

MONTEAUX IS AN IDEAL CAMP

Chief Surgeon Greenleaf Defends it from Sensational Attacks.

THESE STORIES HAVE NO FOUNDATION

Lack of Railroad Service, About Which So Much Has Been Said, He Considers a Petty Discomfort.

NEW YORK, Nov. 18.—The War Investigating commission met here today. All the members were present except Colonel Denby and Major Miles. General Charles Greenleaf, chief surgeon of the troops in the field on General Miller's staff, said that in some respects Camp Alger was a good camp for a small body of men, but there were many drawbacks. The water supply was poor and the region was known to be highly malarious. There was a deficiency of privates in the hospital corps and of medical officers, and, at times, of medical supplies. The best interests of sick and convalescing soldiers were not seriously impeded, but the efforts of the physicians were generally embarrassed.

Camp Montaux, Dr. Greenleaf considered an ideal camp for its purpose. Lack of train service he considered a petty discomfort. No complaint of any moment was submitted to him, and the small grumblings he heard he investigated and found without justification.

Questioned as to the discomforts endured by their furloughed men, who, sick and weak, were compelled to loiter about the railway station awaiting fares and furloughs, he said all that trouble might have been avoided by the establishment of a quartermaster's office at the hospital.

Dr. Connor asked why the large force of women nurses, who had offered their services, were not accepted. Dr. Greenleaf said there was no way to care for them at the camp.

Blamed from Both Sides.

Dr. Greenleaf, still replying to questions, told of the methods of granting furloughs from the hospitals at Camp Montaux and of the influence brought to bear upon the surgeons to grant these furloughs. He said if a man to whom leave was granted died at his home the surgeon was blamed for letting him leave the hospital; and when leave was refused if the man died there, his friends declared that home nursing would have cured him.

General Beaver asked Dr. Greenleaf if sick men were taken to the battle line, and when the doctor said no, General Beaver asked why so much stress was laid on the fact that no medical supplies were taken to the front unless it was usual to send medicine to the men, and not men to the medicine.

Dr. Greenleaf said that supplies should have been at the battle line for the men who were sick.

Questions from Captain Howell, ex-Governor Woodbury and General Wilson, Dr. Greenleaf said that he would not have selected Camp Alger as a camping place for soldiers, and that in his opinion Camp Miamia, in Florida, was fitted only for a quarantine hospital. There was an insufficient supply of medical stores, nurses and attendants. The majority of attendants were of a most undesirable character and should never have been selected for such service.

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"They were not served out to you?" asked Dr. Connor.

"Not by a large majority," was the reply. "We got what we hustled for and nothing else."

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