

GRAND ARMY DEPARTMENT.

Echoes of the Great River Encampment at Detroit.

ABOUT THE NEW COMMANDER-IN-CHIEF.

Dangerous Illness of General Doubleday—The Mule at Sumter—A Con-ederate Snout and General Terry.

The Hero of Fort Sumpter.

General Abner Doubleday is lying dangerously ill at his home in Mendon, Massachusetts, N. J., and has been ailing a long time. He is seventy years of age.

General Doubleday is a native of New York state and graduated from the West Point military academy in 1842 in the same class with Generals Longstreet and Rosecrans, with whom he has ever since maintained close personal relations.

He was promoted to first lieutenant in 1847, to captain in 1853, and served against the Seminole Indians in 1856-8. He was at Fort Mifflin from 1859 till the garrison withdrew to Sumpter December 30, of that year, and since that time has been in the service of the late fort.

He was immediately promoted to major in the Seventeenth infantry, served with General Patterson in the Chickasaw valley later in the defense of Washington, commanding forts and batteries on the Potomac.

He was made brigadier general of volunteers, February 2, 1862, and was in command of all the defenses of Washington. During the ensuing months he commanded a brigade on the Rappahannock and in the northern Virginia campaign, including the second battle of Bull Run, where he succeeded to the command of Hatch's division. He was engaged in the battle of Antietam, losing heavily, but taking six battle flags. On November 29, 1862, he was promoted to major general of volunteers. He was at Fredericksburg, in the regular army March 11, 1863, and brigadier general and major general two days later for his services during the war. For several years he held posts he was retired from active service December 11, 1873.

He has written several war books, and is noted for having suggested and obtained a charter for the first cable street railway in the United States at San Francisco, in 1870. At the recent reunion of the Army of the Potomac, General Doubleday was tendered a complimentary vote for president of the society.

A Mule Before Sumter's Guns.

The newspapers and magazines are full of war stories, says the New York World, but there are few that are so interesting as one told by an old soldier at a New York dinner table the other evening.

When Dahlgren's ironclads began operations in Charleston harbor, the Fourth army corps made a sudden dash and drove in the thin lines of pickets which the southern officers had posted on the eastern end of Morris Island. When they came within range, which Beauregard could bring to bear upon the work began to rain shot and shell.

There were enough men there, but there was a deficiency of ammunition, and so a mule driver volunteered to deliver the ammunition.

The only road was the smooth sand beach along the bay and the distance between the two points about a mile and a half. Half that distance was within easy range of Fort Sumter, and Battery Wagner's guns covered all the way to the sand hills, behind which was the Federal camp.

I am dying, Egypt, dying! I am dying, Egypt, dying! I am dying, Egypt, dying!

Colonel Reaf asked him to define this feeling, and he said: "As I was talking to you I saw the green hills of Ohio as they looked when I stood among them. They began to recede from me in a weird way—and as they disappeared the conical hills of Sumter rose up before me, and I thought that I should never see them again."

General Lytle was a native of Ohio, and doubly loved his birthplace.

Colonel Reaf laughed at his friend, and rallied him upon his superstition, but acknowledged afterwards that he became as thrilled with the general's story as he had been with the general's tale of the mule.

In the small hours General Lytle awakened his friend from the slumber into which he had fallen, to read to him that beautiful poem, which must live as long as our literary survivors.

I imagine the scene. The two men suited by the light of a moon, a candle, and a lantern, both ready and willing to face death on the morning in its direst form, scanning by the light of their tent lantern, each other's faces, when the finished poem had been read aloud.

Colonel Reaf said that his own eyes filled with tears, but that he could not read it, as he placed the manuscript in his pocket and lay down to his last night's rest upon earth.

Before dawn came the call to arms. When the next day's fighting was over, the general's death among the hosts of slain. Then he thought of the poem, and, searching the pocket where he had kept it, he drew it forth, and forwarded it to General Lytle's friends with his other effects. We give the poem in its entirety, feeling sure all will read it with the same interest and interest under what tragic circumstances it was written.

ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA. I am dying, Egypt, dying! Ebb the crimson life-tide fast, And the dark Phytian shadows Gather on the evening shade of light. Lush thy sob and bow thine ear, Harken to the great heart secrets Thou, and thou anons, must hear.

Though my scattered and veteran legions Near their encampment high on more, And my wrecked and scattered galleys Strew dark Actium's fatal shore; Though no glittering guards surround me, Prompt to do their master's will, I must perish like a Roman! Dio the great Triumvir still!

Let not Caesar's servile minions Mock the lion that had low: 'Twas no faintness that folded him; 'Twas his own that dealt the blow— His, who, pilloved on the oosom Turned aside from glory's ray— His, who, drunk with the excesses, Madly threw a world away.

Should the base pubeian rabble Dare assail my fame in Rome, Weep within her widowed home. Shall he not be the god have any more— Alas, aners, circling wings— That her blood with mine commingled, Yet shall none the throne of kings!

As for thee, star-eyed Egyptian! In that town, where I remembered a face on a rosette. For the rest, he was cool, quick-witted, quiet and observant. During the time that my command was in North Carolina I frequently served as a scout with O'Neil and not seldom accompanied him into the enemy's lines, especially about the time General Howe made his march against Newberne.

In that town lived a pretty woman who was a great friend of O'Neil, and who was also very much admired by General Terry, the commander of the union forces stationed there. Miss O'Neil, for patriotic reasons, accepted the attentions of the general, and betrayed his confidences unscrupulously to the city O'Neil attended if possible. Subsequently O'Neil attended if possible. Subsequently O'Neil attended if possible.

How They Whipped Horses. Among the many brilliant figures whose gallantry and daring won only local celebrity in North Carolina during the war, says a writer in the New York Recorder, none was more conspicuous than O'Neil, the scout, Accomplished and daring, yet he was what is unknown beyond the limit of his field of action. He was a handsome man, tall, muscular and graceful, a fine swordsman, a capital shot and one of the best riders that ever put a foot in a stirrup.

He never forgot a road the lay of the land, and he always remembered a face on a rosette. For the rest, he was cool, quick-witted, quiet and observant. During the time that my command was in North Carolina I frequently served as a scout with O'Neil and not seldom accompanied him into the enemy's lines, especially about the time General Howe made his march against Newberne.

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THE OMAHA DAILY BEE.

Aranging for the Ringing Up of the Curtain.

MOVEMENTS OF STELLAR LIGHTS.

Plays and Players of the Season of 1891-2—Miss Gale's Starring Tour—Frederick Paulding's Debut.

Nearing the Season's Opening.

The new play which Sidney Londonfield has written for Roland Hood is called "The Club Friend."

Miss Gale opens the next regular season at the Chestnut Street opera house in Philadelphia.

The talk is that Jack Haverly will soon try to astonish the world by engaging in various and sundry amusements.

Lansay Morris, the author and playwright, has been elected to the position of president of the "Men and Women" company.

Harry B. Smith and Reginald de Koven have written a new comic opera for De Wolf Hopper, called "The Boy," which has been accepted by the comedian.

Louis James will assume the leading character in the romantic play "The Soudan," which will be produced at the Madison Square theater, "Jaco" will play at Boy's this season.

Stuart Robson is branching out as a manager. He is back of the production of Bill Nye's play, "The Gad," in which Tom Seaver will play the part of the hero.

Signor Monteverdi, for a long time the most successful composer of Italian opera, has just completed a new opera, called "Lobachewitz," which will be produced at the Metropolitan.

"The High Roller" was a great first on its first night, but will probably finish its career by being a failure.

The highest distinction which a civilian can receive that of the Cross of Order of Merit, has just been conferred upon the distinguished general, General Sherman.

Marie Hubert Frohman begins her tour in "The Witch" at Stamford, Conn., August 20.

As a dramatic novelty "The Witch" has been placed in the hands of the stage, it gives for a new theatrical firm.

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