

# PENNSYLVANIA THIRTEENTH

Vol. 1.

CAMP TENNALLY, D. C., DECEMBER 7, 1861.

No. 5.

## THE FLAG OF OUR UNION.

BY GEORGE P. MORRIS.

"A song for our banner?"—The watch-word recall

Which gave the Republic her station:  
"United we stand—divided we fall!"

It made and preserves us a nation!  
The union of lakes—the union of lands—

The union of States none can sever—  
The union of hearts—the union of hands—

And the Flag of the Union for ever  
And ever!

The Flag of our Union for ever.

What God in his mercy and wisdom designed,

And armed with his weapons of thunder,

Not all the earth's despots and factions combined

Have the power to conquer or sunder!  
The union of lakes—the union of lands—

The union of States none can sever—  
The union of hearts—the union of hands—

And the Flag of the Union for ever  
And ever!

The Flag of our Union for ever.

Oh keep that flag flying!—The pride of the van!

To all other nations display it!  
The ladies for union are all to a—man!

But not to the man who'd betray it.  
Then the union of lakes—the union of lands—

The union of States none can sever—  
The union of hearts—the union of hands—

And the Flag of the Union for ever  
And ever!

The Flag of our Union for ever.

Commuted—Shortly after our arrival at Camp Sprague, a raw recruit, who found the restrictions of camp life rather irksome, applied to his captain for a pass to visit Washington on urgent business. "What for?" said the officer, as he dipped his pen in the inkstand—or rather bottle. "I want to see the President," was the answer. "What the deuce do you want to see him for?" "Well, captain, I want to get my sentence commuted to imprisonment for life," was the answer, which procured him a pass for forty-eight hours.

—Since then, the soldier alluded to has become so well satisfied with life in camp, that he openly expresses the opinion that the Garden of Eden was a myth, and that, instead of being in Paradise, Adam was a high private in the U. S. army—in some Pennsylvania Regiment, and stationed at Great Falls, Md.

The Shooting of a Rebellious Private—  
The following army order has been promulgated:

Headquarters, Army of the Potomac,  
Washington, Nov. 29, 1861.

General Orders, No. 49.

1. The attention of the Major General commanding has been directed in an especial manner, to the report of Brigadier General E. D. Keys, transmitting the narratives of eye-witnesses of the circumstances of the shooting of Private Thomas O'Rourke, Company D, 13th Pennsylvania volunteers, by Captain W. C. Enright, commanding Company D, and officer of the day, at Cantonment Rowley, near the Great Falls of the Potomac, on the 6th of November, 1861.

The shooting of Private O'Rourke resulted in his death; and Captain Enright, for his own vindication, has asked for a court of inquiry.

After a careful perusal of the narratives of Lieutenant W. S. Day, Company A; Assistant Surgeon Morrison, First Sergeant Coleman, Company D; Corporal Andrew Way, Company A, and Private Edward O'Leary, Company D—all of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania volunteers—taken before Captain J. Heron Foster, also of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania volunteers, commanding at the place, the major general commanding is satisfied that the shooting of Private O'Rourke by Captain Enright was justifiable as an act of self defense, as well as necessary for the enforcement of strict discipline.

From the narratives taken and signed in presence of Captain Foster, it appears that Captain Enright was officer of the day and at Cantonment Rowley on the 6th November, 1861; that he detected in a house within the lines a quantity of whisky, and ordered it to be seized; that while this was doing, the deceased and another very disorderly private of the same regiment offered violence and used threats against Captain Enright, in their efforts to obtain some of the whisky, in which last one of them succeeded, not-

withstanding the exertions of the officer of the day; that he ordered these men to be arrested by the guard, and that deceased, drawing his bayonet and using the foulest and most profane language, resisted the arrest; that, finally, he was rather persuaded than compelled to sheath his bayonet and be taken, with his companion, to the guardhouse; that he and his comrade continued to revile Captain Enright and threaten violence and revenge; and that he directed them to be tied, though with mistaken lenity he caused this to be so loosely done, for fear of hurting them, that they succeeded in disengaging themselves; that they continued their railing and their threats, and were again, and more securely tied, by order of the officer of the guard; that they contrived, by means of a large knife, which deceased had secreted in his sleeve, to cut the cords with which they were thus tied, and that then O'Rourke, brandishing the knife, and, together with his comrade, threatening to take revenge on all who were concerned in confining him, defied arrest; that the guard, though ordered to rearrest him, were backward, and did not obey the order; that upon Sergeant Coleman attempting to prevail on the deceased to lay aside the weapon and yield to arrest, he assaulted him fiercely with the knife, making several cuts at him, that Captain Enright, coming up and ordering deceased to give up his knife, was grossly reviled, threatened, and taunted by him, Captain Enright presented a pistol, warning deceased of the consequences of persistence, and approaching him, again ordered him to give up the knife; that Sergeant Coleman, at this juncture, stepped between them, and requested deceased to give up his knife, to which deceased replied with a cut which grazed Coleman's person, and caused him to jump back, and that deceased had again raised his arm in act to strike, when Captain Enright fired with fatal effect. It would thus appear that there was left to the officer of the day, in the execution of his office, the choice of retreating before the assault of a mutinous soldier of his own company, or of putting him to death. To have retreated might not have been possible or safe, but it would certainly have been very prejudicial to good order and military discipline. In adopting the alternative of dealing summarily with the offender, Captain Enright simply discharged his duty. His conduct was not only justifiable but meritorious.

If there was a conflict in the narratives of the witnesses, a court of inquiry would be ordered; but officers, non-commissioned officers and privates all concur so remarkably that any further investigation seems unnecessary.

2. The major general commanding cannot speak in the same terms of commendation of the conduct of the guard on this occasion. The insubordinate and mutin-

ous behavior of the deceased and his comrade was, so long as he remained at large and unpunished, a disgrace to the regiment. It was especially disgraceful to the guard who had charge of the camp that day. The guard had orders to arrest these mutinous men; but through a most unbecoming and unsoldierlike backwardness, these orders were not obeyed. The natural and necessary consequences ensued. If they had done their duty with energy and promptitude, the officer of the day would not have been obliged to shoot down the deceased in order to vindicate military discipline. The blood of O'Rourke is on the heads of those who shrank from their duty when ordered to arrest him.

By command of Major General M'Clellan.

S. Williams, Ass't. Adj't. General.  
Official: Rich'd. B. Lewis, Aid-de-Camp.

---

### PENNSYLVANIA THIRTEENTH.

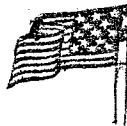
Published by the 13th Regt. Pa. Volunteers.

Printed by Pittsburg Dispatch Mess, Co. A.

---

CAMP TENNALLY, DEC. 7, 1861.

---



"If any one attempts to pull down the American flag, shoot him dead!"—The sentiment of every True American.

---

An excellent poem—the "Flag of Our Union Forever!" by George P. Morris, whose works comprise many choice contributions to the poesy of America, will be found in our issue of today. Altho not written specially for the present crisis, it breathes a pure spirit of patriotism, and is admirably adapted for the times.

---

It is probable Gen. Peck's Brigade will be retained at Tennallytown, D. C., for several months. The location is one of importance to the government, commanding the northern approach to the Capitol. Fort Pennsylvania, a strong earthwork, at this point, is occupied by Co. M, 13th P. V., who have been drilled as artillerymen.

---

Lieut. Chas. R. Sterling of the Sixty-Second New York Volunteers, has been appointed Acting Aid-de-Camp to General Peck.

---

OUR PICTURE GALLERY.



A SOLDIER'S DREAM.

---

(Great Falls Correspondence.)

Cantonment Rowley, Great Falls, Montgomery Co., Md., Dec. 9.—Since our arrival here on the 6th inst., things have remained in statu quo, save a few forays in the immediate vicinity, which I propose to officially report for the Thirteenth. Agreeably to orders from Commandant, a squad was detailed for the purpose of a special reconnaissance, on the 7th, resulting in the capture of sundry kegs of "rotgut" government blankets, and other articles contraband.

The principal enemy which our small force have to contend with being "red eye" double-distilled, it was deemed prudent by the commanding officer to make a descent upon a well known house kept by a clean, tidy and highly virtuous lady by the name of Mrs. O'Riley, who claims to be a lineal descendant of that celebrated king (that ought to be) O'Brien, of the "swate land of buttermilk and praties," and says that her father and mither were honest, dacent people in the oid country.

The house was surrounded by detective Fullwood with his posse, who immediately ordered a surrender of the premises. The capitulation was effected without loss, save a few tears which coursed in pearly drops adown the alabaster cheeks of the highly indignant widow, who had by this time worked her indignation up like the lashing, frothy, seathing roar of the Great

Falls. A breech was made under the bed quilts, and safely stowed away inside a huge straw tick were found secreted six blankets, bearing the mark of Uncle Sam, which were taken as contraband. An inventory of the premises was taken; result: one bed (slightly damaged), two chairs with broken members; one table, legs made of two flour barrels with dough tray, for cover; three urchins, dirty; one "bull pup" of the snarly species, (crossed from terrier;) one Thomas cat (singd off in rear by stove) blind; one turkey gobbler—who was arrested for gobbling in a defiant and menacing manner, but was let remain on promise of not violating that portion of the regulations of the service which requires silence in the presence of your superiors.

I have the honor to report, sir, that the articles captured were placed on a wheelbarrow, and in company with a keg said to contain "vinegar," taken to headquarters, followed by the virtuous and highly indignant Mrs. O'Riley.

The capture was effected, I am happy to inform you, without loss, save the tears before mentioned, and has in its result effected much good in relieving some of our men who have mislaid their blankets.

I have specially to notice the gallant conduct of the commissioned officers of Companies I and L, who behaved in a cool yet dashing style, during the hottest of the engagement.

Yours,  
Major Comanding Dug-out Post.

Squib.

---

A Grand Review of General Keys' Division took place on the 6th inst., at Meridian Hill. The admirable marching of all the troops and the high state of discipline evident in the Brigades, was gratifying to our General-in-Chief. The Regulars will have to look out for their laurels, or the volunteers will soon excel them in celerity of movements.

---

Commissary—Capt. M. J. Green, of Cuba, Alleghany county, N. Y., and formerly of Rochester, has been appointed Commissary of Subsistence for Gen. Peck's Brigade—an appointment very necessary, as the labors of the Quartermaster, who has been acting in both capacities, have been too arduous for one officer to attend to.

---

Died—At the Regimental Hospital, Camp Tennallytown, D. C., on Oct. 26th, of typhoid fever, Robert E. Thornburg, aged twenty-six years, a private in Company H, 13th Reg't., Penna. Vols. Deceased was a native of Butler county, Pa.

## PENNSYLVANIA THIRTEENTH.

Owing to the sudden removal of our office, from Maryland to the District of Columbia, the issue of this number of our paper has been unexpectedly deferred a few days after its date. We trust, however, the change from Great Falls to Camp Tennally, will enable us to give much more information about matters in camp, than heretofore. Too poor to employ a local reporter, our volunteer contributions have amounted to just nothing at all—and all the encouragement we have yet received has been in the shape of a few growls at not giving more news of movements around camp. Were we spiritualists we might readily do this, but the gift of clairvoyance not being ours, we cannot describe what we neither see nor hear of.

**Anxiously Desired.**—Well written communications giving sketches of camp life, incidents of the campaign, information to soldiers, suggestions, etc., will not only be welcome, but are earnestly requested. Our paper is issued "between times"—and very often when a spare hour could be put in at typesetting, we have no "copy" to work on, or, when we have, no spare hours to occupy with it. We should have a supply always on hand, and trust all who growl will at once begin to write.

**A Good Excuse.**—The only sesesh found at Beaufort, S. C., by our troops, gave as an excuse for having been found drunk on so momentous an occasion, that he found himself "in a tight place!" Barnum foolishly offered one thousand dollars for him—not as a curiosity, but as a contrast, a drunken sesesh not being of itself anything remarkable.

Our suggestion of last week, relative to furloughs, is probably now under consideration by the Cabinet. Congress has not yet taken it up, through a feeling of deference to the heads of departments. The President will doubtless make it the subject of a special communication to both houses, early in the session.

The Nineteenth Massachusetts Volunteers are now stationed above Cantonment Rowley, on the Potomac. We believe the Forty-sixth Pennsylvania has been sent to Frederick City, Maryland.

Orders have been issued for the transfer of all property of the Chesapeake and Ohio Canal, now in possession of our forces, to the company owning that work. All restrictions on travel on the canal have been removed.

**President's Message.**—This document arrived too late for our last issue and too early for this. Presuming our readers have already perused it, we defer its publication till the war is over.

**A Big Contract.**—A well known Pittsburg builder had a contract on the Washington Acqueduct, at this place, for arching the work, and some curiosity was felt among our men as to which portion of that structure—which is some fifteen miles in length—was the work of one of our townsmen. A few weeks ago, an officer of the Thirteenth was riding up to our late cantonment at Great Falls, and on coming to the Acqueduct remarked, on seeing a neat square stone, marked "W. A. 1838," that it made him think of home, to be on William Allen's contract. The road from Tennallytown runs along the Acqueduct some eight or nine miles, and every few hundred yards, like mile-stones on a turnpike, he found the same marks, until he came to the conclusion that Allen had a very big contract—or that "W. A." although his veritable initials, might possibly mean "Washington Acqueduct." He was so completely "sold" on it that he still feels a little sore when any of his friends, not present on the occasion, innocently inquires how many miles of the Acqueduct was in Allen's contract.

**Relieved.**—The detachment of the Thirteenth Pennsylvania Volunteers, at Great Falls, Maryland, consisting of Company A, Captain Foster, and Company D, Lieutenant Patchell, were relieved on Thursday, the 6th inst., by Company L, Captain M'Farland, and Company I, Captain Loomis, of the same regiment, and left for camp at Tennallytown on Friday morning, after having done guard duty on the Potomac since the 11th of October. Although many of the boys regretted to leave the romantic spots around the Falls, all were satisfied that the loss of two months battalion drill, was poorly compensated for by as many months of picket duty. Again in camp they can devote their whole time to their duties as soldiers, with less temptations to ramble from camp than when separated from their friends of the regiment.

The careless handling of firearms is an offense of which no soldier should be guilty, causing as it has so much needless misery. When we hear a soldier inquire "is the pistol loaded?" we think he has not learned the first principle of handling firearms—always to consider the loaded and cocked, unless you design to shoot something. If you do this you will never kill any one through carelessness, as you will soon become accustomed to hold a musket or pistol in such manner as will injure no one should it by accident be fired. We hear every few days of some one killed or maimed for life by the criminal carelessness of those who look on their muskets as mere toys.