

TELEGRAPHY AND THE ARMY

Part of the Great Work of Which Little is Known.

LOUIS KORTY ONE OF THE VETS

Served His Country at the Key, as Did Edward Rosewater and Others Now Passed Beyond.

Electricity was a comparatively new invention back in the sixties, and the part played by military telegraphers in the war for preservation of the union forms a highly interesting phase of rebellion history.

History tells of the keen interest President Lincoln took in the telegraph, and it was his custom to linger around the wires in Washington so that he might obtain news from the firing line at first hand and with as little delay as possible.

Only a few left. Mr. Korty, middle-aged, old gentleman, now in the afternoon of a busy and eventful life, is one of Omaha's most interesting characters.

It is therefore interesting to note that Mr. Korty is a well preserved and agile survivor. Unostentatious as to his war deeds, he is nevertheless a most interesting conversationalist when in reminiscent mood.

A diary kept by Mr. Korty during the war gives much inside information as to the working of the military telegraph service, and the many stirring incidents he went through.

The rebuilding of the line between Big Black river and Jackson, Miss., was under the supervision of Samuel Cochrane, assistant superintendent of military telegraph at Vicksburg.

About this time Mr. Korty was ordered to return to Jackson from Vicksburg and made the trip on horseback and with only one companion, a captain in a New York regiment.

Adventure by moonlight. Mr. Korty recalls vividly the moonlight night they reached the battleground where Grant and Pemberton fought.

Dashing up Champion hill they picked their horses, constructed a rude breastwork, and prepared to give as good an imitation of Grant's methods of resisting at-



Louis H. Korty

ack as their numbers would permit. The confederates found they were ready for fight, and, like Socrates Snooks, decided that "valor's best part was discretion."

departs, leaving them to proceed to Clinton without further molestation. Clearing the harbor of Mobile of the obstructions placed there by the confed-

erates fell to the lot of the telegraph service. Several members of the corps took a plan of the location of the torpedoes, a small steamer, and sank in the harbor

100 cans containing 200 pounds of gunpowder each. The cans were connected with a battery on board the steamer. This method, while not without hazard, effectively cleared the harbor.

Mystery in Murder of Chicago Dentist

CHICAGO, Aug. 6.—No tangible clue had been discovered today by the police tending to identify the man who last night met Dr. M. F. Michales, a dentist, and shot him down a short distance from his home.

A well-dressed woman, all agree, had visited the dentist's office a few minutes before, and her identity is being sought. A gold watch and \$100 were found on the body.

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