick in these hospitals. There were no deaths at either hospital during the day, and the patients are considered to be in very helpful condition. These two hospitals are in the most excellent condition in every respect, as shown by the rapid decrease in the death rates. All the patients, as soon as they are able to travel to their homes, are given furloughs and sent away from the hospital… Drs. Grigsby and Wilson, two surgeons from Col. Grigsby's Rough Riders, have been detailed to Sternberg and have assumed charge of their duties at that institution… Miss Moore and Miss Riley, two of the nurses at Sternberg, were sent to Boston last night, having become

ill while attending to their duties. The two nurses were in the charge of Miss Kornia, who will attend them during the trip to Boston."

"The great army of Chickamauga has passed into history," the *Chattanooga Times* reported on September 14. "The end came yesterday afternoon when the 9th New York departed for New York City, where it goes to be mustered out of the service. Col. Tyson's regiment is now the only one in the park. Gen. Breckinridge and staff will leave Chattanooga tonight for Knoxville. They will remain at Camp Poland tomorrow, and then proceed to Lexington, where the general will assume command of the First corps at that place…

"Only one incident of any special interest occurred during the day yesterday. When the boys broke camp, they marched to Gen. Breckinridge's headquarters in columns of four, headed by the band. When the headquarters was reached the three battalions closed ranks and formed in masse, facing the headquarters tents. The entire regiment then presented arms and remained in that position for several seconds. After the salute, Col. Green stepped forward, and in a brief speech thanked Gen. Breckinridge for the courteous manner in which he had treated his regiment and stated that the boys would always remember him with the kindest regards. Gen. Breckinridge responded with a few happy remarks, complimenting the regiment, which was enthusiastically received by the regiment."

"Gen. H. V. Boynton," the *Chattanooga Times* announced on September 15, "is now in command at Chickamauga Park and his first order will be promulgated today… The following is Gen. Boynton's order:

> Headquarters,
> Camp George H. Thomas, Ga.
> Sept. 15, 1898
> In obedience to orders from the secretary of war, the undersigned assumes command of Camp George H. Thomas.
> The order of the secretary of war promulgating regulations for the government of the Chickamauga and Chattanooga National Military Park, dated April 11 and Aug. 5, respectively, herewith transmitted, will be implicitly obeyed.
> The attention of all concerned is called to the circular of Gen. George Sternberg, Surgeon General of the U.S.A. of April 25th ultimo concerning the sanitation of camps. Its provisions will be strictly enforced.
> All trading within the limits of the National Chickamauga Park will close as of this date except such as will be deemed in the interest of the troops and the hospitals. The prohibition included the sale of soft drinks, and sales from wagons along the roads or within the grounds of the park, except as above provided.
> The provost marshal will make daily inspections of what is known as 'the Midway' adjoining the park, still partially in operation and still filthy. In case of present uncleanly conditions continuing about any place of business therein, or the offering for sale unwholesome food or drink, he will station guards with strict orders to allow no soldier or civilian employee of the camp to enter or trade at

such places of business until the provost marshal, after personal inspection, pronounces the place in proper sanitary condition, and the sale of objectionable articles abandoned.

In case any soldier is reported to his commanding officer as having been intoxicated in the streets of Chattanooga, no further permission to visit the city will be given that soldier.

All persons owning trading booths, or buildings of any character, except those occupied for purposes of the government, or convenience of the troops, are hereby required to remove the same and clear up the grounds on which they stand by Wednesday Sept. 21st instant. After that date such remains will be removed by the engineer of the park; and a list of those failing to put the grounds which they have occupied in good order will be recorded with the park commission and recommendations made to the secretary of war that in the future none of them be allowed to trade within the park.

The mounted provost guard will oblige all vehicles and wagons without permits except such as convey visitors, or are in the employ of the government, to confine themselves to the roads of the park.

H. V. Boynton
Brig. Gen, U.S. Vols. Commanding."

"Gen. Breckinridge, accompanied by his staff, left Chattanooga last night at 10 o'clock over the Southern railway for Knoxville and Lexington… The general stated to a Times reporter before his departure that he desired to thank the nurses in the different hospitals for their noble work in caring for and administrating to the sick soldiers. He said the soldiers themselves should be most grateful to these nurses for the kind and efficient manner in which they have been treated. Gen. Breckinridge has made himself most popular to the people of Chattanooga during his stay at the park as the commander of the army of Chickamauga and regret is expressed by the entire city over his departure. The general says, however, that Chattanooga has won, rather than lost him…



Major Walter Reed

"The Sanger hospital, located at Chickamauga Park is to be abolished and the patients transferred to Sternberg hospital. The order for this transfer was received at the park yesterday, and the change will be made at once. The Sanger hospital is one of the old division hospitals that has been improved, until it is now pronounced one of the neatest and most efficient hospitals to be found anywhere. It is probable that the transfer of patients to the Sternberg will begin this morning…

"The commission of distinguished surgeons sent out by the war department to investigate the conditions of the various army camps and who have spent several days at Chickamauga Park, left yesterday morning for Knoxville where they will examine

conditions at Camp Poland. The chairman of this board is Maj. Victor Vaughn, one of the most noted authorities on typhoid fever in the country, a professor in the medical department of the University of Michigan, and a man whose reputation as a physician and a surgeon extends all over the country. Maj. Shakespeare was sent by President Cleveland during his last term to visit Egypt, Asia, and investigate the cholera plagues, and Maj. [Walter] Reed is a distinguished surgeon of the regular army.

"Before leaving the city, Maj. Vaughn accorded an interview with a Times reporter. He declined to indicate the exact nature of the report that would he made on the affairs at Chickamauga in advance of its reception by the department, but he was frank in speaking of several things in which the people of this city are greatly interested. He said: 'We find that the blame for the greater part of the sickness among the soldiers at Chickamauga Park, rests upon some of the regiments who have bee encamped at the park in that regimental and company commanders failed to failed to enforce the necessary sanitary regulations, and as a result their camps were polluted with filth and necessarily became breeders of disease…



Nurses at the Sternberg Hospital.

"In view of the announcement that Secretary Alger is coming south to inspect the military camps, and is expected to be at Camp Thomas, President Brown, of the Chamber of Commerce will extend him an invitation to visit Chattanooga. Arrangements will be made for the proper entertainment of the head of the department and it is hoped to make his visit here one of pleasure as well as duty…

The paper published the following note from Gen. Brooke in San Juan, Porto Rico: "Gen. Brooke declines to be interviewed relative to the report censuring him for the unsanitary conditions at Camp Thomas. He intimates that he may make an official report later. 'I have not seen the report,' said Gen. Brooke, 'consequently, I am unable to reply to the aspirations cast upon me. When I left Chattanooga, on July 23, the camp was in an excellent sanitary condition, the sick reports showing less than 4 percent of the soldiers ailing. Since then, I have had nothing to do with that camp, and I am unacquainted with the conditions there. The location was not my selection.'"

On September 16 the *Chattanooga Times* published an interview with Dr. Charles F. Craig, a prominent surgeon of Connecticut, who was working at the Sternberg hospital. He stated: "The sickness which has been prevalent in the park is simply due to the improper manner in which the sanitary regulations have been enforced. The typhoid fever did not originate in the park but was brought here by the troops, and all of this talk

in reference to the original unhealthful-ness of Chickamauga Park is nonsense. There were two soldiers of my own personal knowledge who were suffering with typhoid fever when they arrived at the park, one of them having a temperature of 103 and the other 104. Many cases were brought here by the different regiments… The water here could not have been infected with typhoid fever germs before the troops arrived here, as it is necessary for the water to be contaminated with the dejects of a typhoid patient before it becomes infected…

"Secretary of War Alger, who intends to visit and make an inspection of all the military camps in the United States, is expected to arrive at Chickamauga Park the latter part of next week…

"The restoration and sanitation of Camp Thomas, is progressing rapidly. One hundred men and all necessary teams, are at work under the direction of Engineer E. E. Betts. Gen. Boynton and Mr. Betts, after a careful examination of the entire park, find that wherever the sink and kitchen receptacles were properly cared for, and finally filled when the troops withdrew, that the sanitary conditions were so good as to require little work beyond a liberal surface use of un-slaked lime. For all open sinks and kitchen receptacles, all of which were left in flagrant disobedience to orders the treatment has been first by fire and next by lime in liberal quantities, next by fresh earth, and lastly by a covering of lime. Wherever needed, chloride of lime and crude carbolic acid have been used. The amount of lime used reaches six barrels each of the largest sink. The medical department is furnishing the disinfectants and no limit is placed upon the quantities. While a large force has been attending to this branch of the work, other gangs have been engaged in gathering and firing all loose refuse throughout the camps. Everything of this nature is being consumed as soon as it is sufficiently dry. After caring for the sanitary conditions, as the feature of the work of first importance, the force of workmen will next fill in all the camp ditches, and restore the surface to its former state. The ground will then be harrowed, covered with fertilizer, and left to the action of the fall and winter rains. Grass seeds, by the feeding of stock, has been sowed in every section of the park, and it is expected that next spring will find it in excellent grass conditions, and more beautiful than ever. The rectification of the roads will come next. The examination of these shows, that because of the excellent construction, they have worn wonderfully well under the tremendous haulage over them. The cutting out of the large number of trees destroyed by allowing animals to bruise them, in gross disobedience of the orders both Gen. Brooke and Gen. Breckinridge, will be the last branch of Park restoration."

"Major R. Emmett Giffen," stated the *Chattanooga Times* on September 18, "who has been in charge of Sternberg hospital since it was instituted, one of the most distinguished and best equipped scientists in the army, a bacteriologists, hygienic expert, and physician of national reputation says: 'In my opinion Chickamauga Park is one of the healthiest locations in the entire country, that probably could have been chosen for a great military encampment. I have been here for some time now, and I have come to the conclusion that a no more desirable place could have been found anywhere. The drainage here is good, the lay of the land excellent, the climate mild and desirable, being just what is needed by the troops, and there is not the slightest question in my mind but

that Chickamauga Park was originally healthy. Why should it be otherwise? All the conditions here are conducive to good health, and the troops, which have been encamped here, would certainly have enjoyed good health if the proper care and precautions had been taken to preserve health. There has been a good deal of sickness here, and the blame for it has been placed by those who do not know, on Chickamauga Park. This is neither right nor just. Special investigations have been made and the results of these investigations are known to the public. The blame has been placed where it belongs. From the results of my investigation of the park, I can express the entire situation in the following sentence. The sickness at Chickamauga Park has been caused by the improper and negligent manner in which the military regulations, recommended by the army surgeons, have been enforced. That is the situation in a nutshell…

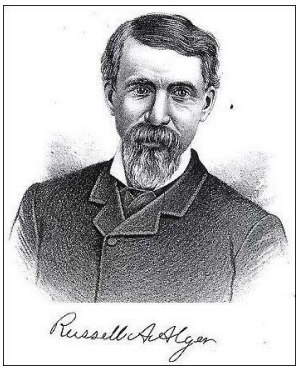
"The coming of Secretary of War Alger will be made an event in Chattanooga. All arrangements are being made for the distinguished head of the war department."

On September 21 the *Chattanooga Times* published an interview with Major F. P. Robinson, the chief surgeon of Colonel Tyson's regiment at Chickamauga Park. Major Robison stated: "From my observations and experiences since I have been here, I have come to the conclusion and entertain no other opinion but that Chickamauga Park is healthy, and no more desirable locality could have been selected in the United States on which to camp 50,000 or 60,000 troops… as to the water in the park, of which there has been such a howl made by the troops, all I have to say is that I have never hesitated to drink any of the water, whether it were distilled, filtered, or just from the wells and springs. I have been in the Park since the 31st of July and have never yet been sick in spite of the fact that I have drunk the water from every different source in the camp. There has been a looseness in the manner in which the health of the soldiers has been looked after, and as a result the different hospitals here have been taxed to their fullest capacity with sick men. Another cause of the sickness has been the change in the mode of living of the soldiers. The volunteers were used to comfortable beds and well cooked food and the change from this to army life would produce sickness in any camp no matter where it was located. Typhoid fever among the soldiers did not originate in the park… The soldiers at Camp Thomas have been permitted to eat and drink vile stuff, which is calculated to produce sickness at any time and in any place. This should have been prohibited, and I think that if it had been, the sick list of the camp would not have been so large. These are, in my opinion, the facts of the case, and the sickness at Chickamauga Park should not be charged to the location."

This issue of the paper printed the following letter that a woman had written to the New York Sun:

> "My husband is an officer in the army who was stationed all summer in Chattanooga, and I have had an opportunity to see much of the sickness and suffering among the soldiers of Camp Thomas. As a constant reader of the Sun it would be a satisfaction to see in your columns a tribute to the noble hearted women of Chattanooga, who with untiring energy ministered to the convalescing soldiers. Under the management of the Women's Christian Temperance Union,

they opened a reading room called 'The Soldier's Rest' where the men could sit, read or write. Owing to urgent circumstances afterward, it became a temporary hospital where scores of convalescent men, waiting for trains at the station, and too weak to do for themselves, were carried and received every attention at the hands of these kind hearted women. Regardless of the intense heat, they visited the city and camp hospitals every day, carrying milk, soup, flowers, fans, and bandages. At their own expense they often hired carriages and ambulances to take the sick to and from the stations. All hospital trains passing through were visited by them, never empty handed, and many a sorrowing mother they have cared for till she could get off with the dead body of her son. At first these women worked entirely along, giving from their own pockets, but gradually the public came to recognize the importance of the work they were doing, and food, clothes, flowers, and money came in from all quarters. I can testify to having witnessed personally the unselfish goodness of these women, and feel that their kind deeds deserve recognition beyond Chattanooga."



"Gen. R. A. Alger, Secretary of War, Gen. Geo. N. Sternberg, surgeon general of the United States, and Gen. M. L. Ludington, quartermaster general of the army, will be the honored guests of the citizens of Chattanooga at a public reception to be held at the Auditorium this evening. Gen. Alger has signified his acceptance to the invitation extended to be present at the reception tonight on behalf of himself and the other members of his official party."

On September 22, the *Chattanooga Times* devoted the front page of the paper to a detailed description of the appearance of Secretary of War Russell A. Alger to Chattanooga. The Secretary of War, accompanied by General George N. Sternberg, surgeon general of the United States, and General M. L. Ludington, quartermaster general of the army, were met at the depot by a delegation that included General H. V. Boynton and escorted to the Auditorium. "It was within a few seconds to 9:30 o'clock when Gen. Alger was assisted from the carriage by Gen. Boynton and Capt. Chamberlain in front of the Auditorium. The other carriages arrived in rapid succession and by 9:30 the entire party was in the building. When the crowd caught sight of the distinguished visitors there occurred one of the most enthusiastic demonstrations ever witnessed in the Auditorium. The ladies and children made equally as much noise as the male portion of the audience. Everybody, it seems, arose from their seats and wildly waved hats, handkerchiefs, umbrellas, canes, and flags while the distinguished visitors were being seated upon the rostrum. The band played 'The Star Spangled Banner' and it is needless to say that this added fuel to the demonstration, which reached its height when the notes of 'Dixie' were taken up…

"About 9:30 Mayor Watkins advanced to the front of the rostrum: 'We have come tonight,' he said, 'to greet some officials, who have come in the line of their duties to visit Chattanooga. They have been engaged actively and vigorously in the discharge of their duties at Knoxville today and are careworn with the travels of the day. First,

however, I desire to introduce Gen. H. V. Boynton, whom you are all acquainted with and who needs no introduction to the people of Chattanooga who will make a short address.

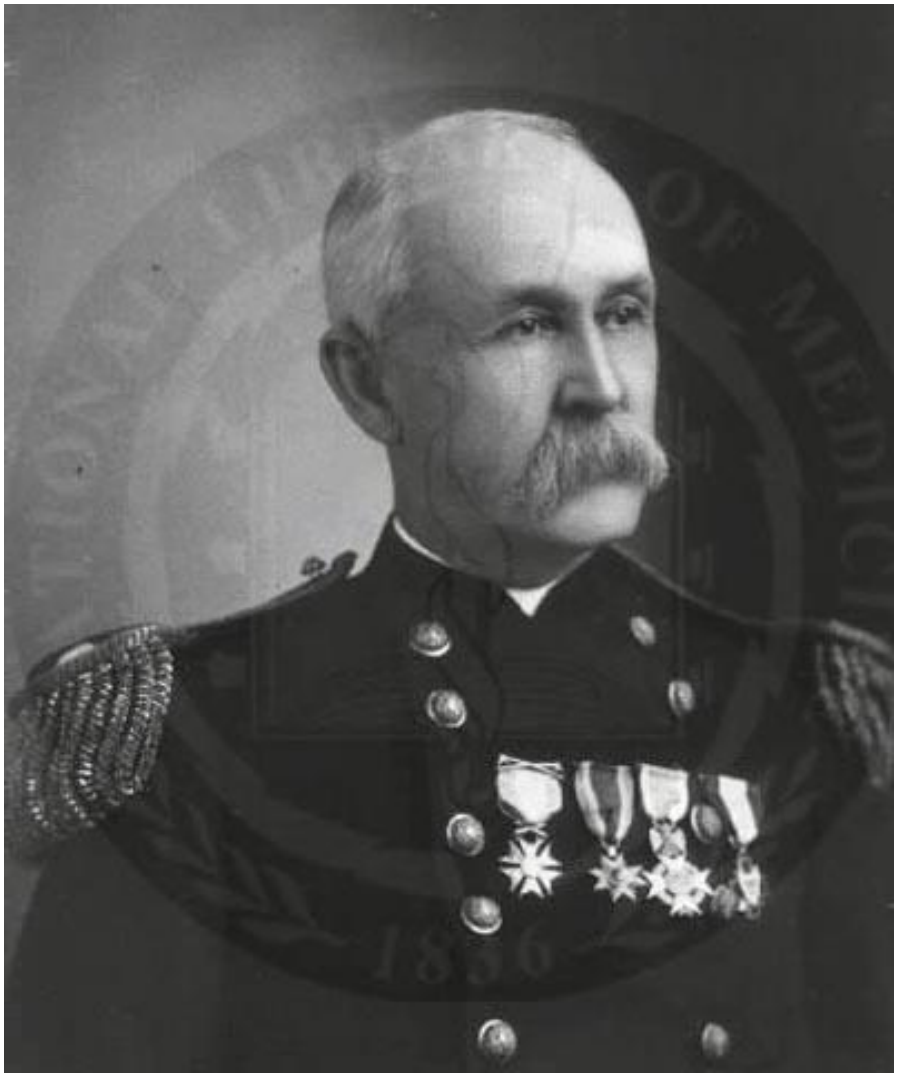
"Gen. Boynton was vociferously applauded as he advanced to the front of the platform, standing on the left of Gen. Ludington. 'My Chattanooga friends,' he began, 'although this is the first notification and intimation to me that I was to speak it gives me immense pleasure to stand here and introduce, if he needs to be, the right arm of President McKinley through the late war. You have heard and been amazed and indignant, as I was, of the false cry of the sensational press of the country, concerning the treatment of the army. I say to you that judgment directed by the secretary of war, the surgeon general and the quartermaster general of the army, has undoubtedly accomplished the great results of this war. Each and every one of you know that this is true, I want to say to you one and all, the secretary of war, the surgeon general and the quartermaster general worked faithfully day and night—not under the eight hours a day law—to the extent of mans ability to do everything possible for the ability, treatment, and comfort of the army. It is useless and unnecessary for me to repeat in various forms what has been done. The accomplishments have been marvelous. Here sits before you the right arm of President McKinley, a man why can talk to you better than I on these subjects. I know that President McKinley shares these views I have expressed to you tonight.



Secretary of War Russell A. Alger.

"The demonstration that took place when the Secretary advanced to the front of the platform was equally as enthusiastic as that which marked his arrival at the building. Gen. Alger was attired in a close fitting Prince Albert coat, gray trousers with a white duck vest. His voice was strong and clear, and although he spoke in a moderate tone, his words were distinctly audible throughout the building. During the most of the time he was speaking, he kept his hands about halfway into his trouser pockets, and seldom made gestures. Gen. Alger spoke as follows: 'Mr. Mayor and fellow citizens—I am glad I can say fellow citizens in Dixie (applause). When I came upon this stage tonight, the band struck up Dixie [and] I said 'it is all the same to me—Dixie or Yankee Doodle. (applause) I am very grateful to you for your cordial greeting. Our train being two hours late, I thought it would be impossible for us to get here before you went to your homes, but I like a stayer. I am not going to repeat the history of the past four months; neither burden you with the story of what it requires to gather an army of 250,000 men together without a tent to shelter them; we were without any transportation, such as mules and wagons, ambulances, and with a thousand and one things; articles that run into millions,

to provide for the army in such a short space of time—such a task as this may make the strongest weak. That we have accomplished so much we should be grateful. But, thank God, the conflict is past. Lives have been sacrificed, but many of the old fellows here have seen more men die on the battlefield in one day than during this entire war. But this is no reason why we do not regret the losses. That some mistakes have been made, I admit; but that everything was done by the medical department, by the commissary department and by the quartermaster's department, I affirm. Now, you good people of Chattanooga—the place to which I always love to come, and where I always receive a cordial welcome—I only hope that you may have that prosperity to which your geographic position and natural resources entitle you. I hope that your prosperity may be in its morning: that place is always prosperous where its people are industrious, economical and loyal' (Great Applause). At the conclusion of Gen. Alger's remarks the audience again cheered him enthusiastically. After the general had started toward his seat, he turned, and facing the audience, said jocularly that he hoped 'that they would call out quartermaster general, as he was a very modest man and not accustomed to talking.'"



Surgeon General George N. Sternberg

Surgeon General Sternberg then made a few remarks: "Fellow citizens—This war has been full of surprises to me and one of them seems to be in facing this audience… Another surprise is to find what a bad man I have been made by the newspapers throughout the country… All that I can say in conclusion is that we have done our very best. We have done everything possible in our power to care for our soldiers in the field, and especially the sick ones…

"The distinguished officials will leave for Chickamauga Park at 9:30 this morning in their private car where the day will be spent at Camp Thomas. A thorough inspection of the Lieter and Sternberg hospitals will be made…

Dr. Giffen, the man in charge of the Sternberg hospital, provided the secretary of war with detailed report outlining the history of the hospital and also containing his extensive testing of all sources of water at Chickamauga Park. His testing found that all the water sources were pure except in cases in which there had been contamination form improper sanitation at the camps.

On September 23, the *Chattanooga Times* reported on the visit by the Secretary of War and his party to Camp Thomas: "On account of a heavy rain, which was falling when the party reached the famous Lytle station, they went first to the Leiter hospital, formerly the Park Hotel, but which was purchased and presented to the government at the opening of the big camp by Mrs. Leiter of Chicago. Major Carter, a regular army officer was found in charge. News that Secretary Alger would visit the hospital sometime during the day had been received, but the nurses and everyone connected with the hospital were surprised at the early appearance of the general and his party.



Nurses at Leiter Hospital.

"Gen. Alger was cordially received by Maj. Carter, as was also every member of the party. Gen. Alger passed through the hospital from one ward to another until he had shaken the hand of every sick soldier, and had spoken some word or praise. As the general passed down the long rows of cots in the hospital, a smile came over the faces of the poor unfortunates, many of whom are in the last stages of disease… His presence seemed to do them good, and as one of the boys who was convalescing said: 'It makes us feel that we are not forgotten by the world when the head of the nation's great war department comes to see how we are getting along. This visit will go a long war toward making us feel that our sacrifices, our willingness to serve our county, is not entirely forgotten, even though we were not able to do any fighting.' Gen. Alger inquired of each and every one of the sick as to whether they had received the proper treatment during their illness, and the men were all loud in their praise of the work of Maj. Carter.

The secretary himself was pleased with the institution, and said: 'It is a model hospital,' and Gen, Sternberg thought the same.

"Once more boarding their sleeper, the distinguished party returned to Lytle station where they were met by Col. Tyson's 6th U.S. Vols., the only regiment at Camp Thomas, who made a fine appearance and gave the secretary an object lesson of the healthfulness of the park… After the reviews, Gen. Alger conversed with Col. Tyson, complimenting his regiment on his excellent work. The boys did their best and presented a pretty and very creditable appearance. Their work would do credit to a regiment of regulars, much more to a volunteer regiment recruited only a few months ago, and with little practice in drill work.

"From here Gens. Alger and Sternberg, accompanied by Maj. R. Emmett Giffen and Gen H. V. Boynton, rode over to the new Sternberg hospital, arriving there shortly before the noon hour, and spend some time inspecting the various wards. Gen. Alger was shown through the hospital from end to end, visiting the special diet kitchens and all.



Maj. Giffen and Nurses at Sternberg Hospital.

"There are 357 patients at the Sternberg hospital, according to the official account, and Gen. Alger, as he had done at the Leiter hospital, grasped the hand of every man on a cot. Gen. Alger talked to the men and did not hear one complaint as the inspection was conducted. Maj. Giffen, who was along with the general, several times said: 'Now if you have not been treated well, or have failed to receive anything you have needed, tell Gen. Alger.' Instead of complaining, nothing was heard but praise for those in charge of the institution and the kind and considerate treatment received at the hands of Maj. Giffen and assistants and the Red Cross nurses. The men, with one accord, declared that they had received the best treatment possible and wanted for nothing… Both secretary Alger and Gen. Sternberg were loud in their praise of the hospital and complimented Maj. Giffen in unstinted terms. To the times reporter, Gen. Sternberg, head of the medical department said: 'Maj. Giffen is a young man, but knows his business. That is one of the best laid out and best equipped hospitals I have ever seen,' and to this secretary Alger assented with, 'Yes, it is.'"

"The secretary, owing to the inclement weather, did not visit all the camp sites in the park, but obtained a good idea of the situation from the point of view on Snodgrass Hill, from which the location of the camps could easily be pointed out…

"The secretary did not care to speak of the barracks which has been proposed to erect at Chickamauga. From one of the other gentlemen in the party it was learned that the officials had been seriously considering the project. One of them said to a *Times* man: 'I think there is little doubt about the placing of a post at Chickamauga, as it seems to be the general idea of the department headquarters that a permanent post will be located here.' He stated that it would take a little time now that it was the intention of the department to have the park thoroughly cleaned before any more troops were sent here to go into either permanent or temporary quarters."



The last day at Camp Thomas.

AFTERWARD

The health problems at Camp Thomas were probably investigated to a greater extent than any other, with the work being carried out by the best people available in the army in 1898. A number of conclusions can be stated. The ground water, the springs and the creek were subjected to numerous tests, and proved to have been completely uncontaminated before the arrival of the army at the Park. Men who had been infected in their state camps before coming south to Camp Thomas, brought typhoid fever, the greatest cause of death in the camps. In many cases, the regimental surgeons were unable to diagnose the problem and in all cases there were no attempts to quarantine those infected from the healthy soldiers.

Another problem stemmed from the fact that sanitary conditions at Camp Thomas were extremely unfavorable. Proper latrines were hard to dig in the heavy clay soil that, lying atop a layer of bedrock, held water “like a barrel.” The company sinks consisted of shallow open pits, which were dug a few feet behind each of the crude company kitchens. All the refuse and waste from the men was dumped in these unenclosed pits, which became literally open cesspools. Flies multiplied wildly and the stench could be smelled miles away. In addition, the refuse from thousands of horses and mules also piled up in areas where they were kept.

When General Brooke was ordered to take his army to Puerto Rico, they left in a great hurry. As the volunteers departed they left their campsites in disarray, with kitchen receptacles and overflowing sinks full of garbage, refuse, and excrement. Animal corrals were left un-cleaned. Trash was thrown over the ground without constraint. Sewage from some camp facilities was drained into Chickamauga Creek. The presence of so much litter attracted millions of flies, causing “great annoyance to man and beast,” and evidently contributing to the spread of typhoid fever.

The rains that began at Chickamauga at the end of June lasted for two weeks, causing sinks to overflow and contaminating water sources. A medical officer familiar with the situation stated that he believed the camp's water supply was polluted by the end of July. Typhoid patients sometimes lost control of their bowels and soiled their bedding or the floor by their beds. In July, an epidemic of typhoid fever struck the camp. As the typhoid epidemic spread, it placed an ever greater burden on the medical staff at Chickamauga. In addition to typhoid fever, malaria soon made its appearance at the camp.

The improved sanitation measures introduced by General Breckinridge, together with the excellent care provided by the Leiter and Sternberg hospitals, largely brought the health problems into check. Nevertheless, during the time of the epidemic 425 soldiers died at Camp Thomas, more than were killed in combat during the four months' war with Spain. Following the war an investigation determined that over 750 soldiers had died at Camp Thomas. Many others soldiers lived the rest of their lives with other complications

caused by the typhoid fever. In spite of this, the memories of Camp Thomas were not all bad.

Camp Thomas closed, but the memories lingered on. Many of the thousands of men who were stationed at Camp Thomas remembered, for the rest of their lives, this as the happiest time they had ever known. Several later moved to live in the Chattanooga area. The business and political leaders of Chattanooga remembered the economic assets that the military camp provided, and continued to lobby for a permanent military base in the area.

At the national level, Camp Thomas and the Spanish American War did much to heal the scars and bitterness that had been left by the American Civil War and reconstruction. The men from the north and the south once again, much as they had before the civil war, lived and worked closely together, and in so doing found that they had much in common and once more friendships developed. In 1898 the Spanish-American War allowed the South to demonstrate its loyalty and honor under fire. In the wars wake, and amid a national resurgence of racism that rendered reconciliation among whites easier, most Northerners joined in the celebration of the Confederate soldiers. Robert E. Lee became a national hero, and Blue-Gray reunions demonstrated the North's respect for its former foes. The photograph below, depicting Cuba as a little child in broken chains acting to reunite a Federal and Confederate soldier beneath the national flag, was widely circulated in both the north and south.



The sentiments were also well expressed by the following popular song:

DIXIE & YANKEE DOODLE

Lawrence Porcher Hext

I was born 'way down in "Dixie,"
Reared beneath the southern skies,
And they didn't have to teach me
Every "Yankee" to despise.

I was but a country youngster
When I donned a suit of gray,
When I shouldered my old musket,
And marched forth the "Yanks" to slay.

Four long years I fought and suffered;
"Dixie" was my battle-cry;
"Dixie" always and forever,
Down in "Dixie" let me die.

And to-night I'm down in "Dixie;"
"Dixie" still so great and true;
But to-night I am appareled
In a uniform of blue.

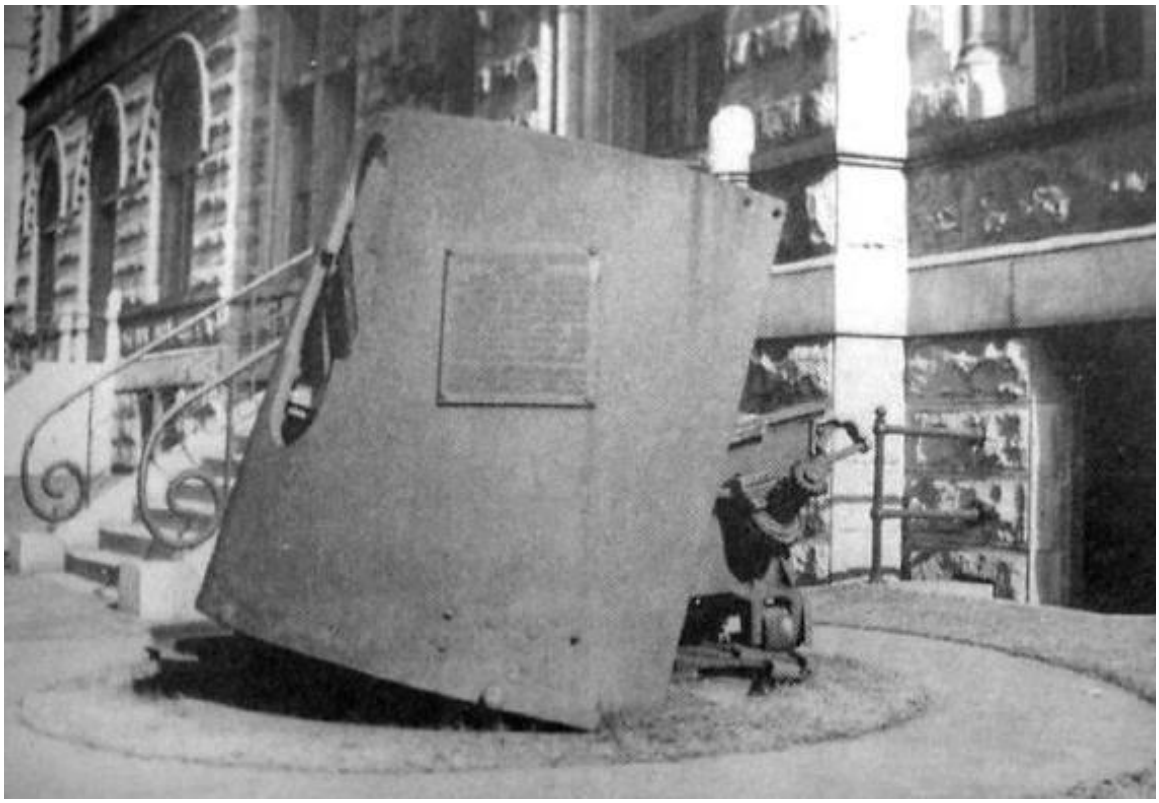
And to-night the band is playing;
'Tis not "Dixie's" strains I hear,
But the strains of "Yankee Doodle"
Ringing out strong and sweet and clear.

Long I listened to the music;
By my side a comrade stands;
He's a "Yank" and I'm a "Rebel,"
But we grasp each others' hands.

Here together we united
'Way down South in "Dixie" stand,
And my comrade whispers softly,
There's no land like "Dixie's land."

But my eyes are filled with tear-drops,
Tears that make my heart feel glad,
And I whisper to my comrade:
"Yankee Doodle ain't so bad."

Several hundred local men had served with the 3rd Tennessee Volunteer Infantry Regiment at Camp Thomas. After the war, they joined with other veterans of the war to form the James Perry Fyffe Camp of the United Spanish American War Veterans in Chattanooga. This group had enough influence that in 1912 when the battleship Maine was salvaged in Havana harbor, they were able to receive a gun mount and shield from the ship as a gift from the U. S. Navy. For many years, this unique relic of the war was displayed at the Customs House [present city hall] in Chattanooga. A plaque on the side of the item read: "Gun Mount and Shield from the Battleship Maine was thrown overboard by the force of the explosion when the Maine was blown up in Havana Harbor February 1898. It was recovered after the removal of the Maine from the harbor in 1912. Gift from the U. S. Navy to the James Perry Fyffe Camp No. 14 of the United Spanish American War Veterans."



Gun Mount from the Battleship Maine.

When the soldiers were gone from Camp Thomas, General Boynton continued his work at rehabilitation of the park. He reported in the December 1898 issue of *Army and Navy Journal* that his work on resurfacing the roads and removing dead timber continued into the winter. In 1899 the Park Commission gave permission for local civilians to salvage lumber from remaining unused military buildings. More work by park laborers went to replace historical markers broken during the occupation. In all, more than $25,000 was spent refurbishing the battlefields after the Spanish-American War. Park Engineer Betts later wrote: "If the orders [for cleaning up the camp] . . . had been enforced the Government would have saved over $10,000 subsequently expended in

cleaning up regimental camps, and the park force an immense amount of most disagreeable work which did not fall within the sphere of their duties." Nevertheless, General Boynton was pleased to report that the military occupation resulted in no permanent damage. In fact, General Boynton was so successful in his restoration of the park that recent examinations of the area proved that virtually no traces of Camp Thomas remain on the grounds of the park. Nevertheless, many people continued to think in terms of a military base at the park.

The extensive use of the park as Camp Thomas by the regular army and the great volunteer army of state regiments during the Spanish-American War marked the start of a long, active military presence in the park over the next fifty years. The leaders of Chattanooga continued to lobby and almost immediately after the war there were calls for the establishment of a permanent post there. A bill was introduced in Congress in 1899, calling for the establishment of a permanent military base at Chickamauga. This attempt, however, failed, possibly because of the continuing concerns over healthful conditions at the park. In the meantime the quartermaster storehouses erected there continued to be used as a field-supply station while the general cleanup of the park proceeded.

The matter of a military post was revived in 1901 when preliminary examinations of several sites by the war department were made in a plan to establish "permanent camp grounds for the instruction of troops of the Regular Army and National Guard…" In February, 1902, an Army board recommended that a site "in the vicinity of Chickamauga Park, Georgia" be selected. During this period the park served as a field camp for units of the Seventh Cavalry and Third Artillery, as well as a transient assembly point for troops arriving home from overseas. It should be noted that sickness was not a problem with any of these units while at the park.

In 1902, however, legislation passed Congress authorizing the purchase of some 813 acres outside the northeast corner of the park for a regiment-sized cavalry post. As the military presence grew it caused some concerns for park personnel; cavalry horses occasionally stampeded, posing a "menace to visitors," and target practice by the troops also proved dangerous. Yet the Commission, seeing the accrual of obvious financial benefits from having a military post adjacent to it, actively promoted further enlargement of the park to facilitate artillery and small-arms firing ranges. Construction lasted throughout 1903 and 1904, and in December, 1904, the post was dedicated as Fort Oglethorpe, in honor of Edward Oglethorpe, the founder of the colony of Georgia and its first governor.

Today the basic function of the Park appears to be the interpretation of the Battle of Chickamauga during the American Civil War. It is hoped that future uses will also include some commemoration of the great Spanish American War facility that was Camp Thomas.

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