

# PENNSYLVANIA THIRTEENTH

VOL. 1.

CAMP TENNALLY, D. C., JANUARY 4, 1862.

NO. 7.

## THE KNAPSACK DRILL.\*

WRITTEN BY A VICTIM.

A soldier's life is hard enough—  
He takes the smooth part with the rough;  
'Tis nothing strange, but it's a bitter pill—  
He's oft put through the "knapsack drill."

Should he perchance go off to town,  
To see the sights and "run around,"  
And with "goodies" there his jacket fill,  
He things not of the "knapsack drill."

The guard comes round and reads his pass—  
The time is up, and then, alas!  
There's hell to pay; the Colonel will  
Put him through the "knapsack drill."

To "dress parade" should he not go,  
But in his tent lie snug and low  
With colic, pain, or other ill,  
He's certain of the "knapsack drill."

The officers, so nice and fine,  
Whene'er they choose, will have a "time,"  
Their goblets to the brim can fill;  
And never fear the "knapsack drill."

Our three years time will soon be done,  
And if we live we'll all go home;  
Of pleasure then we'll drink our fill,  
And fear no more the "knapsack drill."

\*The "knapsack drill" is an exercise gotten up especially for the "boys" who miss parade or roll-calls. The parade ground is on the street facing the Colonel's quarters, and when any one receives "marching orders" he is required to wear his knapsack, haversack, canteen, &c.

We are rejoiced to see that the military committee of Congress are considering the propriety of increasing the pay of non-commissioned officers of the army. Corporals now receive only the same pay as privates, and First Sergeants, who are the hardest worked officers in companies, receive, when their labors and responsibilities are considered, the poorest pay. For twenty dollars a month, and one ration, they have half the company work to do—while the Lieutenants receive about a hundred and ten and Captains a hundred and twenty dollars. A First Sergeant should receive thirty dollars at least, and Corporals fifteen, if the additional twenty-six dollars expense were taken from other company officers. We say this, altho such a change might cost the writer of this paragraph ten or fifteen dollars a month.

The camp of the old Thirteenth (not the Hundred and Tenth, the Hundred and Tenth, nor the Hundred and Toose, as variously termed,) now boasts no less than three associations, all recently organized, which merit notice.

The "Patriotic League" organized late on the night of the 27th ult., consists of those who have signed the following pledge:

"The undersigned officers, non-commissioned officers and privates, actuated by motives of self-respect, patriotism and love of country, do hereby pledge ourselves to abstain from the use of intoxicating liquors during the period of our service to the United States."

This has been signed by a number of the staff and line officers and privates—among others by all the commissioned officers of Companies A, B, E, and M, and a majority of some others. It enabled several to witness the fun on New Year's without feeling "out of sorts" next day.

—Next come the Covenanters, who entered into a covenant that each one should

"Eat when he's hungry  
And dring when he's dry!"

but neither get drunk nor swear; but, as some of the members have since complained of headache in the morning, it is considered doubtful whether they haven't been drinking when neither hungry nor thirsty. Negotiations are on foot to unite the fraternities on the basis of abstinence from the two great vices of all camps—intemperance and profanity.

—Last come the "Hoodoodens," a select association, numbering but two in the regiment, upon whose banner is inscribed the motto:

"Walk in and say nothing,  
Eat, drink and pay nothing."

However well the last line of the motto will be observed by the members, it is alleged the first has already been repeatedly broken.

The Patriotic League had quite a grand dinner in the big hospital tent on New Year's afternoon, at which, in addition to the members, Brigade Surgeon Spencer, Brig. Quartermaster Titus, Lieut. Stirling, Aid to Gen. Peck, Col. Rowley, Maj. Poland and Assistant Surgeon Morrison were present. The roast turkeys, oysters, lemonade and other delicacies disappeared rapidly, and all dispersed pleased with their entertainment. The dinner was designed for a supper, but the sudden notice to prepare for a march induced the cooks to "hurry up the cakes" on the occasion.

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## PENNSYLVANIA THIRTEENTH,

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CAMP TENNALLY, JANUARY 4, 1862.

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

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The Printers of the Thirteenth Regiment think of celebrating the birthday of Franklin on the 17th inst., in true typographical style, should "circumstances over which they have no control" permit. Whether they will go it alone or unite with the numerous printers of this brigade has not yet been determined. If they go at it, we shall have a bill of fare as long and as varied as army rations will allow.

Gen. Peck's Brigade was mustered for payment on the 31st ult., and we presume the various company officers have ere this got their rolls in such shape as will secure prompt payment for two months' services of their men. Our regiment was mustered by Col. Billier, of the 98, 21st Pennsylvania Volunteers, Col. Rowley performing the same service for that regiment. The old Thirteenth has already been paid twice: a half month's pay to 1st of September at Camp Lincoln by Major C. W. Campbell, on the 24th of that month, and two months to pay to the 1st by Major W. R. Gibson, on the 18th of November at Tennallytown.

Our dog Jack, formerly of the Niagara engine, continues to take greater interest in the regimental drills and dress parades than some of the officers and men, but committed an error in coming four paces in front yesterday before the order to "open ranks," owing to his hearing being affected by a recent cold. Jack never misses a drill, company, regimental or brigade, and puts to shame in this respect many better versed in tactics than himself. Should he return home in safety, altho he may go back to "running with the machine," we predict he will "follow the sojers" as pertinaciously as Dr. Jackson after the Mexican campaign.

Among the New Year's Gifts received in holiday week, in our camp, was a handsomely ornamented and delicious cake, the iced top bearing the inscription, "Col. Thos. A. Rowley, 13th Penna. Reg't. A Happy New Year!" It came from a young (and handsome) lady in the Third ward, who deserves a good husband—after the war. We can speak knowingly as to the quality of the cake, as the Colonel did not forget the Printers' Mess when it was distributed.

We have a Sutler "as is" a Sutler, now, in Mr. David Wray, who has opened up a good stock of varieties in our camp, including emory, oysters, cigars, gum drops and clothing—with all the various articles usually found in the best regulated establishments, including the Pennsylvania Thirteenth, at two cents a copy, three for a half a dime. "Cheap!"

Good.—A photographic artist in our regiment is about getting the necessary apparatus for taking views in camp and round about—of groups, &c.—as also of any battle grounds our brigade may hereafter visit. A great country, this—where the press and the camera follow the wars, the one to describe, the other to illustrate the deeds of our soldiers!

We learn from M. O'Halloran of Company E, Ninth Regiment, that Alexander Smith, of the Pittsburg Rifles, who was wounded in the fight at Drainsville, will recover. His family are now with him and he is receiving every attention.

Our Regimental Number continues to be the 13th and will remain until positive orders are received changing it. We trust, therefore, that our friends will not suddenly alter our address to the 102d. No such regiment existing we fear their favors may miscarry.

Those indebted to the Printing Fund are requested to pay up, as we are out of money, out of paper, and want to buy a house for the office, owing to the cold weather interfering seriously with our operations.

The Pittsburg Dispatch of the 31st predicts, on "private assurance, from a source more reliable than the lips of Senator Seward, that a great battle will certainly take place within ten days."

Major Wynkoop has presented to Captain Morris, the Adjutant General, a beautiful meerschaum pipe.

The detachment under command of Captain M'Farland still continues at Great Falls, Md. It consists of Companies I and L.

Home.—Our Chaplain, Dr. Stewart, returned to-day from furlough.

This paper is for sale at the sutler's. Price two cents single, or three for five cents.

Gen. Peck and Staff have moved in the villa belonging to the Georgetown College, in accordance with orders from Headquarters. The mansion is one of the largest and finest in the District of Columbia. It was originally built for a private residence, and the grounds are superbly embellished with evergreens and box hedges. The views are extensive, and the situation elevated and healthful. The grounds are on the main road from Georgetown to Rockville, near Tennallytown, D. C.

**Artillery.**—Our non-commissioned officers have been taking lessons in heavy artillery practice from Capt. Fullwood, at Fort Pennsylvania lately, but the exercises have been exchanged since New Year's for the ordinary routine of company and battalion drills—brigade drills being dispensed with owing to Gen. Peck being temporarily confined by indisposition.

**Serenaded.**—Senator Harris, from N. Y., was serenaded by the 98th Penna. regiment band a few evenings since. The ladies of his family acknowledged the compliment by appearing on the balcony during the music. Gov. Curtin was also serenaded by the same band.

**Col. Riker,** of the 62d New York, received the officers of the Brigade on the 1st instant in splendid style. He had a table set for a bridal party, and his quarters were appropriately ornamented with the mottoes of the Empire and Keystone States.

**Good.**—The engraving of the Great Falls of the Potomac, in the New York Illustrated News of the 4th is a good representation of that romantic spot. It only needs the snuff-chewing "Maid of the Mist" on the Virginia shore to make it perfect.

It is reported that one of our captains, running short of red tape, tied up his muster rolls with his lieutenant's sash, which (in width) closely resembled that sine qua non of the department.

The Hoodoodens and Covenanters had a grand supper last night, attended by numerous invited guests outside their respective fraternities.

The Court Martial, of which Col. de Trobriand is President, has adjourned sine die, after trying some three officers and forty privates of our brigade.

**Change.**—Mr. H. M. Lytle having gone into the sutler's department, Mr. George Lambert of Company A, is acting as Regimental Postmaster.

Gov. Morgan has promised to send to the 55th New York regiment enough men to completely fill the ranks.

A slight fall of snow to-day, followed by rather severe cold, interfered with drills.

From a letter written to the Washington Star, dated Tennallytown, January 2d, we make the following extract in reference to promotions in the Fifty-fifth New York Regiments:

Second Lieutenant Albert St. James, of Company A, to first lieutenant of Company K, vice Ashley Vanduzer, resigned; Second Lieutenant C. Sivori, transferred from Company K to Company A; Sergeant Major L. Israel, to be second lieutenant in Company K, vice Sivori, transferred; Orderly Sergeant Jos. A. Kenny, of Company I, to be sergeant major, vice Israels, promoted; Sergeant Louis Vienot to be orderly sergeant of Company I, vice Kenny, promoted. These appointments are all very popular with the regiment.

The Adams Express has, for the past week or ten days been overladen with delicacies for the soldiers, consisting of turkeys, chickens, (ready roasted,) mince pies, jellies, doughnuts, (in Yankeeedom called crullers,) poundcakes, &c., &c., forwarded by the dear ones at home to the various "Johnnies" who "have gone for sojers"—and, in consequence, the various quarters of officers and men are enlivened by "free lunches" every evening. It is well the weather turned in quite cold, or the Adams Express office at Georgetown would have proved a proper subject for a visit from the Insanitory Commission, as some of the turkeys would have proved, as the darkey said of the "game flavored" 'possum, "jus' far 'nuff gone to be good!"

An itinerant vender of the ardent and malt was not a little surprised, a few days ago, by the officer of the day reading him Gen. Peck's order, published on our outside. "Cheap" vamoosed the camp reluctantly but speedily, expressing regret he had tapped the keg before the officer came—and gave away the contents on his mournful march toward the city. No more shall we hear his cheerful whisper of "first rate whisky—only a dollar a bottle! Nice pickled lobster! brought it o' purpose for you!"

Senator Wilson has introduced a bill to regulate sutlers, stating what they may sell, and prohibiting all other articles. Would it not be better to mention all prohibited articles? It seems to us that our sheet would not contain a list of articles they might be allowed to furnish soldiers with, and inconvenience would arise from the omission inadvertently of necessary articles.

Brady has taken a good photographic group of our Brigade Staff officers, altho on rather too small a scale. We trust he can enlarge it to a proper size for the parlor, as many desire to send copies home.

## PENNSYLVANIA THIRTEENTH.

On New Year's Day our Brigade received orders to prepare to march, by cooking two day's rations, and supplying each regiment with a hundred rounds of ball cartridge. All was bustle and activity in camp, and our boys were in great glee, altho the order interfered considerably with festivities of the day. Arms were stacked in the several company streets, and knapsacks prepared for slinging at a moment's notice, and none were allowed to leave camp during the day.

The Anderson Zuaves, now the 62d New York, Col. Riker, were in great glee—considering a battle on the opening of the new year appropriate to their regimental number, and almost claiming the initials of their name as the alpha and omega of our brigade. Col. de Trobriand's 55th New York consoled themselves with Vermont and light wines, Col. Ballier's 98,21st Pennsylvania discussed the probabilities of a move over Chain Bridge over a few kegs of lager, and Col. Rowley's 102,13th—members of the Patriotic League, Covenanters and Hoodoodens—occupied themselves in a manner appropriate to their several associations.

—Night closed on us, and morning came, but there was no "onward" to Drainsville, Richmond or elsewhere, and our camps again subsided to the ordinary routine of company and regimental drills, weather permitting, to continue until some similar incident relieves its monotony.

Fire.—The handsome structure, recently erected by the Brigade Quartermaster for a guard house, was burned on Monday evening. Altho all the prisoners escaped, it is supposed the loss of life was considerable. Owing to its walls being constructed of the wood furnished our camps for fuel, they were uninjured by the flames, and the structure will again be put under roof.

Our boys are no way jealous of the credit the Ninth Reserve won at Drainsville, but unanimously cried "bully for them" on hearing of the successful encounter with the rebels. Hurrah for the old Keystone! She poured out men like water, when the glorious banner was unfurled, and they proved themselves men when traitors attacked it.

Lieut. Moreland has returned from a visit to Pittsburg. Lieut. Joseph Bishop has departed to Birmingham, Pa. Lieut. Rensison has resigned, on account of ill health.

Headquarters, Tennallytown, D. C.

December 28th, 1861.

Special Orders, No. 84.—1. Citizens are allowed to pass through the lines unmolessted at all times, unless they are suspicious characters, when they will be conducted to Headquarters for examination.

2. The treatment of citizens must always be courteous, respectful and forbearing, and the guards must remember that the protection of private property is among the most important of their duties.

3. No person will be allowed to carry wine, beer or ardent spirits through our guards without a pass from the Provost Marshal or from the Headquarters of the army of the Potomac, unless for commissary stores, hospital stores, or for the private use of officers; and so marked.

4. Copies of this order will be posted conspicuously at the Brigade Guard House and at the Tennallytown post office, and the field officer of the day will be held responsible that this order is kept so posted and is enforced.

By order of Brigadier General Peck.

Wm. H. Morris, Asst. Adj. Gen.

Col. Rowley was serenaded rather late on New Year's Eve by the Comb-ia Band of the Patriotic League, Captain \_\_\_\_\_ of Company \_\_\_\_\_, (somewhere near the head of the alphabet,) acting as drum-major, and flourishing his baton terrifically on the occasion. After playing "Buy a broom" and other patriotic airs, and proceeding with "For he's a Jolly Good Fellow," the band was dispersed on a hint from the Colonel that the guardhouse was within a convenient distance of his quarters. The Colonel evidently thought, with Captain F-rr of the three months' campaign, that, if his visitors didn't want to sleep the guard did.

Cpts. Hamlet Lowe and Andrew Large and Lieut. Jos. Bishop are the only absent officers of the Thirteenth. The Captains mentioned are sick, and the Lieutenant was married a few days before going to the wars. Others have been expecting furloughs, but seemed to have hoped against hope so long, that they have but little expectation of leave being granted.

There is no foundation for the report that our Adjutant General, William H. Morris, has accepted the appointment of U. S. Paymaster. We are glad of it, as he is an universal favorite with our Brigade.

The irregularity of our mails is a source of constant complaint. Properly directed letters are often four and five weeks en route, when they should not be more than one or two days.