

SHAFTER AND HIS ARMY

Graphic Pictures of the Cyclonic Campaign at Santiago.

STORIES OF MEN RIGHT IN IT.

Selection of Leader and Picked Troops—Inside History of the Expedition—How Shafter Warded Off Disaster—Trying Voyage on Transport—The Fighting Regiments.

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 This is the first of a series of 15 articles comprising the history of the Santiago campaign by Captain George L. Kilmer, late United States volunteer. Captain Kilmer holds the highest rank in his specialty—deeds of heroism and daring—and is well fitted for the important work he is doing. He has had access to the very best sources of information, has interviewed every officer of importance from General Shafter down, and the men in the ranks have also told him their stories. His articles are the first notable articles on the great historical struggle around Santiago.

WITH the single exception of Napoleon's Russian campaign, there has never been a military expedition fraught with personal distress and suffering equal to those endured by Shafter's army. The case is all the more striking from the fact that after a most brilliant victory the army was compelled to retreat in the face of an enemy more terrible than Spanish bullets. The physical wrecks of this army which had been spared by the Mausers at Santiago reached Camp Wikoff, Long Island, between the 15th of August and the end of that month, and I consider it the happiest episode of my career as a writer that I was commissioned to go to Montauk and spare neither time nor expense nor labor in covering the camp from end to end in order to glean from the lips of participants of all ranks the true story of Shafter's campaign at Santiago.

The moment I stepped from the cars into a throng and jam of war worn figures clad in stained and begrimed uniforms around the landing at Montauk, the 25 years that have elapsed since I marched with the conquerors of Petersburg, back from Appomattox over the blood stained course to the army landing on the James, were wholly obliterated. It seemed that I was a soldier again, touching elbows with heroes, thinking their thoughts and sharing with them the after emotions of events seldom finding parallel in the life of one man. From that time on until the camp was practically abandoned I lived among the soldiers, sharing the tents and the fare of officers and men. Around their campfires on the chilly nights and under the welcome shade of canvas in the heat of the August days they told me of the battle, made sketches of the position and explained the movements of the regiments, brigades, divisions and the vantage ground of batteries. There came together to take part in these recitals officers who had not compared notes since the fight of July 1.

Whenever there was doubt or controversy upon any point, absent officers or soldiers who could testify in the matter were summoned. Moreover, soldiers of every rank finding the strain of weeks lifted at last were in the mood to recall stirring incidents which, when passing, had left no impress except as they hurt or startled. In point of fact, I found the army emerging from a horrible nightmare and for the first time feeling that it was all over and time to take an account of what had happened. I was conscious from the first moment of my entrance to Camp Wikoff that I was in the midst of a superior body of soldiers. The type I could recognize as having existed in 1864-5, but the army has kept pace with the march of improvement, and the ideal soldier of 1865 is the real and universal soldier of Shafter's regular regiments today. There was no posing in the camp, no standing hat in hand to be gazed at and applauded as hero, but a bustling, dead earnest, soldierly activity, which, with cool self control, was broken off long enough to sit down and discuss the details of the campaign. There was no difference whether the soldier interviewed was the leader of a battalion or a regiment or a commander of a brigade or division; no, not excepting the chiefs of the corps, two of whom were in command during my stay in camp—that is to say, General Shafter and General Wheeler.

As this is to be a story of the fighting as the soldiers in line of battle remember it, it is not necessary to discuss most questions, but I could not better preface the stories of the marvelous deeds of Shafter's army than by saying that it had a leader who in the opinion of a host of the best soldiers in the service was in every way worthy of it. Whatever he may be or may not be, whatever he may have or lack, he has qualifications for a high command. William R. Shafter is no accident.

I was so fortunate as to pass a whole forenoon in General Shafter's headquarters tent the second day after he took command of the camp at Wikoff, where I could witness his method of administering affairs calling for prompt and energetic action. The business of the administration being over, he devoted more than an hour to a general and off-hand elucidation of the difficulties of the Santiago campaign.

As to Shafter's army in the Santiago campaign, I could not help saying to myself again and again at Camp Wikoff that the equal of his corps as I saw it, having the fever wrecks lying on the ground and in the hospitals, could not have been paralleled by any single corps in the Army of the Potomac in 1864. This notwithstanding the fact that at the beginning of the Wilderness campaign the Army of the Potomac was thoroughly reorganized and consolidated.

In the first place, this country has progressed more than a quarter of a century since that time. Military ideals have been fostered and followed up to their very highest point, and the very elements of choice American bone and blood and sinew and brain which went to the creation of the crack corps of 1864 have entered into the make up of those matchless regiments of regulars who stormed and carried the heights of El Caney and San Juan in the face of a foe the equal in courage, in equipment, in position, of any troops that ever stood for battle.

Shafter had the pick of the regular army with him at Santiago. This was stated to me again and again at Camp Wikoff, and I think no discrimination was intended against the regiments that were not there. The fact seems to be that those regiments which were selected happened to be, without a single exception, up to the very highest standard of efficiency. The soldiers had passed through just the experiences in the west which would fit them for a hard campaign. They were well officered, well disciplined, rugged, "gritty" men. In the Army of the Potomac in 1864 the very best of the army corps had regiments and sometimes whole brigades of new and untried material and scores and scores of green officers. One needed but to see the regulars in Camp Wikoff to recognize at once the fact that the veterans there had not evolved in a single month's campaign from the standard of the militia volunteer.

In the twenty and odd regiments whose camps I lingered round not a single one but what was commanded by a veteran of the civil war. In many cases these commanders were majors. The field officers above them, absent on account of wounds or promotion were war veterans, and in several instances the commanders held the rank of captain and were war veterans. It seems that there are now something like 65 captains in the regular army who served in the civil war. The importance of all this will appear during the battle narrative, where the leaders will be named in connection with their war record.

General Shafter says that after Sampson located Cervera's fleet in the harbor of Santiago and had looked the ground over he cabled to Washington that an army of 10,000 men could take the city at one blow. Shafter was already getting together an expedition for the invasion of Cuba somewhere. He was directed to embark 10,000 men and proceed at once to Santiago. Owing to some difficulty in the way of forwarding certain supplies or other elements in the expedition to the point of embarkation at Tampa there were empty transports in the harbor after the 10,000 had gone on board. Shafter ordered these empty transports to be filled with troops, and as a result he took something like 16,000 or 17,000 men to Santiago. He said, and General Wheeler, who was present at the conversation, agreed with him, that had the expedition gone with 10,000 men it would have ended in a horrible disaster. In confirmation of the statement about embarkation is the story of the Ninth infantry, of San Juan fame. On the night that it embarked at Tampa an orderly dashed up to the headquarters with a message to the effect that if the Ninth regiment was not on board the transport within a limited time given it would be left behind at Tampa and not go to Cuba. The point was that the material which had been ordered forward to Tampa might arrive

and be loaded ahead of the regiment, and so it was really a race between soldiers and some other necessary part of the expedition. The Fifth corps as it fought at Santiago on July 1 was as follows: WHEELER'S CAVALRY DIVISION. Wheeler's Brigade—4th U. S. cavalry, 8th U. S. cavalry, 9th U. S. cavalry (colored). Young's Brigade—1st U. S. cavalry, 2nd U. S. cavalry (colored), 1st U. S. volunteer (rough riders). There were only two squadrons of each regiment at Santiago, one squadron being left at Tampa with the horses and baggage. FIRST DIVISION OF INFANTRY, GENERAL J. F. KENT. Hawkins' 1st Brigade—4th U. S., 18th U. S., 21st N. Y., Pranger's 2d Brigade—31 U. S., 34th U. S., 35th U. S., Wheeler's 3d Brigade—33 U. S., 36th U. S., 38th U. S. (colored). GENERAL H. W. LAWTON'S SECOND DIVISION. Ludlow's 1st Brigade—4th U. S., 24th U. S., 25th Mass., Miller's 2d Brigade—21st U. S. (colored), 25th U. S., 26th U. S., Thayer's 3d Brigade—22nd U. S., 27th U. S., 28th U. S. Strength about 11,000 in line of battle. ARTILLERY AND MACHINE GUNS. Grimes' Parkhurst's, Davis' and Cooper's batteries U. S. artillery, a company each. Captain Watson's 4th Mountain gun detachment Parkhurst's 1st light gun. These troops figured conspicuously in the battle to be described in the article upon the Santiago campaign. (Continued L. KILMER.)



GENERAL W. R. SHAFTER, U. S. A.

A COLONIAL THANKSGIVING.

Quaint Account of a Dinner Given in 1714.

Among the papers of the late ex-State Senator Guy C. Stoddard of the town of Ledyard was found an old newspaper clipping containing a quaint account of an old colonial Thanksgiving church service and dinner. It was written in the year 1714 by the Rev. Lawrence Conant of the Old South parish, in Danvers, Mass., and runs thus:

"Ye Governor was in ye house and Her Majesty's commissioners of ye customs, and they sat together in a high seat of ye pulpit stairs. Ye Governor appears very devout and attentive, although he favors Episcopacy and tolerates ye Quakers and Baptists.

"He was dressed in a black velvet coat, bordered with gold lace and buff breeches with gold buckles at ye knees, and white silk stockings.

"There was a disturbance in ye galleries, where it was filled with divers negroes, mulattoes and Indians, and a negro called Pomp Shorter, belonging to Mr. Gardiner, was called forth and put in ye broad aisle, where he was reprimanded with great carefulness and solemnity.

"He was then put in ye deacons' seat between two deacons, in view of ye whole congregation, but ye sexton was ordered by Mr. Prescott to take him out, because of his levity and strange contortion of countenance (giving grave scandal to ye grave deacons), and put him in ye lobby under ye stairs; some children and a mulatto woman were reprimanded for laughing at Pomp Shorter.

"When ye services at ye meeting house were ended, ye council and other dignitaries were entertained at ye house of Mr. Epes, on ye hill near by, and we had a bountiful Thanksgiving dinner with bear's meat and venison, the last of which was a fine buck, shot in ye woods near by. Ye bear was killed in Legun woods near Reading.

"After ye blessing was craved by Mr. Garrich of Wrentham, word came that ye buck was shot on ye Lord's day by Pequot, an Indian, who came to Mr. Epes with a lye in his mouth like Asanias of old.

"Ye council therefore refused to eat ye venison, but it was afterward decided that Pequot should receive 40 stripes save one for lying and profaning ye Lord's day, restoring Mr. Epes ye coat of ye deer, and considering this a just and righteous sentence on ye sinful heathen, and that a blessing had been craved on ye meat, ye council all partook of it but Mr. Shepard, whose conscience was tender on ye point of ye venison."—New York Tribune.

Thanksgiving Games.

Children in New York are devising games to be played on Thanksgiving day. Usually in the gathering together of families there are a host of young folk who need to entertain themselves.

One game that I think is going to be unusually interesting is the escape from prison.

It requires children who are "up" on geography; still, if need be, it is a lesson in the disguise of pleasure. The game proceeds after this fashion: A map is held by the judge, usually a grown person; then, too, children are chosen and placed in separate corners.

Says the judge: "Now, Carrie, you represent New York in this corner, and Richard, you are in Moscow imprisoned; you want to get away and reach home by Thanksgiving day. You have got from behind the walls, but what is your most direct route home?"

Then Richard has to tell each sea, country and ocean he crosses to get home for the turkey and cranberry sauce. If he can't do it successfully, he must remain right on the spot on the floor where he stopped until he thinks out his escape.

Other members of the game are placed in prison at various parts of the country. The favorite jails now are located in Spain and Cuba on account of the interest in the war. A leading question is, "If you were put in a Santiago prison, how would you get back to Spain?"

Soon the room becomes filled with prisoners, all trying to get home. Half of them are "stalled" in the center, trying to think of the boundary line which brings freedom; others are just leaving the prison walls.

It has the same interest when got well into it as the southern children find in "runaway negro" or "prisoner's base." When the game has been played frequently, those who join in get very familiar with the junction of countries and learn many straight lines and clever jumps that had not appeared feasible before. For those who are not quite conversant with geography easy maps are given—for instance, to be placed in a Paris prison and find their way home to Boston.—New York Press.

I Am Thankful—

- That I never studied football at college.
- That I never praised the poetry of my female friends.
- That I never was sick more than two weeks at a time.
- That a glass of whisky never put me into an excited state.
- That I never bit 'ed in a poker game at the wrong time.
- That I never repeated a poor joke without feeling sorry for it.
- That I never abused the trust put in me by my wife or the grocer.
- That I never let my neighbors know the extent of my learning.
- That I never originated a theory concerning the origin of microbes.
- That I never patented anything intended to revolutionize the age.
- That I never used a word of eight syllables when one of six would do.
- That I never let my tailor wait more than nine months for his bill.
- That I never smoked a bad cigar except in the section of my smitum.
- That I never had any leanings toward philosophy, riding breeches or canvas lunch desk.—Boston Globe.

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30 pieces Flannellettes, 10c value 8 1-2c
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 10 pieces wool Suitings and Novelties, regular 30c, sale price..... 19c
 8 pieces Novelty Dress Goods, regular 40c, sale price, a yard..... 33c
 7 pieces Novelty Dress Goods, regular 50c, sale price, a yard..... 37c
 8 pieces Novelty Dress Goods, regular 60c, sale price, a yard..... 49c

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25c Outing Flannel Skirts, sale price, each..... 19c
 50c Outing Flannel Skirts, sale price, each..... 45c
 75c Outing Flannel Skirts, sale price, each..... 67c
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 Fancy Flannel Skirt Pattern, regular price \$1.25 and \$1.50, sale price, each..... \$1.10 & \$1.29

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30 pieces favorite fancy prints, regular 5c, sale price, per yd..... 3 1-2c
 50 pieces Simpson's grays, blacks and fancies, regular 6c, per yard..... 4 3-4
 1,000 yards German blue, mill length h, from 2 to 10 yards in a piece, worth 10c, sale price, a yard..... 7 1-2c
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 10 pieces Pepp R Muslin, regular 6c, sale price, per yard..... 5c
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 30 doz Men's gray Merino Shirts and Drawers, reg. 40c, sale price, each..... 29c
 28 doz Men's Wool Fancy Shirts and Drawers, reg. 50c, sale price, each..... 43c
 12 doz men's Sanitary Shirts and Drawers, all wool, regular \$1.25, sale price, each..... \$1.10
 Ladies' Jersey Ribbed Vests and Pants, regular 20c, sale price, each..... 16c
 50 doz Ladies' fine Jersey Ribbed Vests and Pants, reg. 25c, sale price, each..... 22c
 12 doz Ladies' fine Merino Vests and Pants, regular 50c, sale price, each..... 43c
 Ladies' fine Jersey Ribbed Vests and Pants, reg. price \$1, sale price, each..... 83c

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 20c Tea Siftings, sale price, per pound..... 17c
 40c good uncolored Japan Tea, now, lb. 33c
 80c Gunpowder Tea, sale price, per lb..... 65c
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50 doz Children's ribbed Hose, 5-8, 1-2, regular 5c, sale price, per pair..... 4c
 30 doz Misses' Cotton Hose, fleece lined, cheap at 10c, pair..... 8 1-3c
 25 doz Boys' seamless Ribbed Hose, cheap at 15c, sale price, pair..... 13c
 One case Men's cotton Half-Hose, black and brown, reg. 12 1/2c, special price..... 10c

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Miss Womsey Discovered.

The recent disappearance of Fanny Womsey, late of Broken Bow, of which mention has been made, is explained. She has taken to the variety show as a means of wooing the Sockle goddess. Her parents have been scouring Omaha for her for a week, supposing that she had become a victim of foul play, and recently when they spied her up on the streets and gave chase she dodged into a house and entered the room of a strange young man, to whom she told her predicament. He was gallant and allowed her to remain until there was no longer any danger of encountering her parents, when he escorted her to a train and she departed for St. Louis, where she claims to have an engagement in a variety show.

MANILA TROOPS TO COME HOME

Regiments Now on the Way to Take the Place of Those to Be Relieved.

DENVER, Colo., Nov. 15.—Governor Adams has received a telegram from Adjutant General Corbin, saying that the volunteer regiments now doing duty in the Philippines are to be ordered home as soon as the troops now on the way for the islands reach there to take their places.

Negroes to Talk Race War

New York, Nov. 13.—Concerning the race riots in North and South Carolina T. Thomas Fortune said yesterday that a meeting of negro citizens and others would be held in Cooper Union on next Thursday to discuss the situation. It is also expected that meetings will be held on the same evening in Boston, Philadelphia, Washington and Chicago.

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