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 in vention back in the sixtles, and the part played by military telegraphers in the war for preservation of the union forms a highly interesting phase of rebellion history. One by one civil war wire operators have passed away in death, until only a scattering remnant of this once intrepid army wing remains. For years two noted telegraphers of the war time era were active in Omaha affairs-the late Edward Rosewater, founder and editor of The Bee, and Louis H. Korty, now living here in retirement, but formerly superintendent of telegraph for the Union Pacific rallway.

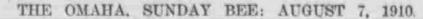
History tells of the keen interest President Lincoln took in the telegraph, and it was his custom to linger around the wires in Washington so that he might obtain news from the firing line at first hand and with as little delay as possible. Thus it came about that the martyred chief executive built up chummy relations with the operators, and many a close range story of the great Lincoln has been contributed to history by men who handled the keys in war times. These telegraphers, of course, were on duty at various places over the country, and whether in Washington or or the field, they came in close contact with the men who were behind the guns, either literally or figuratively.

Only a Few Left.

Mr. Korty, mild-mannered, old gentleman, now in the afternoon of a busy and eventful life, is one of Omaha's most interesting characters. The passing of the late Edward Rosewater, leaves Mr. Korty the sols survivor hereabouts of war telegraphy history. There are a few others scattered here and there about the country, but like all others who took part in the civil war. the ranks are thinning at an appalling pace, and today the men who saw military telegraph service back in the sixtles ar very, very few.

In fact, survivors of any branch of serv loe in the civil war are comparatively scarce. Official figures recently sent out from Washington, D. C., point out the fac. that the civil war pension rolls are being reduced by a daily average of ninety r sea-which simply means that an averin death. With the ranks already thin by the encroachment of years, at the average rate of ninety per day throughout th country as an aggregate, it will not be long until further discussion of the pension question will cease.

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, and the younger generations add to their store of historic knowledge by as sociation with this likable old veteran. Mr. Korty was not only in the United States military telegraph corps during the civil war, but for some time after its close continued in the service, restoring the telegraph system in the south to a condition of effectiveness. This accomplished, Mr. Korty entered the railway telegraph work and attained considerable prominence. He was in 1881 appointed assistant superintendent of the telegraph of the Union Pacific road and became superintendent i



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.

Among the telegraphers who took part in these campaigns were Z. P. Hotchkiss, B. H. Upham, C. B. Smith, A. L. Robinson, I. A. Sherman, G. R. Penn and J. R. Frank.

Leaving these stirring scenes, Mr. Korty turned to the west, and to a more peaceful, if scarcely less strenuous occupation that of building up a system of telegraph communication, which, with its great raliroad, was instrumental in no inconsiderable degree in furthering the development of commercial prestige in the western empire, that stands as one of the monumental victories of peace made possible by the heroic work of these men and others of their kind.

Mystery in Murder of Chicago Dentist

CHICAGO, Aug. 6 .- No tangible clue had been discovered today by the podes tending to identify the man who last night met Dr. M. F. Michales, a detaist, and shot him down a short distance from h.s. home. Neighbors have told conflicting stories of sceing one man talking to the doctor just before the shooting and of seeing two men running away following the shot

A well-dressed woman, all agree, had visited the dentist's office a lew minutes before, and her identity is being sought. A gold watch and \$180 were found on the body.

Mrs. Michales, who was in Fairmont Ind., with her daughters, Misses Ruth Marjory and May, was expected to return

ample grounds, yet entirely distinct and rendering it possible to classify cases. The one building being fitted for and devoted to the treatment of noncontagious and nonmental diseases, no others be-ing admitted. The other, Rest Cottage, being designed for and devoted to the exclusive treatment of select mental cases, requiring for a time watchful care and spelal nursing.





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VIEW OF

GROUNDS

tack as their numbers would permit. The departed, leaving them to proceed to Clinerates fell to the lot of the telegraph confederates found they were ready for ton without further molestation. service. Several members of the corps took fight, and, like Socrates Bnooks, decided Clearing the harbor of Mobile of the a plan of the location of the torpedoes, service. Several members of the corps took "valor's best part was discretion," obstructions placed there by the confed- a small steamer, and sank in the harbo hat

ILIS M. Korty



holding this position continuously until his retirement in 1908. Some Inside Information.

A diary kept by Mr. Korty during th war gives much inside information as to the working of the military telegraph service, and the many stirring incidents he went through. He served in the Department of Tennessee, Mississippi and the awir, and was operator at the headquarters of General C. C. Washburne and General N. J. T. Dana at Memphis, and his activities took him through the country most flercely contested. At the close of hostilities there remained for the corps the re-establishment of service. In this he actively assisted, administering the oath of allegiance to many southern telegraphers who were willing to work for the government and who were not politically disqualified.

The rebuilding of the line between Filg Black, river and Jackson, Miss., was uffder the supervision of Samuel Cochrane, assistant superintendent of military telegraph at Vicksburg, and when sickness forced his withdrawal, Mr. Korty took up the work. Construction parties, according to Mr. Korty, were mostly made up of colored troops, and proceeded with mule pack train finding only an occasional pole to mark the route of the old service, many of the lines being strung from tree to tree. The railroad track, almost obliterated, bore mute testimony to the struggle and ravages the country had witnessed when the armies of Grant and Sherman disputed those of Pemberton and Johnson for controi Straggling parties of Confederates, either ignorant or unmindful of the surrender, resisted the invasion of the construction parties, determined to leave no Yankees on southern soil.

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. The trip was hazardous, and their officers in camp marveled at their courage in undertaking to traverse a country infested by guerrillas and wandering robbers, without escort and with a trail that could scarcely be called a road, so broken and neglected was it, blocked by failen irees and cut by guilles and ditches, Long detours were necessitated by the condition of the roads. The country through which they traveled was literally a vast burying ground, and over much of it the captain had fought in many battles and foraged for many a meal, assisting the sweet potatoes as they "started from the ground.

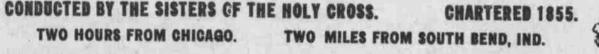
ENTRANCE

TENNIS

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Adventure by Moonlight. Mr. Korty recalls vividly the moonlight night they reached the battleground where Grant and Pemberton fought, Pemberton being forced back to Vicksburg. In every direction were evidences of the struggle; bleached bones of horses gleamed in the moonlight, and row after row of rude headboards marked the places where both blue and gray had alde by side found peace. This was too much for even so stanch a courage as that of Mr. Korty and the captain. Hurrying on, they had just entered a little woodland when they were surrounded by a band of eight or ten guerillas. One of them selzed the bridle of Mr. Korty's mount, but the horse was high-spirited and unmanageable and broke from his grasp. The captain was having a battle all to himself, using both of his revolvers against his outnumbering foes, and putting two of them out of commission. Mr. Korty's horse had bolted, carrying him all unwillingly out of the fight; when he regained control of it he was relieved to ear the captain's call.

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



N choosing a School for your daughter, what are the main considerations? The educational advantages, of course, with reference not only to the mental but to the physical and moral training, as well, are of first importance.

The cost of such education, location of the institution, environment, etc., are other matters to be considered.

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from Pouth Bend. Ind. The location is particularly advanta-geous for an institution of this character, High up on the main pathway, stand-ing where the eye sweeps over forest and valley and nodding fields of grain, one cannot help but feel that nature is here at her best. There is the ploturesque St. Joseph River, winding its silvery way in the distarce, and nearer by St. Mary's beau-tiful artificial lake—Lake Marian.

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AIDS TO INSTRUCTION Pupils in the various departments are aided in their work by having access to a most complete library—a special library of reference books for each department by the best authors and recognized authori-lies; large collections of mineralogical botanical, zoological and geological speci-mens for Departments of Natural History; Physical and Chemical Laboratories, etc.; besides the privileges of attending Lecture Courses (many noted speakers appearing throughout the year), participating in the meetings of Literary Societies, etc. ST. JOSEPH'S INFIRMARY

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