

DESCRIPTIONS OF  
ARMY LIFE IN THE  
PHILIPPINES

BY JAMES R. MEVICKER

Prologue:

This series of documents contain the contents of a scrapbook created by James Rufus McVicker (JRM) (1876-1963) during his term of Army duty in the Philippines Islands.

James R. McVicker agreed to act as a war correspondent, initially for the Ottumwa Courier newspaper and later for other publications.

The books contain all, or most, of the newspaper clippings and notes, which JRM submitted, in addition to other newspaper articles relating to the Spanish American War and beyond.

In addition there are articles relating to his West Point experience as well as his political and vocational careers.

The actual pages are faded, yellowed and extremely fragile. Scanning the contents would have been difficult to accomplish, while maintaining the integrity of the document.

I decided to photograph the pages, as best I could, using a digital camera on a tripod. Some of the pages may be difficult to read without zooming in to small sections. This dictated using a high-resolution image, resulting in a larger file size than I would have desired.

To Whom Concerned:—

In a signed protest by Messrs. K. E. Willcockson, W. C. Gambell, T. C. Legoe, J. P. Talley and John Baty, exception is taken to the present use of their letters given to me in 1906 commending my administration as Clerk of the District Court. I have their letters each signed by their individual signatures. They are general letters, given for general use to me at my request, and showing expressed approval of my administration. I have too high an opinion of the character of these gentlemen to think that any one of them would give a recommendation which he did not sincerely intend for the use and purpose therein expressed. Each of these was given for the sole purpose of commending my administration of that office wheresoever and whosoever they would benefit me, in my opinion. Each of the writers so understood. They were not requested nor solicited for use solely outside Keokuk County and among strangers. And each of the writers so understood, and the letters so reveal it, each being general and to whom concerned. At that time I had no project of going outside the County, for which I asked letters, nor did I ask letters for that purpose, but solely for the purpose of showing that my administration as Clerk had been successful as the parties were pleased to say orally, and they gladly wrote said letters at my request, without condition.

I am re-printing the letters today, and invite their inspection. Their purpose is to show the success of my administration. The dates were printed with them on May 18th. No stretch of the imagination should induce anyone to think that the readers of these letters would consider them indorsements of my candidacy for County Attorney. They speak for themselves.

I am not wishing to conduct a campaign of misrepresentation. I am seeking election to the office of County Attorney solely on my merits and qualifications and without reference to any one's else candidacy. I have never sought to obtain votes by any tales, stories, roorbacks, or misrepresentations or by any means other than that of my being well qualified, fit and able, and of good moral character. For which purposes it is now perfectly permissible and it is the frank and fair thing to do to come out with all my endorsements in political advertising. Some of these letters were written by men in other parts of Iowa, each let-

ter is set forth with the date thereof, and I would not and did not intend that any one should be deceived thereby. Nor do I see now how any one could be. It may honestly be a question in the minds of these gentlemen as to whether I should have used their letters. But I had no hesitancy, nothing of their wish to the contrary having ever been conveyed to me. They are such letters as to be usable for general purposes, and so they have been. I regret that any misunderstanding has occurred.

Very respectfully,  
J. R. McVicker.

NEWS - 6-1-1916  
**THE KEOK**  
**POLITICAL ANNOUNCEMENTS**  
—o—  
**For County Attorney.**  
Subject to the decision of the Republican electors at the June 1916 Primary Election, I am a candidate for the nomination for the Office of County Attorney of Keokuk County, and I request that my candidacy receive the earnest consideration of Republican voters.  
4mo JAMES R. McVICKER.

(ADVERTISEMENT) <sup>NEWS</sup> 6-1-16

To Whom it May Concern.

In the Keokuk County News of date May 18th, 1916, Mr. J. R. McVicker one of the Republican candidates caused to be published several letters of recommendations among which were those purporting to have been given by the undersigned.

These letters were given in 1906 nearly if not quite ten years ago, and about the time when McVicker was closing his term as Clerk of the Court, and as an inducing cause he stated that his intention was to leave the county to procure employment and he desired the letters to show his standing in Keokuk County, at that time he was not a lawyer, or an open candidate for office, and he did not then or at any time since, ask permission to publish these letters to further his candidacy, and if he had done so, those of us who are now living would have refused, for the reason that we have no desire to enter into the contest now being waged between him and Hugo Goeldner for the nomination of County Attorney.

The letters given ten years ago are such letters as would have been given by us to any good Citizen who was leaving the county and intended going among strangers, but under no circumstances is it good taste nor does it exhibit a spirit of fairness to use them as political documents to further political aims and ambitions, and that is especially so when consent was not given to publish, for the letters when published, place the givers thereof in the position of endorsing McVicker's candidacy, which we have no desire at this time to do.

We understand that McVicker claims that as the letters were given to him they are his, and he has the right to do with them as he pleases, and as to that claim of his, by parity of reasoning, a hostler in a livery barn could procure letters, stating that he was honest, efficient, industrious and faithful, and ten years thereafter use them to obtain a position as a cashier of a National Bank.

Personally we have no desire to injure in the least any candidates chances for any office which he seeks, but we do strenuously object to the ten year old letters given by us being used as a means to further any candidates selfish ambition for any office.

K. E. Willcockson  
J. P. Talley  
John Baty  
W. C. Gambell  
T. C. Lego.

**A COWARDLY ATTACK.**

The following editorial appeared in last week's issue of the Siguorney Review :

Candidate McVicker is around over the country trying to convince the people that they should vote for him. We understand that he puts up the plea that he is sadly in need of this office and that the people should come to his rescue and give him the coveted place. That's a pretty good plea and it may win some votes; but let us look at this record and see how deserving this young man is. A number of years ago this young man was sent to West Point to school. That is an institution from which some of our greatest men have come. There a young man can secure an education without money and is practically assured of a good position upon graduation. This young man staid a year or less, came home and never went back. Why? What better opportunity has any man ever had? General Grant as a poor boy went through that institution, graduated at the foot of his class, and later on you know his record. For the past two years Mr. McVicker has sought a nomination and an election to the clerk's office. Two years ago he went out to get the nomination away from Mr. Barrett. He failed in that, but has kept persistently at it. He has taught some school with variable success, and has worked some in a print shop and corresponded some for the Ottumwa Courier. We give these facts because of the methods used of campaigning. Mr. McVicker is entitled to what he can get as a man asking the position on merit and qualification. He is not entitled to anything on any other grounds. Most young men with the opportunity and help that has come to this boy would be in such a position that he would not accept a county office.

We understand that Candidate McVicker in his desperation to get votes is promising the deputyship to democrats for support. Democrats will not be led into such a trap. If McVicker ever has a deputy to appoint we wager it will not go outside the family.

This is a fair sample of this mud-dauber's work. It is a fair example of a form of campaigning entirely out of vogue in intelligent American communities. The matter is not only abusive but purposely misleading in every particular. It is the act of a coward to taunt a man with his poverty and to hold up to ridicule his efforts to earn an honest living. It is not only disreputable politics but it is indecent and inhuman to try to degrade and belittle a man in the eyes of his fellow-creatures for political purposes.

Rufus McVicker is a poor boy, the son of poor parents. What money he has earned has gone into his home and his education. The above article says, "He has taught some school, has worked some in a print shop and corresponded for the Ottumwa Courier." This is true. And it is also true that THE NEWS has known him to hold down the three jobs at one and the same time. He has walked out into the country, taught school all day, walked back to town and took his place at the case and set type far into the night, and at some time during the day or night got up a good bunch of items for the Courier. The money he made, and altogether he made a fair salary, for the greater part, went for the household needs and for comforts for his sick mother, who was bed ridden for years. That's the way he worked; that's why he didn't go back to West Point and make a General Grant out of himself. But right here we would like to say he is not unlike the "silent man," for he kept his own counsel and until now has asked for favors at the hand of no man, and now but asks a fair consideration and honorable treatment.

McVicker was not "sent to West Point to school," but went there because he won a cadetship through merit in a competitive examination. Siguorney citizens and our people over the county know of the circumstances. McVicker entered in the spring of '96, and returned in '97 to his home, and declined a re-appointment in favor of Emory Pike. Cadet McVicker was recommended by the Academic Board of the school for re-appointment, notified by the Adjutant-General of the army that he would be re-admitted without examination, and could have returned and graduated with several of his classmates similarly re-appointed. He wanted to do so with his whole heart, but sacrificed this ambition for the sake of aged parents and brother and sister in school. He went to work at printing, teaching and anything to make an honest dollar, and paid off mortgages on the home and other debts.

He was not altogether selfish. He could not

leave a sick mother, an aged father with no support but his brother, a lad then in school. So he stayed at home and worked, and we have told you how he worked. That's the way he was frittering away his opportunities. That is the kind of a hair-pin we are asking you to vote for.

McVicker has gone before our people all over this county and frankly stated his case, and leaves it to a fair decision, after their consideration. He is thoroughly competent for the office of clerk of the district court. He has worked his way through school and college, acquitted himself honorably and creditably everywhere, and has a right to a hearing on account of downright ability. The clerkship means a great deal to him, and he will fill that office in a manner that means just as much to its patrons and the public.

Rufus McVicker has everywhere he has taught given excellent satisfaction as a teacher. To give this part of the above article the lie any voter need but inquire in any school district where he has been.

THE NEWS has spoken of his loyalty as an employee, and our readers know of his ability as a writer. All over this county his correspondence to this paper has been read by our subscribers. As to his Ottumwa Courier correspondence, that paper said, some years ago, editorially: "The Courier correspondent with the Fifty-first Iowa is James R. McVicker. He has furnished the Courier with many a readable letter since the regiment first went into camp at San Francisco. He is endowed with a keen sense of observation and a splendid style, as Courier readers are well aware. No better, no more complete, no more interesting, no more instructive descriptive article of Manila and its strange scenes and sights and people has been written by anybody than that penned by Mr. McVicker and printed in Wednesday's Courier."

McVicker earned about \$100 as a paid correspondent for the Ottumwa Courier while in the army. It is no discredit to him that this money, together with most of his pay as a soldier, went to the support of his folks at home.

McVicker did not contest Mr. Barrett's re-nomination; he simply investigated for himself, and in deference to the will of many Republican friends supported Mr. Barrett for his second term, waited his two years like a man, and asked for what he wanted and got it from Mr. Barrett's friends and his own and the whole Republican party in the county convention. He deserves great credit for his clean and honorable method of campaign, and all over the county the people are cordial toward him and speak in terms of praise.

As for promising or offering the deputyship. THE NEWS is in a position to know that no promises or pledges of any nature have been made regarding the deputyship, nor will any be given until after the election. Then, if successful, James R. McVicker, our candidate for clerk, may be depended upon to secure a thoroughly competent and reliable deputy and to give a good, clean, capable and vigorous administration in the clerk's office.

Keokuk County News  
April 12, 1923

## Arden will

### PASSING OF A PIONEER

Norvel Wilson McVicker was born September 8th, 1827, near Morgantown, West Virginia, and died at his late home in Sigourney, Iowa, on April 2nd, 1923, at the age of 95 years, 6 months and 25 days. He was the youngest of a family of twelve children of Joseph McVicker and Mary Prudence McVicker. His grandfather, Captain Duncan McVicker came from Scotland to New Jersey in 1757 and fought through the Revolutionary War and was with Washington at Valley Forge.

When N. W. McVicker was a child of six years, his mother passed away. At the age of twelve he left Virginia upon his own resources and travelled over into Ohio. Thenceforth he followed the westward course of the pioneers, and lived successively in Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, and Iowa.

He was married in 1847 to Mary Bryant at New Castle, Indiana. They moved to Urbana Illinois, where they made their home until his wife died in 1857. To them were born three children; Margaret Lucinda Bevard who died in Holton, Kansas, in 1910; John Henry McVicker who died near Holton, Kansas in 1895; and Elizabeth Jane Morrison, now living in Kansas City, Kansas. In 1858 he was again married at Urbana, Illinois to Mrs. Isabel (Henderson) Rowe, who, until her death in 1874, made a home for his three children above named, and her daughter, by former marriage, Anna Elizabeth Groves, now living at Independence Missouri. To this union were born two children: Mary Frances Hamlin, now living at Leavenworth, Kansas; Cornelia Middleton who died at Topeka, Kansas, in 1919. On September 8th, 1875, he was united in marriage to Margaret Emma Hill, at Muscatine, Ia. They made their home at Wilton Junction, Iowa, until 1888, and subsequently at Sigourney, Iowa, until her death on February 18th, 1899. To this union were born four children: James R. McVicker of Belle Plaine, Iowa; Mabey A. Brolliar of Sigourney, Iowa; Harry S. McVicker of Sigourney, Iowa; Maude H. Wheeler of Davenport Iowa; all of whom were present at his last illness and decease. Surviving him are the grand children of his last marriage: Ruth and James

H Brolliar; Bernadine, Mildred, Thomas, Benjamin and Patricia McVicker; Mabel and Norvel Wheeler; also many other grand children and several great grand-children, and a number of great-great grand children.

Although oftentimes afflicted with physical illness in recent years, his mental faculties remained unimpaired. Throughout the long days of his last years at his home with his son, Harry McVicker, he remained patient and uncomplaining to the last. Despite his fortitude the toll of the years gradually diminished his vitality and he passed away as a result of a brief but severe attack of bronchial and lung affliction.

"With charity for all and malice toward none" he lived the simple life of the pioneers. Good deeds to all formed the principle of his living. He especially loved all of his children of the later and also of the earlier years. He oftentimes suffered griefs in the bereavements of loved ones who passed beyond, but took up the tangled threads at where he could put his toil-worn hands, and did his best in good cheer and lovable contentment. He was sustained by unfaltering trust in the goodness and mercy of his Creator, and had no fears for the ultimate journey across the last river. His faith was simple and secure. He knew of Him in whom he placed his trust, and nightly petitioned Him for the blessings he desired.

In his earliest years in Muscatine county he was a member of the church. In the spring of 1901 he went forward to the altar at the Methodist Church in Sigourney, Iowa, and as a result of the meetings conducted by Evangelist Howe, he united in membership with the Methodist Episcopal church. He revered and loved his Creator and he also loved his fellow men. He often said "Live and let live." He was a kind and solicitous father, the sole surviving parent of his several children for the last twenty-four years of his life. His children rise up and call him blessed his neighbors extend a tribute of sincere praise, and his friends are many, all along the long trail from Morgantown, West Virginia, which he left as a little boy to fight the battles of life as one of the pioneers of the Westward course, throughout the journey to his late home in Sigourney, Iowa.

Back in his poor, worn tenament of clay  
Would you have his free, dauntless spirit to stay?  
Earth is the resting place, but Heaven is our Home—

And the journey is ended—and, father, we come.

### Card of Thanks

Our heartfelt appreciation and sincere thanks are extended to all our kind hearted neighbors and friends, who, in so many kind ways showed to us their sympathy in our bereavement of our father, and all of their kindness is gratefully acknowledged.  
The Family of N. W. McVicker.

# THOUSANDS OF FRIENDS WILL MOURN DEATH

## Memory of Gifted and Loyal Iowan Will Be Revered for Years Through Great Service to State

In the passing of Dr. Charles Schaeffer Grant at his home at 229 South Summit street shortly after 2 o'clock on Friday afternoon, Iowa City loses one of its most beloved physicians and the state one of its most loyal and devoted citizens. Death was due to septic poisoning following an illness of several weeks.

Dr. Grant was born at Ithaca Tompkins county, New York, on July 6, 1872, and was the son of Chauncey Lewis and Martha Schuyler Grant, members of old and prominent families of the Empire state. He came to Iowa City when a young man to enter the University of Iowa, of which his uncle, Dr. Charles Ashmead Schaeffer was president. Dr. Grant worked part time in Dr. Emil L. Boerner's pharmacy while in school in the college of pharmacy and full time during the period between his graduation from the college of pharmacy and entrance into the college of medicine. Dr. Boerner, at the time was dean of the college of pharmacy. It was always a source of pride to Dr. Grant that in later years he became the family physician for Dr. Boerner, the first man for whom he had worked in Iowa City.

### Years of Great Service

After his graduation from the University of Iowa, Dr. Grant practiced his profession at Badger, near Fort Dodge, Iowa, and at Riverside Washington county, before permanently locating in Iowa City.

Dr. Grant's distinguished service to his city, state and nation, was always characterized by a high sense of integrity and sincere devotion to duty that were always sources of commendation to those who knew most of the faithful performance of any duty entrusted to him. He has given valuable

service to Iowa City as a member of the city council, the board of education and in many other of the community's activities; he has given the state permanent benefits through his many years as a member of the Iowa state board of health, and of which he served for many years as president, through his membership in the Iowa state board of medical examiners for many years, and as a member of the University of Iowa faculty as instructor in pediatrics and medicine.

In the war with Spain, Dr. Grant was first lieutenant and assistant surgeon, and in recognition of his service in those positions he was later advanced to major and surgeon in the 50th regiment, Iowa volunteer infantry. After the Spanish-American war, he was major and surgeon in the Iowa National Guard for a number of years. He rendered capable and conscientious service to the United States government during the World war as secretary of the draft board for the southern district of Iowa.

### Leaves Host of Friends

Dr. Grant's friends were numbered by the thousand, and everybody who knew him will experience a keen sense of personal sorrow in his passing. Skilled in his profession as physician and surgeon, he was equally outstanding as a citizen of rare personal charm. Of broad sympathies and understanding, and gifted with a fine sense of consideration and kindness, he possessed a disposition that will be remembered forever by patients as well as other friends and associates alike, in terms of endearment and affection. Children and elderly people, especially loved him for his uniform sympathetic tenderness, and everybody admired him not only for ability and character but always and in all circumstances for the true gentleman that he was. His love of home and family, as rich in tender devotion as it was known to all, was but the natural consequence of a life so full of such admirable qualities that its influence for good will remain as an inspiration for many years to come.

### Missed In Many Circles

Dr. Grant will be especially missed, not only in the medical associations with which he was affiliated, but in the Beta Theta Pi and the Phi Rho Sigma fraternities, the Iowa City Rotary club, in all of which he was a valued member, and Trinity Protestant Episcopal

church of this city of which he was an official and in all the other various associations and organizations with which he was connected.

Dr. Grant is survived by his wife, who was formerly Miss Marie Wilhelmina Slater, of Iowa City, with whom he was united in marriage on April 18, 1900; by two daughters, Miss Martha Schuyler Grant, of Alliance, Ohio, and Mrs. Jack Funk, of Evanston, Illinois; and by two brothers, Mr. Eugene S. Grant, of the Dodge Manufacturing corporation of Mishawaka, Indiana and Lt. Col. Walter S. Grant, United States army, stationed at the Army War college, at Washington, D. C.

Funeral services are to be held on Sunday afternoon at 3 o'clock at Trinity Episcopal church. Interment will be made in Oakland cemetery.

# SOLDIER LIFE AT CAMP M'KINLEY.

NEWS- 5-19-98

From a Regular Keokuk County News Correspondent.

Des Moines, Iowa, May 15.—As one of Keokuk county's soldiers of Camp McKinley, I will venture to supply a few brief items for your columns that may be interesting to many of your readers.

This is the third Sunday of the camp and although the grounds were not nearly so well thronged with visitors as on the two previous Sundays, there were several thousands of people here this afternoon. Among the Sigourney people here to-day I met Harley Heaton, Frank North and Lon Smithart and wife. To-day I also met Mr. Schilling of Chariton who is a relative of our Sigourney people of that name. He said that he was born and raised in Sigourney, but left there some ten years ago. Mr. Schilling is a News subscriber and is quite interested in his old Sigourney acquaintances. He is located on a nice farm six miles northwest of Chariton.

Clint Shean called on me at the camp this afternoon. I have had a very pleasant talk with my old school-mate Clint. He has a fine position in this city with a large department store. Clint has the business ability in him to succeed wherever he goes.

Sigourney has three representatives in camp at present. Clarence Heaton is a member of the Vinton company "G" of the First regiment. Roy Brown and I belong to the Oskaloosa company. Roy and I like soldiering the best kind so far. We intend to "Remember the Maine," and to assist in "to hell with Spain" to the best of our abilities.

Last Sunday I accidentally met John Pope and wife who were here on the excursion. It does one good to suddenly met old acquaintances and friends among so large a crowd of strangers. Earl Neas was also here last Sunday. I saw him and shook hands with him.

To-day was a kind of a special day for the Second Regiment, Iowa National Guard. It is well understood that they are to leave the camp for the front next Tuesday, their first destination to be New Orleans or Chickamauga. In the morning a farewell service was held on the grounds conducted by Chaplain Thos. E. Green D. D., of

satisfaction of assisting in the defeat of Spain but should get a trip around the world besides.

It is somewhat surprising to find many persons here with whom one is acquainted. I found three ex-West Pointers, one of whom was a classmate of mine who left the Military Academy on the same day I took my leave of the institution. This man is a sergeant of Co. "A" Des Moines and has good prospects of obtaining the captaincy of his company.

The routine here is not at all severe. Reveille at six o'clock a. m.; guard mounting at eight o'clock; one drill in the forenoon and one in the afternoon; dress parade about 5:30 p. m. The drills are mostly on the open order and skirmish line. The men are uniformly, fairly well drilled. They are of the cream of Iowa's young men, and are well officered.

Brown and I belong to Co. "F," 3rd Regiment of Oskaloosa. It is composed of a splendid lot of boys, and has a very fine reputation. The people of Oskaloosa should be proud of it. When it leaves Des Moines, it will be presented with \$500.00 in cash as a special token of the good will of the people of Iowa. The men are well known for their politeness, and respect toward strangers and ladies, a reputation which cannot be specially claimed by all Iowa companies. Hon. John F. Lacey specially commends Co. "F," and would do all in his power to advance its interests. It is not necessary to say that the "boys in blue" have a profound regard for Congressman Lacey. We are all proud of Co. "F."

Attorney W. H. Keating of Oskaloosa is our captain. He is considerate of the interests of his men, and while enforcing good discipline, commands their greatest respect. Lieutenant Point of Oskaloosa holds the first lieutenantcy. Having served in the regular army, he is a thoroughly efficient officer. Colonel Loper of Des Moines commands the Third regiment.

I wish all of my Sigourney friends the very best of health and happiness. I would very much like to correspond with each one separately, but they will readily realize the

Orleans or Chickamauga. In the morning a farewell service was held on the grounds conducted by Chaplain Thos. E. Green D. D., of the Episcopal church. Dr. Green's words were very impressive. There were numerous visitors at the quarters of the boys of the Second. They will soon bid an indefinite good-bye to the soil of Iowa. This regiment will be known as the 50th Iowa Regiment U. S. Volunteers, Colonel D. V. Jackson commanding.

Nearly all the boys are anxious to move to the front. It is all conjecture as to where Iowa troops will be sent. We hope that our regiment may be so fortunate as to be sent to the Philippines. In that event we should not only have the

the very best of health and happiness. I would very much like to correspond with each one separately, but they will readily realize the difficulty a soldier has in writing many letters. If they would care to write, it would afford great joy. Nothing is more welcome to the boys in camp than the letters from home and friends. I wish all my friends would write me, even if I should be forced to waive replies. I also will speak for Brown. Always address us with the company and regimental designation. Very truly,  
JAMES R. McVICKER,  
Co. F, Third Regiment, I. N. G.

[Mr. McVicker will act as regular war correspondent.—Ed.]



## SOLDIER LIFE AT CAMP M'KINLEY.

From a Regular Keokuk County News Correspondent.

DES MOINES, May 22, 1898.

Co. "F" 3d Regiment, Camp McKinley. The changeable weather of the past week has wrought its attendant discomforts upon the "boys in blue." It is quite unpleasant to drill upon damp ground, and to march on muddy roads. We are not complaining over these facts however. It is the duty of the soldier to act his part no matter what the conditions. He should never view his surroundings as uncongenial, but should do the best he can.

Roy C. Brown, of company "E" 51st Iowa volunteers, went home for over Sunday on leave of absence.

J. Clark Wright, of Keota, is one of "our boys." Mr. Wright spent Sunday at home on leave of absence.

The physical examining board has been steadily at work the last ten days. After the Second regiment had been examined the Fourth was taken up and completed. Then came the Third regiment. Seventeen men were rejected out of Co. "F" by Dr. Newgarden, the United States Army Surgeon. All these men had previously been passed by Dr. Barringer, of Oskaloosa. About half of the men rejected were re-examined by the state board, convened for the purpose of inquiring into the probable efficiency of the defective men. Some of them were reinstated. Those who were finally rejected took their unwelcome fate sorely to heart at first, and were very sorry to be severed from their comrades. It seems somewhat a sad lot for them after they have spent these weeks in camp in anticipation of going to the front, but they may be proud of having offered themselves for the service of their country, even if it is found that they are not needed. So many good men have responded to the call of the president that the government feels justified in being more discretionary in the selection of able bodied men than in the past.

The past week has been one of bustling preparation for the Second Regiment. The completion of organization and distribution of equipments, rations, supplies and wages, has necessitated the greatest activity in every department. The men were all in the best of spirits and

health all week.

On Friday the well-projected "Living Flag" was presented. This was in honor of the departing Second Regiment. A solidly based scaffolding had been built for the purpose, and on this fifteen hundred Des Moines school children dressed in red, white and blue were arranged so as to make a very creditable resemblance to the National emblem. As the soldiers marched by they brought their pieces to a salute to the flag. The applause of the enthusiastic children were very pleasant, and were repeated and echoed as the battalions of the four regiments passed in review. The Cuban flag was to have been similarly presented as was the Stars and Stripes but a very heavy shower prevented.

Very appropriately, the Second regiment was presented with a beautifully finished standard of the National flag by a delegation of old soldiers. The flag bears the words: "Fiftieth Iowa Volunteers." To the presentation speech, Colonel D. V. Jackson responded in a soldierly address.

Saturday morning the Fiftieth Regiment Iowa Volunteers took their departure for Tampa, Florida. The three battalions of the regiment went over different roads. In this regiment are the companies from Davenport, Muscatine, Washington, Fairfield, Grinnell, Tipton, Ottumwa, Keokuk and points of the southwestern part of the state.

The men of the Third regiment were marched to the Rock Island railway station as an escort to the Second battalion. The Third regiment band played military pieces as it led the way. When the troops arrived near the station, the escorting regiment was drawn up in military array and stood at "present arms" while the departing battalion marched by. As the regiment had been divided in three parts, leaving by different routes, and as the heavy rains had made the grounds very muddy—these combined with the early hour—and other reasons, kept away the throng of spectators. The men marched away watched by but few aside from their comrades. However, it was a very

impressive scene. While the band was playing in low, sweet strains, the men were marching slowly into the station. Their comrades were standing in the mud outside in the order of the military salute for the occasion. The clouds had been dark and lowering all morning, but suddenly the sun burst forth in all his splendor. The gilded dome and tower of the Capital building reflected the rays and shone resplendently in the distant west. Then, to add to the beauty of the impressive occasion, a bright rainbow appeared in the west, encircling Iowa's Capital building. Thus was the solemn occasion rendered poetic by the intermingling of Art and Nature. The whole regiment departed and is now far on its way to the south.

The grounds are again thronged with an immense crowd of visitors today. The Third regiment band is discoursing its finest efforts in an afternoon concert. Dress parade will occur at five o'clock.

We are no longer the "Iowa National Guard." We are now the Fiftieth, Fifty-first, Fifty-second and Fifty-third regiments of Iowa volunteers. The regiments have received their designations following the volunteer Infantry regiments of the Civil War, as Governor Shaw wishes to give the veteran regiments their district places in history.

The remaining three regiments will probably be ordered to Chickamauga at first. Afterward we can't tell where. We hope the Philippines will come our way.

JAMES R. McVICKER.

Below we give a list of committees appointed by the G. A. R. Post to make arrangement for Decoration Day exercises:

PROGRAM—J. T. Parker, W. H. Needham and E. J. Pike.

MARK GRAVES—J. T. Parker and E. B. Keer.

CONFERENCE—E. J. Pike, A. Stranahan, Levi Neas, Ben Morgan and J. S. Pennell. [This committee will meet at court room with W. R. C., Saturday, May 28th, at 2 p. m. to fix decorations.

DECORATIONS IN PARK—S. T. Parker with the assistance of the Post.  
SEATS—A. Stranahan.

\* \* \*

All parties having flowers for decorating are requested to bring them

# SOLDIER LIFE AT CAMP M'KINLEY.

NEWS  
6-2-98

From a Regular Keokuk County News Correspondent.

DES MOINES, May 29, 1898.  
Co. "F," 51st Regiment, Camp McKinley.—The fifth week of Camp McKinley is almost finished and half of Iowa's quota under the first call have departed for the front. Yesterday the Fifty-second Regiment of Iowa United States Volunteers left Des Moines on their way to the South. The regiment is under the command of Colonel Humphrey. Their first destination is Chickamauga. The departing regiment was accorded the military honors by the remaining regiments. The first battalion was escorted to the railway by the Fifty-first Regiment. As the train bearing this battalion passed slowly by the soldier boys within were greeted by cheer upon cheer from their comrades of the Fifty-first. The other battalions departed each by a different route.

Two regiments, the Forty-ninth and Fifty-first, now compose the strength of the camp. By next week it is probable that both will have left for their separate destinations.

Many indications are now that the Fifty-first Regiment will be sent to the Philippine Islands. The Fifty-first will be mustered into the United States service to-morrow. The oath will be administered to each company organization by Captain Olmstead of the United States

Mathews; assistant surgeons, Donald Macrae, Dr. Fairchild; regimental adjutant, J. T. Davidson; battalion adjutants, Geo. A. Reed, Frank M. Compton and Herbert C. Lane; quartermaster, John D. Cady; chaplain, Herman P. Williams.

Colonel Loper has been a prominent druggist of Des Moines. He is a very able officer, commanding in appearance and manner. He deservedly popular with his men, and it is unnecessary to say that they have the utmost confidence in his ability to command them upon the field of battle. One needs but to look at the rugged frame of Colonel Loper to see the military bearing of a soldier and officer.

One of the most military officers in the brigade is Major J. T. Davidson of Muscatine. Major Davidson has acted in the capacity of camp (or brigade) adjutant the past few weeks, and has now been commissioned as regimental adjutant of the First-first Regiment. The major transacted his duties with ability and dispatch and is a decidedly competent officer.

The officers of the Fifty-first are for the most part experienced commanders, men of conspicuous ability and the regiment is consequently fortunate. Captain Gibson, who commands Co. "A" of Des Moines, was a classmate of the writer at West Point.

## THOMAS A. EDISON

Is a great man through his own efforts. He has become so through watching the hours and utilizing each one as it has come. If you, too, would succeed, watch them also and there is nothing that will help you do so better than an Elgine watch. I carry all the different grades. The prices are lower than you pay elsewhere. Call and I will prove it.

Everything up-to-date

W. I. McLEAN, Jr.

South Side.

United States Army. He is therefore a well disciplined soldier, well qualified to be an officer.

Lieutenant E. W. Hearne is a graduate of the Iowa Wesleyan University. He is a leader of the Iowa Y. M. C. A. and for a long time has been the editor of the state Y. M. C. A. paper at Oskaloosa. He is a type of the highest manhood, and has a cool, calculating head. He is very popular throughout the state.

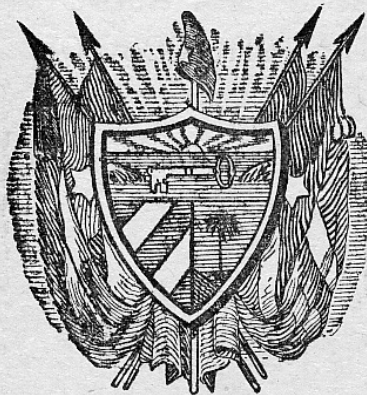
Roy C. Brown served his first tour of guard duty Friday. He did well, Roy has readily picked up the principles of drill, and can be seen in the front rank of the company among the tallest men in almost all formations. He has the bearing of a well drilled soldier and cannot be taken for a new recruit.

Keokuk county may claim other representatives. Roy Coats has been in the employ of Casper Reinert at Richland until recently when he joined our company.

J. E. Shakespeare is a brother of our Delta friend, who is in the drug business.

B. O. Thompson is a brother of T. T. Thompson, a former Lancaster minister, and of B. G. Thompson, formerly of the Review staff.

When next we write we shall have said "farewell" to Camp McKinley and to Iowa on whose kindly ground we have spent so many of the years of hope and promise that loomed up in the future like the beautiful capitol building with its marble columns and gilded domes



THE CUBAN ARMS AND SOUVENIR MEDAL

Regular Army. Tuesday, clothing and equipments will be issued, by all expectation. It is confidently

The organization of Co. "F" from Oskaloosa is as follows: Captain, W. H. Keating; first lieutenant, W. S.

expected that the Fifty-first will start on Union Pacific tourist sleepers for San Francisco on Wednesday. So as THE NEWS goes to press we shall probably be whirling over Iowa toward the distant west. Many of the boys have made flying trips to their homes the past week—their last good-bye before starting to the far field of action. The boys are jubilant over the indicated good fortune of our regiment.

The following are the companies of the Fifty-first Regiment:

- A and H, Des Moines,
- B, Villisca,
- C, Glenwood,
- D, Knoxville,
- E, Shenandoah,
- F, Oskaloosa,
- G, Creston,
- I, Bedford,
- K, Corning,
- L, Council Bluffs,
- M, Red Oak,

The regimental officers are: Colonel, John C. Loper; lieutenant colonel, Marcellus Miller; majors, John T. Hume, Sterling P. Moore; Wm. J. Duggan; surgeon, W. S. H.

Point; second lieutenant, E. W. Hearne; first sergeant, H. A. Sessions; quartermaster sergeant, Fred A. Noore; sergeants, Kissick Dutton; Elsworth Beeson; corporals, Jordan, Bray, Spencer, Reid, McVicker, Fritch; musicians, Carlon, Martin; artificer, Kinney; wagoner, Carter; privates, Bass, Beale, Blackburn, Brown, Beman, Campbell, Coats, Cowman, Conger, Drevlinst, Evans, Fisher, Gander, Gibson, Godfrey, Graham, Grenawalt, Hagler, Hearne, Herrington, Hicks, Higgly, Hubbell, Hutchison, Johnson, Kelly, Lambert, McElroy, McGumphey, Orvis, Parker, Peterson, Randall, Roark, Ross, Shakespeare, Smith, Stiles, Stone, Thompson, West, White, Whitsell, Williams, Wright, Whittaker.

Our captain is one of Oskaloosa's attorneys. He has the respect and esteem of his men. He is a thorough, efficient officer and will make an able commander in time of danger.

Lieutenant Point secured valuable training in a three years term of service as an enlisted man in the

overlooked by the site of this camp, hopes and ambitions inspiring us with the magnificence and extent of opportunities in this land of freedom, under whose glorious banner we are willing followers to whatever destiny the fortune of war may subject us. JAMES R. McVICKER.



CONSUL GENERAL FITZ-HUGH LEE.

Fitz-Hugh Lee, the able consul general of the United States at Havana, is a grandson of "Light Horse Harry" Lee and a nephew of General Robert E. Lee. He is 63 years old and was a gallant soldier on the Confederate side during the war. In 1885 he was governor of Virginia. His course at Havana has been pleasing to men of all political parties.

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**Scrapbook provided Courtesy of Dean Norman**

***Compiled by James B. McVicker***

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