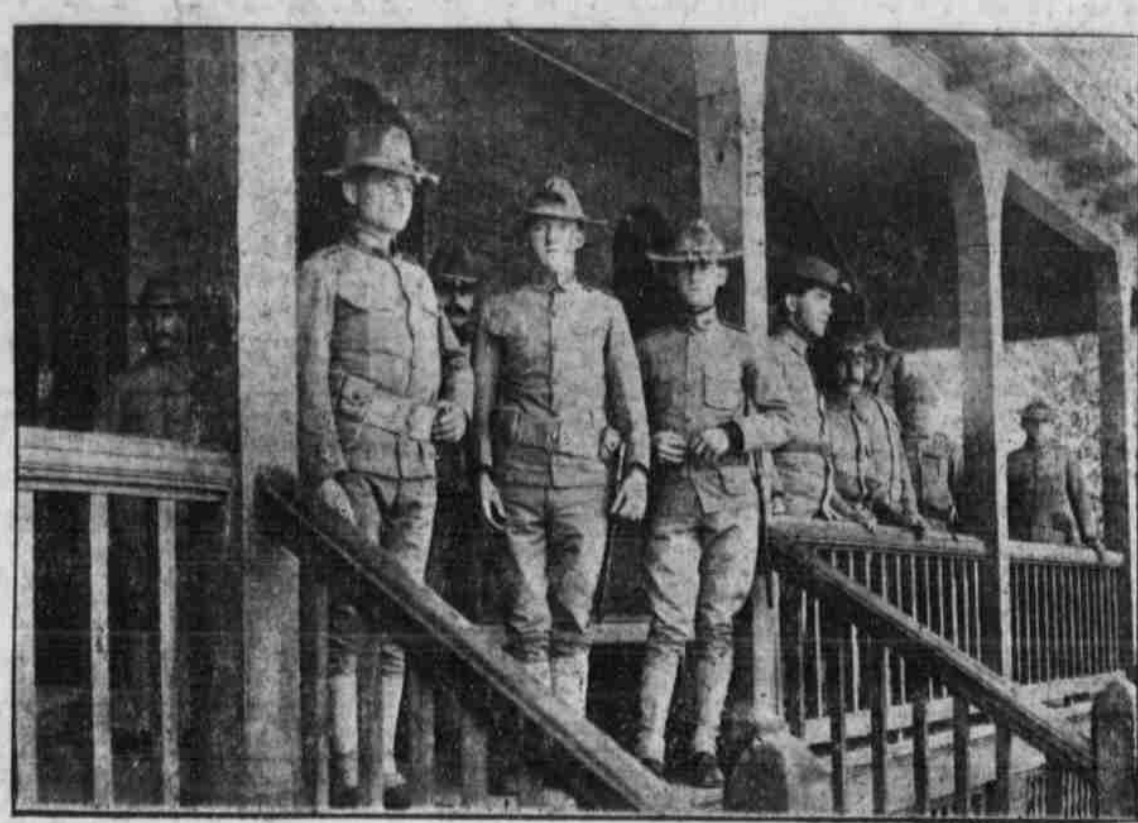


# Sixteenth United States Infantry a Regiment With Splendid Record



CORNELIUS GARDENER, Colonel Commanding Sixteenth Infantry, U. S. A.



FIRST GUARD DETAIL AFTER ARRIVAL.



UNPACKING AT FORT CROOK.



WILLIAM C. BENNETT, Captain and Adjutant, Sixteenth Infantry, U. S. A.

**T**HE arrival of the Sixteenth United States Infantry at Fort Crook, Neb., Monday forenoon from the Philippines, where it performed two years of arduous service, is the second appearance of that regiment at Fort Crook. The regiment was stationed for a short time at Fort Crook just prior to the outbreak of the Spanish-American war. The Sixteenth Infantry is one of the oldest regiments in the United States army

and dates its first organization from the year 1812. During the War of 1812 the regiment was engaged in active service in the northern districts and in the Canadian provinces. It participated in the battles of York, Upper Canada, Stony Creek, capture of Fort George and battle of Wainwright. At the close of the War of 1812 the regiment was engaged in garrison duty, particularly in the southwest, and its next active campaigning was during the Seminole war, where the fighting mettle of the regiment was again successfully tested in the battle of Bad Axe. Under the reorganization of the army following the Seminole war the regiment, while not wholly disbanded, became merged with the Seventh Infantry and as such participated in the Mexican war, engaging in the battles of Cerro Gordo and Buena Vista, and was

in the occupation of the City of Mexico. At the outbreak of the war of the rebellion the Sixteenth was reorganized as such and was assigned to duty in the western army under General U. S. Grant. It participated in the battles of Shiloh, Dry Ridge, Corinth, Stone River, Hoover's Gap, Chickamauga, Chattanooga, Missionary Ridge, Dalton, Buzzard's Roost, Resaca, New Hope Church, Kenesaw Mountain, Dow Station, Jonesboro, siege of Atlanta and was on the march to the sea under General W. T. Sherman. After the close of the war the Sixteenth was consolidated with the Eleventh and Thirty-fourth regiments of infantry, the consolidation taking the name of the Sixteenth Infantry. During the reconstruction period the Sixteenth was assigned to duty in the south, at Atlanta, New Orleans and subsequently at St. Louis. With the withdrawal of the federal troops from the south the Sixteenth served at various intervals on the Atlantic and Pacific coasts, in Texas and in the Departments of the Isthmus and Missouri and participated in a number of Indian campaigns.

Just prior to the outbreak of the Spanish-American war the regiment was assigned to station at the new military post of Fort Crook and was one of the first of the regular regiments sent to the field and was on the first expedition that landed in Cuba. Here it participated in the battle of San Juan and in the siege and surrender of Santiago. The regiment then returned to the United States to be recruited and was in 1899 sent to the Philippines. During its first tour of duty in the Philippines the regiment participated in twelve engagements during the year 1899 and eleven in 1900. In the year 1891 the regiment was returned to the United States, serving on the Pacific coast until 1902, when it was again returned to the Philippines, remaining there until August, 1907, when it was again returned to the United States and assigned to a permanent station at Fort Crook.

Upon the departure of the regiment from Fort William McKinley, Manila, Philippine Islands, Major General Leonard Wood, commanding the Military Division of the Philippines, caused the following letter to be addressed to Colonel Cornelius Gardener, commanding the Sixteenth Infantry:

HEADQUARTERS FORT WILLIAM MCKINLEY, Office of the Commanding General, Aug. 14, 1897.—Commanding Officer, Sixteenth Infantry, Fort William McKinley, P. I. Sir: Upon the departure of your regiment for service at home, after two years' service in the Philippines, the commanding general wishes me to express to you and your officers his appreciation of the excellent discipline that prevails throughout the regiment and of the highly satisfactory manner in which every duty assigned it has been performed. With its officers and enlisted men seasoned by service in the tropics and trained, as it is, to a high state of practical efficiency under your direction, the Sixteenth Infantry would acquit itself with honor on any field of active duty. Its separation from this command will be a distinct loss. Very respectfully,  
J. R. LINDESAY, Captain Thirtieth Infantry, A. A. G.

HEADQUARTERS SIXTEENTH INFANTRY (on board United States transport Sherman), MARIVELES, P. I., Aug. 15, 1897.—The above letter from the commanding general, Fort William McKinley, is published for the information of the officers and enlisted men of the regiment. By order of Colonel Gardener,  
W. C. BENNETT, Captain Sixteenth Infantry, Adjutant.

The regiment left Fort William McKinley, P. I., August 14, 1897, embarking on the transport Sherman for the United States, having been relieved by the Thirtieth Infantry, which left Fort Crook early in July for the Philippines. The trip across the Pacific took forty days. Ordinarily occupied by thirty days, but it was the intention to take the homeward journey leisurely, as the typhoon season was at hand and the transport Sherman did not want to take any chances with bad weather. Nagasaki, Japan, was reached August 20, and a layover for one day was taken there that the ship might be further cooled for the longer trip to America. Just before reaching Nagasaki an unfortunate incident happened. Private W. C. Kent of Company F jumped overboard, crawling out through a porthole from the hospital brig, where he was under treatment and observation for insanity. He was not observed making his escape by his attendants, who had left his bedside but a short while before. He was immediately seized, and the vessel was stopped and every effort was made to find the body with the aid of searchlights and quickly manned boats; but without avail. The man remained in the vicinity for three or four hours in search of the unfortunate man, and it was finally concluded that he must have been struck by the propeller of the ship and sent to the bottom.

A day or two after leaving Nagasaki the transport ran into the tail end of a typhoon and experienced five days of extremely bad weather. The seas were very high, but the vessel rode the storm gallantly and experienced no further trouble than that incident to a storm, on a crowded vessel. Some seasickness prevailed during this stormy week, but not an accident occurred. Honolulu was reached September 8, and the ship laid over there thirty hours. Many of the men were permitted to go ashore, and the regiment was given a royal reception at Honolulu. The trip from the Hawaiian Islands to San Francisco was without incident, and was made during pleasant weather and a fairly calm sea, arriving at San Francisco in seven days from Honolulu.

## Valuable Territory Swallowed by Sea

**I**N THIS country, the data of the United States coast survey show that the sea has advanced in the last thirty-two years an average of 54 feet along the coast of Long beach, south of Barnegat Inlet. On Belle Bayou, a former outlet of the Mississippi river, the Spaniards built a fort 200 years ago; our engineers found the sea water ten feet deep over the door sill of the magazine. August 10, 1866, a sudden storm burst upon the Gulf of Mexico and overwhelmed the L'Isle Derniere, the favorite summer resort of the oldest and richest Creole families of New Orleans.

Belgium spent the sum of \$14,800,000 for protection from the sea from 1903 to 1904, and is now preparing to build a sea wall the whole length of its coast as the price of safety. At Point de Grave, France, on the Gulf bank of the Gironde, the light-house has been moved back three times to save it from the waves. Heligoland, which in the eleventh century was an island with an area of 570 square miles, is now reduced to a mere rock, less than two miles long and 1,200 feet wide. Prosperous villages on the map of Holland in 1671 are now nearly a mile out at sea.

The British Isles are apparently the worst sufferers, and England is especially unfortunate. There the encroachments of the sea are so serious that a royal commission on coast erosion has been appointed and Parliament is to take up the question of combating the ocean.

England has surrendered to the sea 524 square miles of good land in the

last thousand years. For the last forty years the average yearly loss has been 1,523 acres. And the loss is increasing year by year.

England is an old country with unbroken records and there is no guesswork about these losses. Many historical towns, such as Ravensburgh, where Henry IV landed in 1339, are entirely gone. There is an anchorage of Selsey, Sussex, which is still called "The Park," because it was a royal deer park in the reign of Henry VII. The Godwin Sands, so decreed by navigators, were once the 4,000-acre estate of Earl Godwin, minister church in Kent, two miles inland a century ago, is now on the beach.

Reuver, also in Kent, was an important military post in the Roman days and stood one mile from the sea; now the site is under water and all that is left of it is the two towers of the cathedral. The famous St. Michael's mount, near Penzance, Cornwall, is now an insular rock; once it stood in a forest several miles from the sea. Off the Yorkshire coast are no fewer than twelve submerged towns and villages.

From almost every point on the coast of England comes the cry to the government for help. The efforts of private owners have proved unavailing against the attacks of the sea. Sea walls and protective works of all kinds have succumbed, even where the cost of such works has been three times the value of the land protected.—Chicago Inter Ocean.

## Where the Morse Telegraph Originated

**T**HE MACHINE shop where Prof. Samuel F. B. Morse worked out his idea of the electro-magnetic telegraph and gave the first exhibition of the instrument is now the property of the Morris County Traction company at Morristown, N. J., and will be used for car barn and repair shops. The building formed part of the Spedwell iron works and was built by Judge Stephen Vail in 1812. It is now dilapidated.

Until Judge Vail died in 1864 it was occupied. Here was turned out the boiler used on the steamship Savannah, which was the first vessel of its kind to cross the Atlantic ocean.

While Prof. Morse was working on his invention he came to the Spedwell iron works to have some machinery made. He also intended to paint a portrait of Judge Vail's family. The works were in charge of Alfred Vail, a son of the judge.

Prof. Morse explained to young Vail what he desired made, and the latter, interested in the idea, offered to assist in constructing the machinery.

The machine was completed January 11, 1833, and placed on exhibition in the foundry. Mrs. John H. Lidgerwood, a granddaughter of Alfred Vail, recalls her grandfather's story of how the instrument was placed in the foundry.

"My grandfather was placed upon the first floor," said Mrs. Lidgerwood, "and about three miles of copper wire, insulated by being wound around with cotton yarn, was coiled around the walls of the second story. There are still some of the looks in the side walls, and some of the original

## Where the Morse Telegraph Originated

wire I have in my possession."

The Spedwell work also supplied the tires, axles and cranks for the first American locomotive and made the first cast iron plough. These were turned out by Judge Vail, who was a born mechanic. As proof of this Dr. Willard P. Vail tells the story of how he visited the nail factory of Jeremiah H. Pierson at Ramapo, N. J., and then started one of his own.

"He could understand a machine at sight," says the doctor. "How he got inside Pierson's rules I don't know, as it was against the place to admit visitors to the establishment.

"By some means he found his way inside and in the character of an unskilled country boy wandered around in apparent stupid wonder at what he saw. At length Mr. Pierson saw him looking intently at the cut nail machine. Instantly waving his hand a handkerchief he beckoned him to the entrance, telling him bluntly that he had no business there.

"Making an awkward apology Vail took his leave, but he took that cut nail machine away in his head. He had seen enough. Not long afterward a cut nail machine was at work in Dover, N. J.

"Many years afterward Pierson and Vail formed an acquaintance. One day Mr. Vail asked Pierson if he knew how the nail factory came to be started at Dover. Pierson said he hadn't any idea, but had often wondered about it, as he didn't believe any one in the country knew anything about the making of nails but himself. Then Mr. Vail related his visit to the Ramapo factory and the two men shook hands and laughed together."—New York Sun.

# Masonic Bodies Celebrate Golden Jubilee of Nebraska Grand Lodge

**S**EPTEMBER 23 the Masonic grand lodge of Nebraska entered upon the second half of its century of existence, and the occasion was marked by one of the largest assemblages of Masons ever held west of the Missouri river. For several months the officers of the grand lodge had been preparing for the semi-centennial celebration, and on the fiftieth anniversary of the day on which the grand lodge was assembled every arrangement was complete.

The ceremony began at the Masonic temple and, with one exception, every grand officer was present. Of the members of the general committee, all grand masters of the order in the state, but two were absent. It is not reflecting upon the others to say that the man most missed from the lodge room was Daniel H. Wheeler, the oldest surviving grand master of the order in Nebraska. Mr. Wheeler was in the city, but physical infirmity made it impossible for him to take part in the ceremonies. A large number of the veteran Masons who had been associated with him in the early days of the order took time from their other duties to visit him at his home, and in recalling old times and old memories found one of the most pleasant features of the day.

Throughout all the celebration there was

the sound of a minor chord. All of the men missed the presence, though all felt the spirit, of George W. Lininger, for years one of the most enthusiastic Masons, and who crowned his career in the lodge by becoming the real founder of the Nebraska Masonic home. No Nebraska speaker was heard who did not refer in touching terms of the life and work of the departed brother. This was the first convocation of the grand lodge at which he had not been present for many years. Just before his last illness he had left his room to advise and instruct the grand lodge at its regular session this year, and he had looked forward to the semi-centennial celebration with joy, and all regretted that he was not to see that for which he had helped to plan.

This celebration, while of interest to all Masons, was really an "old-timers' day." Occupying a seat of honor in the lodge room were the twelve men who had taken a prominent part in the celebration of the twenty-first anniversary of the order, and to them was paid that attention which their early work in the interests of the order caused them to merit. The names of these men were published in the current report of the day and today each of the younger men who participated in the semi-centennial ceremony is wondering if he

will survive to receive like honor when the lodge assembles to celebrate its diamond jubilee in 1922. There is yet one ceremony for these veterans of Masonry to perform. After they had partaken of the wine sealed in their presence twenty-five years ago it was decided to seal two bottles of wine to be opened on the diamond jubilee. This wine has been secured and sealed with the private seal of the grand secretary. As soon as that officer has completed the preparation of the details a committee of the veterans will join him in sealing the bottles in a larger container. In this container besides the bottles will be placed a brief account of the semi-centennial celebration, together with a list of the names of all master Masons present in the grand lodge room at the time the first wine was served to the men who sealed it in 1852. When the diamond jubilee rolls around this container will be opened by the grand secretary and the roll will be read. All men present in the lodge room whose names are found upon the list will form in solemn procession and taking their places around the table of honor will drink to the health of the survivors and to the memory of those who have departed. This ceremony was instituted in Nebraska for former Governor and Past Grand Master Robert

W. Furnas and bids fair to become one of the traditions of Nebraska Masonry.

An estimate has been prepared showing that, based on the survivors of the silver jubilee celebration, more than 600 persons present Monday will return to Omaha to take part in the diamond jubilee. There were forty-eight men to sign the wine agreement in 1852 and twelve of them were present Monday. This is exactly 25 per cent, and that percentage should hold good of the 3,000 at the temple twenty-five years later.

As far as the public was concerned the celebration of the semi-centennial of Masonry in Nebraska began at 2 o'clock, when the lodges of the state formed in procession to march to the Auditorium, where the formal exercises were held. It had been believed by the men in charge of the celebration that a large number of Masons would take part in the parade and arrangements had been made accordingly.

The line of march was planned to accommodate about 1,500 men, but when the time came it was found not only necessary to lengthen the line of march to prevent the line from crossing itself, but the marchers were required to move

in ranks of four. The procession formed with the members of Mount Calvary commandery, Knights Templar, in the lead.

This society was followed by St. John's lodge No. 25, Covert lodge No. 11, Capitol lodge No. 3 and the Omaha lodges by lodges from the state and Masons not otherwise assigned. Following the body of temporarily unattached Masons came the officers and members of Nebraska lodge No. 1, the oldest lodge in the state, and the escort of the grand lodge. Then came officers and members of the grand lodge. When the head of the procession reached the Auditorium, after marching in a course covering twenty-two blocks, the ranks opened and the grand lodge, preceded by its escort, marched through to the doors of the Auditorium. The length of the line was so long that the grand lodge marched for six blocks between lines of Masons to the door.

If the ceremonies in the grand lodge at the temple were centered around the older members, those at the public meeting in the Auditorium were for and in behalf of the younger members of the order. From the stage, whereon were assembled members of the grand lodge

and guests of honor, men who had given much of their time and talents to the order spoke words of advice and admonition to the younger members and took pride in relating the good works and high ideals of Freemasonry as known and practiced for fifty years in Nebraska.

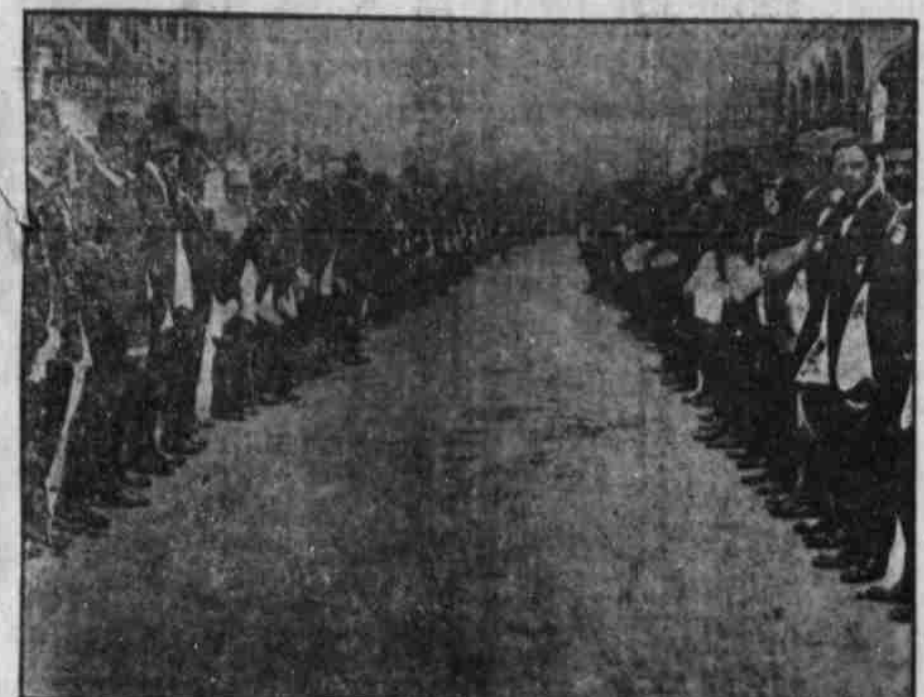
One of the attractive features of the gathering at the Auditorium was the presence of women. From out of town a number had come with relatives and Omaha women whose husbands, sons and fathers were in the line of march met them at the Auditorium and took much interest in the proceedings.

Unfortunately the program opened at least an hour later than was planned by the men in charge. This was due to the length of the line of march and the fact that for some unaccountable reason the movement from the temple was delayed. For this reason, since the program was carried out in full the close was an hour later than was expected, but no one feeling to the addresser would have saved time by eliminating a number. It was 4 o'clock before the gavel of the presiding officer fell announcing the close of the session. At night a band concert by Ellyer's band closed the celebration. This

concert was open to all Masons and their immediate families and the result was that the building was filled with an enthusiastic audience, which remained until a late hour listening to one of the best band programs ever presented in the city. In this connection Mr. Ellyer recalled the fact that it was through the work of his band that the Auditorium was made possible, and that this was the first appearance of that organization in Omaha since the foundation was Aid for the Auditorium fund.

The semi-centennial celebration has passed into history and members of the order are priding themselves upon the showing made.

This showing is the more remarkable when it is remembered that the growth of the order really began after 1846. Three lodges were in existence when the grand lodge was formed. Eight lodges existed ten years later, and the growth was slow. In 1883 twenty lodges were instituted and this was the record year of lodge extension. There are now 23 lodges chartered and under dispensation and the membership has grown from 72 to over 15,000. It will thus be seen that the number of lodges, the average membership at the start, being twenty-four and the average now being more than sixty.



COVERT LODGE NO. 11, IN LINE ON FIFTEENTH STREET.



MOUNT CALVARY COMMANDERY, KNIGHTS TEMPLAR, RECEIVING THE GRAND LODGE, A. F. & A. M. OF NEB.



ST. JOHN'S LODGE NO. 25, IN LINE ON FIFTEENTH STREET.