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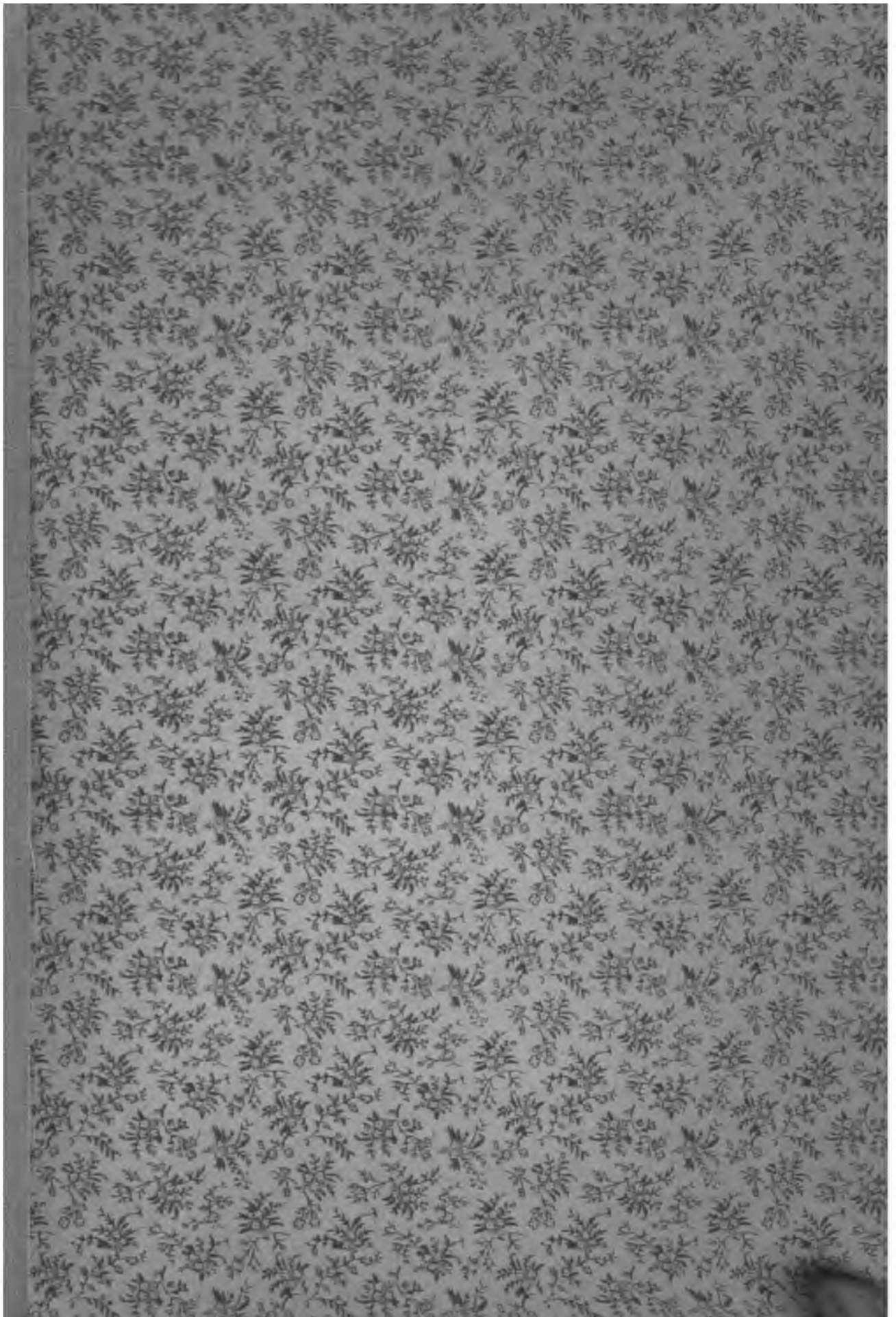
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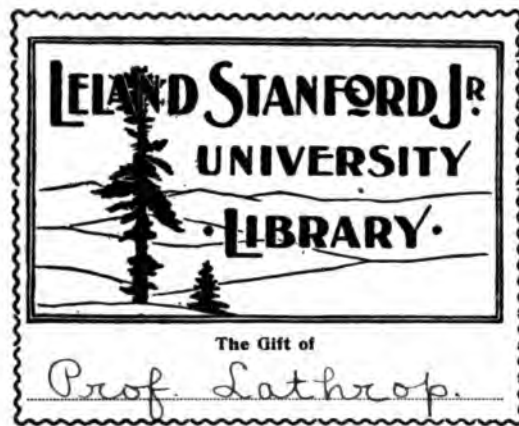
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The "Concho," Transport No. 14, carrying the 4th and the 25th U. S. Infantry to Santiago de Cuba.

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Transports Being Loaded in the Canal at Port Tampa, Fla.

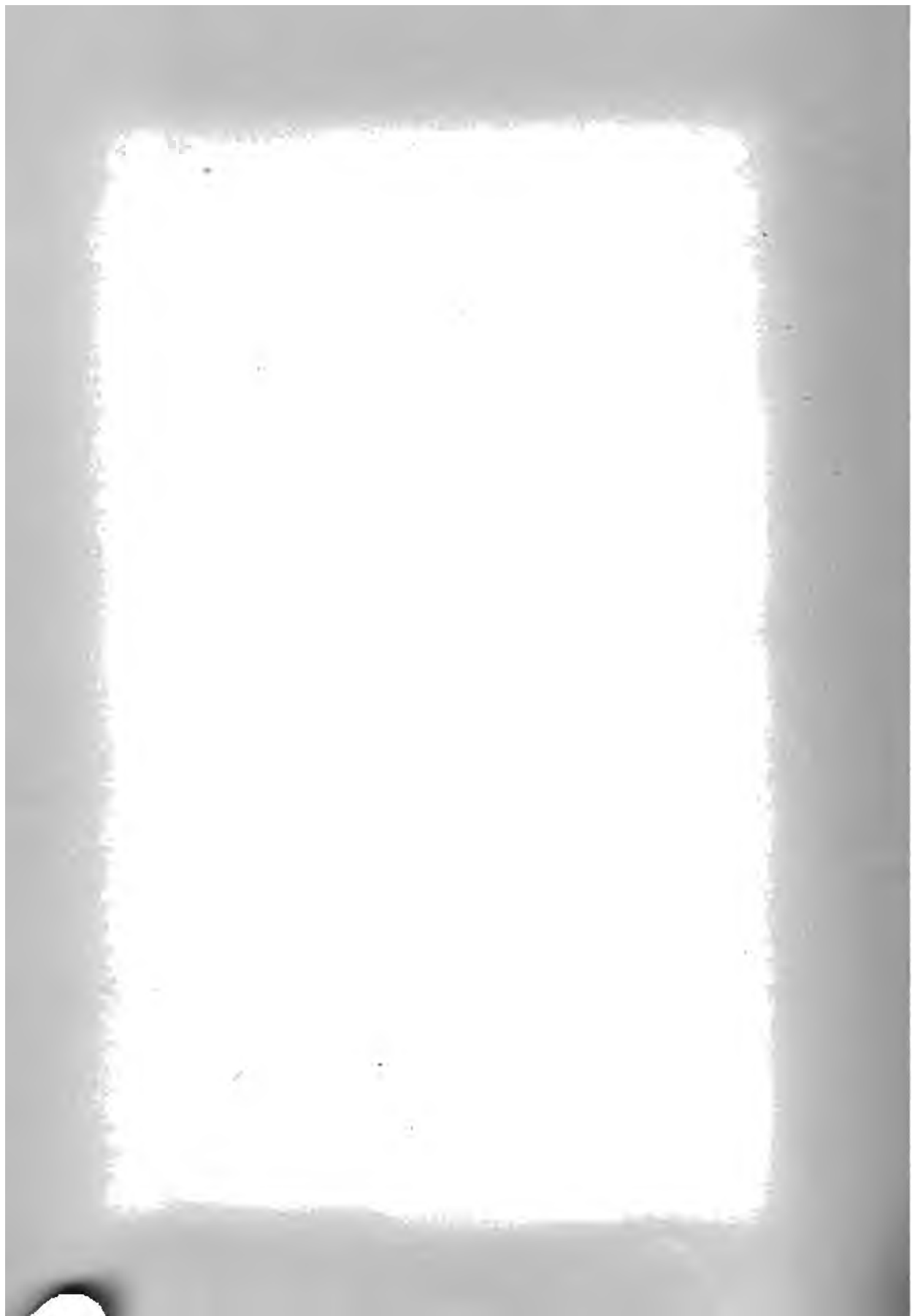
(By kind permission of Lieut. Hugh D. Wise, U. S. A.)

DEDICATION.

The publication of this unpretentious booklet is actuated by the sole desire of placing a fitting souvenir in the hands of the officers and the men by whose side the author endured the hardships and faced the dangers of the campaign—the gallant officers who did their duty with becoming modesty; the brave negro soldiers who neither hesitated at the command to advance, nor faltered at the order to charge, but who, with implicit faith and confidence, followed wherever their white officers led.

Written and compiled with this motive, it is

WITH AFFECTIONATE RESPECT
THAT THESE PAGES
ARE DEDICATED
TO
THE MEMORY OF THE GALLANT OFFICER
AND
THE BRAVE MEN
WHO FOLLOWED THE FLAG INTO THAT REALM WHERE
'THE WAR DRUM THROBS NO LONGER,
AND THE BATTLE FLAGS ARE FURLED.'





**GENERAL AARON S. DAGGETT, U. S. V., Lieut.-Col., 25th U. S. Infantry,
who commanded the Regiment during the campaign.**



ITINERARY

Of Co. "G"

Twenty-fifth United States Infantry

From June 6th, 1898

To August 18th, 1898*

Monday, June 6th.—In camp at Tampa, Florida. About 6 p. m., while the company was drawing clothing, orders were received for the regiment to get ready at once to proceed to Port Tampa, to embark on one of the transports. Much difference of opinion as to whether the transport would go to Puerto Rico or Santiago de Cuba. Regiment ready to move by 7:30 p. m., but marching orders were not received until the next morning.

Tuesday, June 7th.—About 8:15 a. m. left camp and marched over to West Tampa, and took a train for Port Tampa, which we reached about 12 m. About 2 p. m. embarked on the steamer Concho, transport No. 14.

Wednesday, June 8th.—At 1:30 p. m. left dock and anchored in harbor, about one mile away. About 12 o'clock that night orders were received to return to the dock immediately. Various rumors as to why we were ordered back—one rumor being that

*In the preparation of this itinerary no attempt has been made at literary effects or rhetorical niceties—the whole matter is practically a transcript of the diary actually kept by the author.



The Lane in which the 25th's Firing Line was Formed—Looking West.

(See map at rear of book, note 4, for location of views marked with ringed letters.)

Spanish warships had been sighted about one hundred miles away ;* another, that General Miles, the Major-General commanding the Army, after a careful inspection of the Fifth Army Corps, had decided the troops were not properly equipped to start on the voyage, and had telegraphed the President, asking that the expedition be delayed, with a view to getting things in better shape, and that the President had granted the request ; hence, the order to return to the dock. The Concho reached the dock about 3 a. m.

Thursday, June 9th.—Remained at dock.

Friday, June 10th.—About 6 p. m. the Concho moved down the canal a hundred yards or so.

Saturday, June 11th.—Between 10 and 11 a. m. the Concho pulled out of canal and anchored in the harbor.

Sunday, June 12th.—Remained anchored in harbor.

Monday, June 13th.—About 4 p. m. moved down channel a short distance. Woman came out in sail boat and created a pathetically ludicrous scene by crying and calling for "Birdie" Smith, a member of the Fourth United States Infantry, the other regiment on the Concho.

Tuesday, June 14th.—About 7 a. m. started down channel. Remained anchored about ten miles from Egmont Key until about 4 p. m. Passed the Key at 5:30. Left the channel and entered the Gulf, 5:45 p. m.

*It appears that on June 8th a Key West dispatch was received from Commodore Remy, U. S. N., to the effect that a Spanish fleet had been seen by the Eagle and by the Resolute, and suggesting the despatch of all available cruisers to the coast of Cuba. The Eagle saw one second-class cruiser, the Terror, and two small gunboats in Nicholas Channel, and sailed with them about forty minutes, or long enough to ascertain they were not United States vessels, as they did not respond to the American signals. The Resolute reported seeing the same ships, and that two of the enemy's vessels had pursued her.



First Field Crossed by the Firing Line—Looking East.

(See map at rear of book, note 4, for location of views marked with ringed letters.)

Wednesday, June 15th.—Orders issued for daily inspections of Companies, at 9 a. m. and 4 p. m. At morning inspection to-day men formed without foot-gear and with trousers rolled up, so as to have feet inspected.

Thursday, June 16th.—Life on ship getting very monotonous.

Friday, June 17th.—Caught first sight of Cuban coast—a small lighthouse on the outlying key of Paredon Grande.

Saturday, June 18th.—Mainland came into view—the hills about Cape Lucretia.

Sunday, June 19th.—In the morning entered Windward Passage, and Cape Maysi was rounded that night.

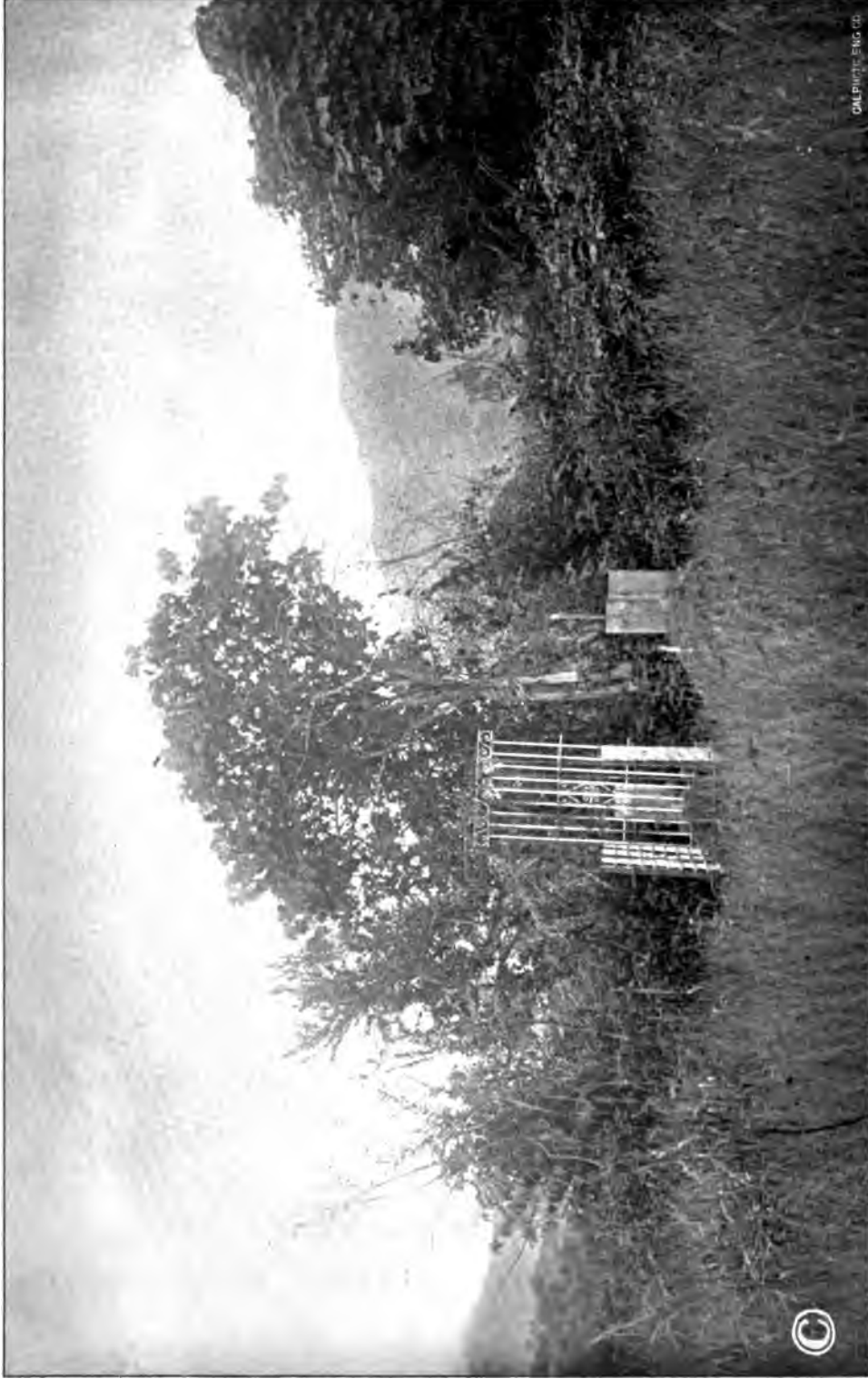
Monday, June 20th.—Early in the morning the high mountains surrounding Santiago de Cuba came into view. Reached off Santiago that day.

Tuesday, June 21st.—Remained off Santiago de Cuba.

Wednesday, June 22nd.—About 8 a. m. several of our warships began shelling Daiquiri and the adjoining hills, preparatory to our landing. The Concho was anchored about a mile from the dock, and the troops were landed in small boats capable of holding from fifteen to thirty men. The surf was very rough and a number of accidents happened at the dock—several boats were upset, and two men of the Tenth United States Cavalry were drowned.

Some of our boats were tossed about very roughly, and for a while things were quite exciting. Corporal Henry A. Williams of Company "G" was capsized into the foaming surf, and narrowly escaped being drowned—his presence of mind and his skill as a swimmer saved his life.

As soon as we landed the Cuban insurgent forces began making their appearance in good numbers. They were all negroes, and the



Where the 25th's Dead are Buried—Iron grating around Lieut. McCorkle's grave. Looking East.

(See map at rear of book, note 4, for location of views marked with ringed letters.)

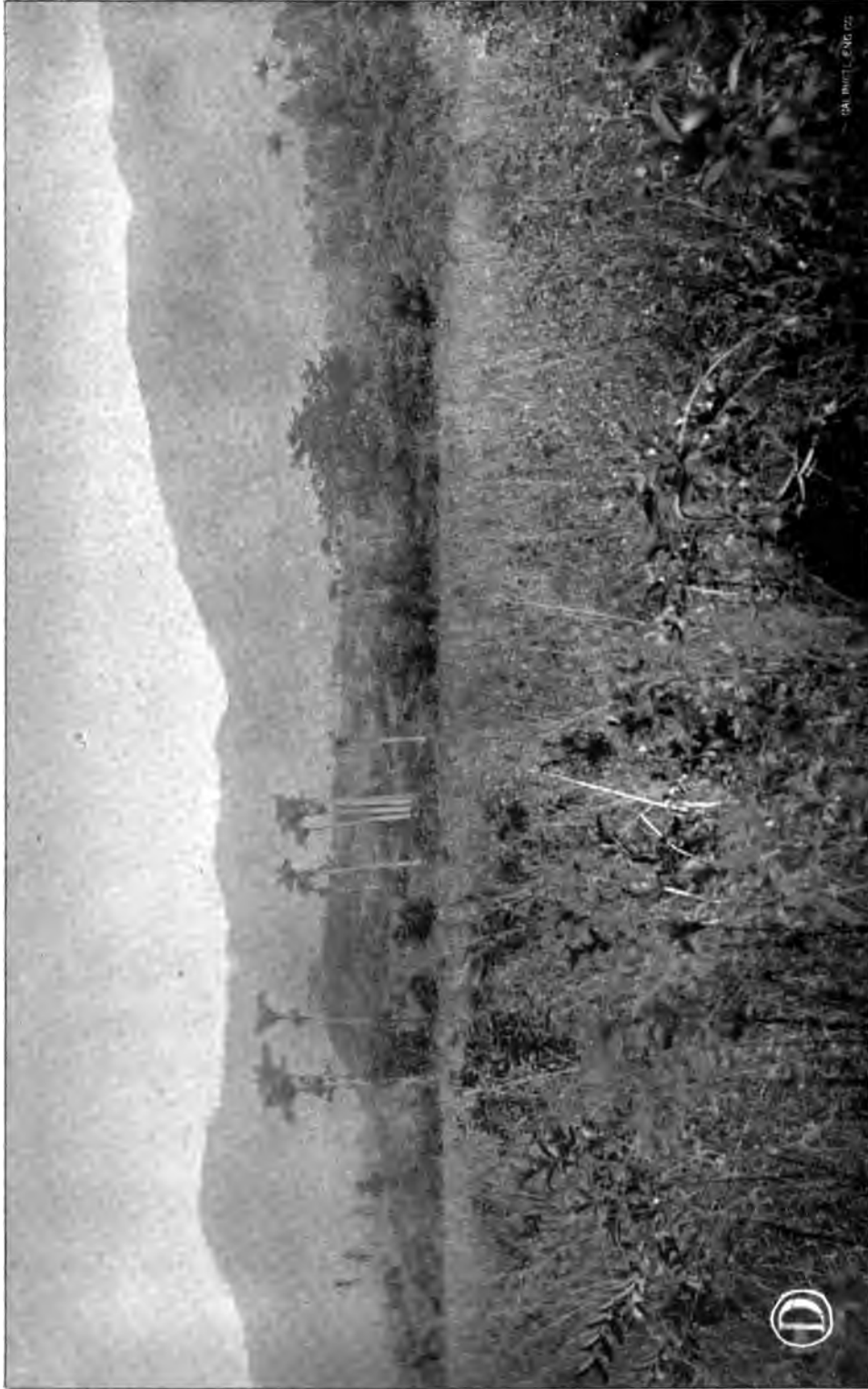
most ragged, hungry and motley looking crowd we had ever seen. We took no baggage from the transport, the plan being that we would march three or four miles inland and intrench ourselves, and that our baggage would follow in a day or two. Each soldier carried three days' rations in his haversack, one blanket, one shelter tent half, his canteen, rifle, belt and one hundred rounds of ammunition. Some officers carried blanket rolls, while others carried only a mackintosh and a poncho, and others, again, only a mackintosh. Each officer carried a haversack containing three days' regulation rations, a canteen, revolver and sword. A great many officers, and all the men, wore their heavy, blue uniforms—some wearing dark blue flannel shirts and others black sateen ones. Some officers wore canvas trousers. Every one wore campaign hats and leggins. A number of officers and men left their blouses on the transport, the former sewing or pinning their shoulder straps on their shirts. Nearly all the staff officers we saw were clad in natty khakie uniforms.

"G" Company landed about 11 a. m., and two hours later our brigade started on a march about three miles inland. We then countermarched two miles, and established our outposts along a small stream. An hour or two later, orders were received to move forward again, and after a march of about three miles the regiment, just about dusk, went into camp on a hill for the night.*

*After the landing, many officers expressed the opinion that, on account of the geography of the country, about three hundred determined men could have prevented our landing at Daiquiri. The town is situated at the foot of a steep mountain, a few hundred yards to the west of which is another.

During the shelling by the Navy the enemy would have only had to retire back of these mountains, where they would have had perfect shelter, and remained there until the boats in which we were being landed approached the shore, when the Spaniards could have made a *sortie*, firing a few volleys into us. The confusion and demoralization that would have followed the killing and wounding of men in small boats that were being tossed about by the rough surf, would have forced us to retire far enough for our Navy to resume the shelling. By retiring simultaneously the enemy could again secure perfect shelter, and, by keeping up such tactics indefinitely, could have undoubtedly prevented our landing.

Subsequently, a captured Spanish officer, who was at Daiquiri on June 22nd, was asked



View Taken from the Pine-apple Patch, where the Left of the Line Entered the Second Field—Looking North-west.

(See map at rear of book, note 4, for location of views marked with ringed letters.)

• **Thursday, June 23rd.**—Took up the march again shortly after 6 a. m. Marched along trail for several miles, through a wild, picturesque, jungle-like section of tropical luxuriance. About 9 o'clock a. m. Regimental Commander thought he saw Spaniards on a mountain about fifteen hundred yards to our left. The regiment was at once faced to the left and formed in an old field, lying down and facing the mountain. After a delay of about thirty minutes the supposed enemy proved to be the large leaves of some tropical trees, which, being moved by the wind, would expose to view their white under-sides, thus giving the appearance of white-clad persons in motion.

The Second Massachusetts had preceded us, and both sides of the trail were strewn with blankets, overcoats and knapsacks which the men had thrown away. We passed a number of stragglers. One poor fellow, nearly overcome by the effects of the march and heat, and plodding along as best he could, had "Home, sweet home" written on his hat in large letters—a sentiment, under the circumstances, peculiarly appropriate. About 2:30 p. m., after a march of about ten miles, we reached Juraguacito, from which the Spaniards had fled, and where our troops had captured two engines, a number of cars and lots of wine. Before fleeing the Spanish engineers dismantled and threw away parts of the engines, hoping to render the engines worthless. A few of our "Yankee" soldiers, however, brought their ingenuity into play, and in the course of two or three hours the engines were running up and down the track, with bells ringing and whistles blowing! After remaining here about two

why the Spaniards had not done this. He replied that their outposts had counted our ships the day we arrived, and, reckoning according to the Spanish method of transporting troops, they thought our Army consisted of about seventy-five thousand men, and that while some of us were landing at Daiquiri, they were afraid others were being landed at Siboney, and that the latter would march north, thus cutting off the Daiquiri force from Santiago. Consequently, they retired as far as Las Guasimas, where they were joined by the garrison from Siboney, and, thoroughly intrenching themselves, prepared to give us battle at that point.



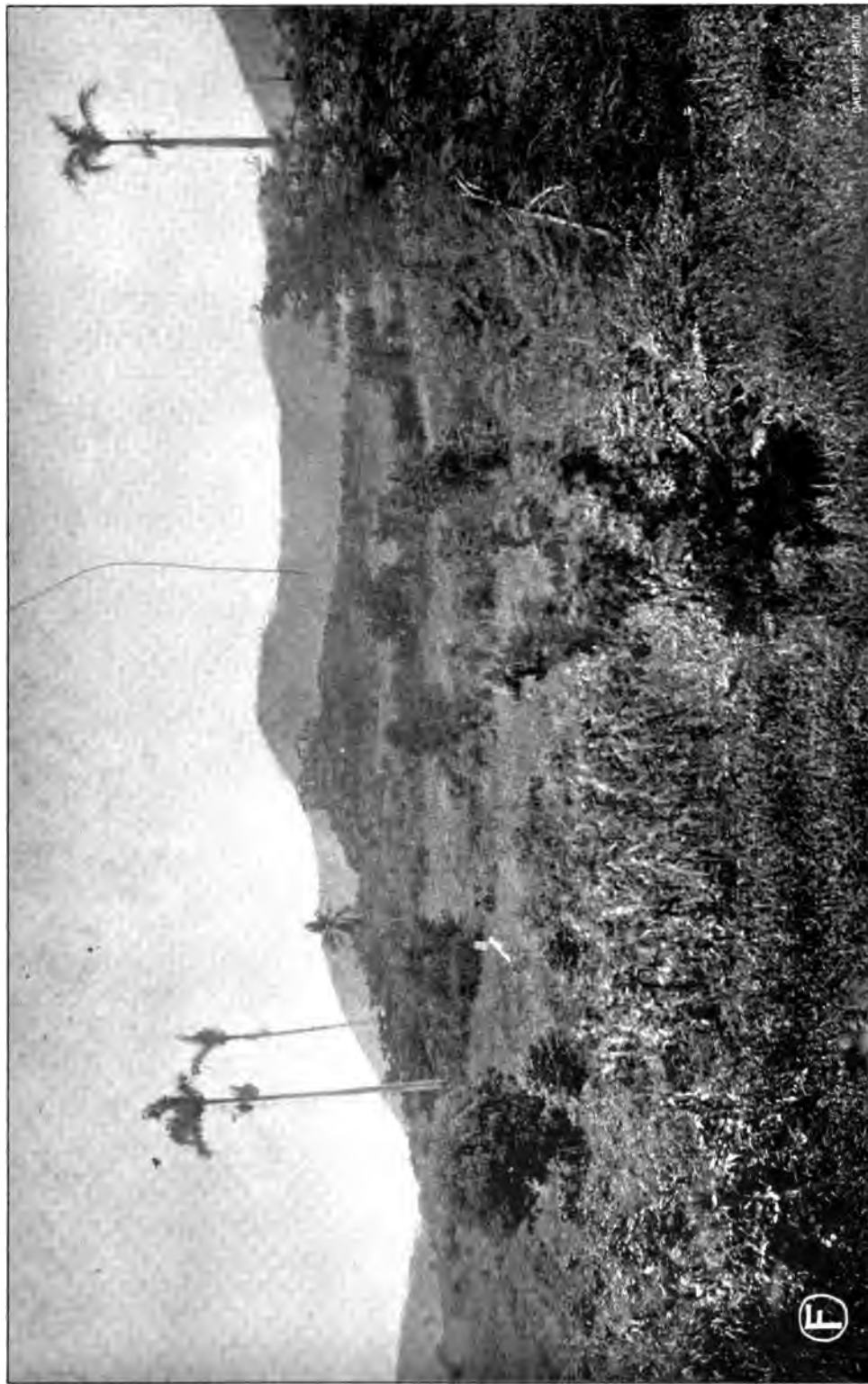
View Taken from where Lieut. McCorkle was Mortally Wounded. El Caney in the distance. Looking North-west.
(See map at rear of book, note 4, for location of views marked with ringed letters.)

hours, we were marched back half a mile and went into camp in a grass field, near a large cocoanut grove.

Friday, June 24th.—About 8 a. m. a mounted courier came running through Juraguacito, calling out for some officer—General Lawton, the writer thinks, but is not positive. The news soon spread that the “Rough Riders” and First and Tenth United States Cavalry had met and engaged a body of Spaniards intrenched in an unusually strong position; that our troops were being worsted, and that re-enforcements were wanted at once. Very shortly after the arrival of the courier our brigade broke camp and started, presumably, to re-enforce the “Rough Riders” and the First and Tenth Cavalry, on the right. By mistake the wrong trail was taken, and after marching over a loop for thirteen hours, we returned to the camp we had left that morning—everyone completely fagged out. The brigade marched by file over mountainous, sinuous trails, passing through a densely timbered wilderness of magnificent grandeur. The day was sultry, the sun was broiling and the numerous halts were irritating and tiresome. We all endured great sufferings, and a number of men were overcome by the heat.

On account of our wanderings that day the command was dubbed by many, “The Lost Brigade.” It has since been stated—but with how much authenticity the writer cannot say—that “the brigade was out making a reconnaissance”!

Just as the darkness of night began to spread over this strange, jungle-like country, another halt was made in a narrow lane, with a thick hedge, trees and underbrush on either side. Tired and hungry we lay on the ground, and in silent meditation rested our weary bones. With the exception of the occasional cooing of a Cuban dove, not a sound was to be heard, and the loneliness and strangeness of our surroundings inspired in us a peculiar, pensive feeling, when, all of a sudden, there rang out on the night air the



View Taken from where "C" and "G" Companies entered the Third Field. Looking North-west.

(See map at rear of book, note 4, for location of views marked with ringed letters.)

musical strains of a funeral march, and a moment later the notes of taps reverberated through those lonely hills. Indeed, a story without words—some of our soldiers who had fallen in battle that day were being laid to rest 'mid the silent, blood-stained hills of a land not their own !

About half an hour after the last note of taps had vanished in the distance, word was passed back like lightning that the head of the regiment was being charged by Spanish cavalry. For a while there was considerable excitement and confusion at the rear of the column, but order was soon restored. The whole trouble was caused by two mules becoming stampeded at the head of the column!

The regiment went into camp about 9:30 p. m.

In speaking of the battle of Las Guasimas, General Shafter says, in his official report : " Our own loss was one officer and ten men killed, and six officers and forty-six men wounded. The reported losses of the Spaniards were nine killed and twenty-seven wounded."*

*Since the campaign considerable has been said and written about the battle of Las Guasimas having been fought contrary to orders, and it seems to be the general opinion among officers qualified to judge, that the First United States Volunteer Cavalry (popularly known as " The Rough Riders ") was ambushed, and saved from practical annihilation by the timely assistance of the First and Tenth United States Cavalry. Anent thereto, the following statements are given :

In an article on " The Santiago Campaign " that appeared in the *New York Tribune* of March 17, 1899. " Justitia," a person evidently unusually well posted in the matter, says : " The General (Wheeler) proceeds to state, ' With the aid of General Castillo I learned the features of the country.' The Army records show in the most positive fashion that whatever information our troops had of the country more than two miles beyond Siboney, was received from Cuban outposts and scouts, and members of the attacking party (fifty Cubans sent forward by Lawton to attack Spaniards retreating from Siboney), and that this information came to Wheeler through Lawton's men. Furthermore, I can not believe that General Wheeler really learned the features of the country, for, had he done so, he would never have permitted his men to walk into the V made by the two hills where the Spaniards lay so strongly posted.

" The General (Wheeler) now proceeds to give an account of the skirmish of Las Guasimas—which the country at large knows was the result of direct disobedience of orders—and claims that there were between two thousand and four thousand Spanish troops engaged



El Viso, the Stone Fort Captured by the 25th—Looking North-west.

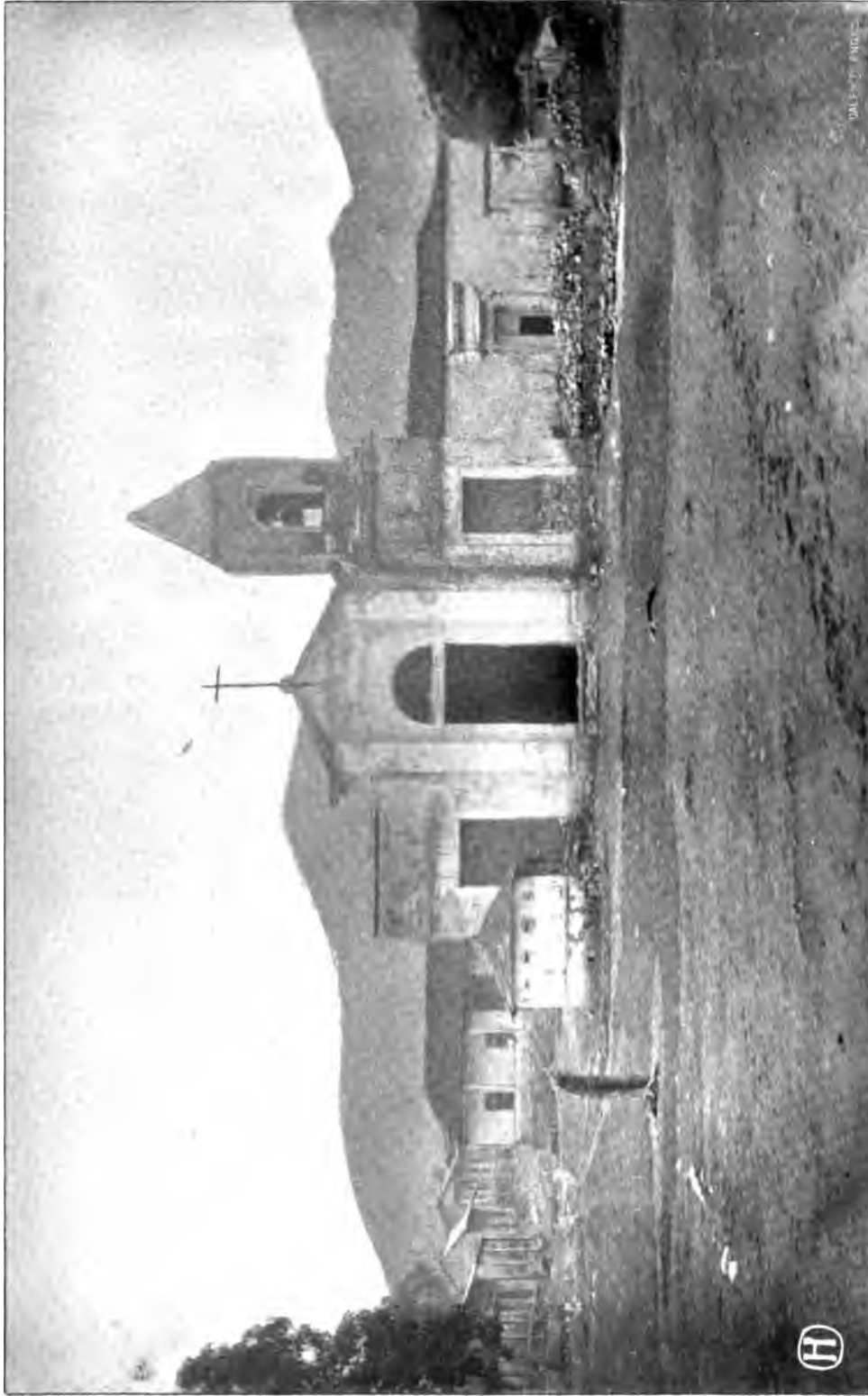
(See map at rear of book, note 4, for location of views marked with ringed letters.)

Saturday, June 25th.—Broke camp 1:30 p. m., and soon afterwards we passed the Twenty-fourth Infantry by the wayside. At 5 p. m. the regiment passed the battlefield of Las Guasimas, and an hour later went into camp.

Sunday, June 26th.—About 5 p. m. "G" Company was ordered out on outpost duty. We had a hard time establishing Cossack posts, being compelled to walk and climb over precipitous places, covered with rocks, high weeds and thick underbrush. It rained during the night. The company returned to camp at 4:30 the next morning.

Monday, June 27th.—Broke camp about 6:30 a. m., and at 8 o'clock a. m. went into camp about five miles from Santiago.

in this action. He further states that General Escario told him the Spanish losses that day were about two thousand; but as General Escario was that day in Manzanillo, I can not accept his figures. As a matter of fact, the precise number of Spaniards at Las Guasimas is well known, being six hundred and twenty men; these figures being from some half-dozen Spanish sources, not the least important of which is the now famous journal of Lieutenant José Muller y Tejeiro, second in command of naval forces of the province of Santiago de Cuba. All know of the gallant work done by our troops that day, and the especial gallantry shown by a raw organization like the Rough Riders in this, their baptism of fire; but reckless claims like these do not enhance the glory of the troops. In commenting upon this skirmish at Las Guasimas, the General says: 'The moment General Lawton and the commander of his leading brigade, General Chaffee, heard the noise of my engagement, they promptly struck camp and marched to the front; but, as the enemy broke and was in full retreat in a little less than an hour, they did not reach me until the action was over.' This is the General's airy way of disposing of the real facts of the case, which are: Early in the morning news came to General Lawton that the cavalry division had marched out, and he immediately sent for General Chaffee and ordered him to march up to Sevilla, as he (Lawton) had not the faintest idea how many Spaniards there were there, and he knew that Wheeler must be equally ignorant. He had been warned the day previous that General Wheeler was going to make an attack. This he declined to believe. Nevertheless, he tried to send word to General Shafter, but failed to secure a boat to communicate with the transports. So, to guard against possible contingencies, he sent forward his crack brigade. The results of the day justified this action, for, shortly after the beginning of the fight, a hurried appeal for reinforcements arrived from General Wheeler, stating that he was engaged with a much larger force of the enemy than he had anticipated. Upon receipt of this, General Lawton forwarded, by another trail, two regiments of the Second Brigade (the Fourth and Twenty-fifth Infantry), under command of General Miles. Neither of these two brigades, however, got into action, for the Spaniards saw the columns coming up the valley, and, making up their minds not to be outflanked, retreated into the city, carrying with them the report that they had been engaged with the entire American Army. Now, why does not General Wheeler (in his book) mention this call



The Old San Luis de El Caney Church, in the Steeple of which were Stationed Spanish Sharpshooters—Looking North

(See map at rear of book, note 4, for location of views marked with ringed letters.)

From a number of places near our camp a part of the city was plainly visible.

Tuesday, June 28th.—Hard rain in afternoon. Camp wet and slushy.

Wednesday, June 29th.—Heavy rain in afternoon. Night very damp, chilly, and otherwise disagreeable.

Thursday, June 30th.—Regiment mustered about 7:30 a. m. About 3 p. m. the officers assembled near the Commanding Officer's tent, and were officially informed that a general attack would be made on the Spanish lines the following morning (July 1st), and that our brigade would be held in reserve near the Ducureau Mansion.

The following was the plan of battle:

“Lawton's Division, assisted by Capron's light battery, was ordered to move out during the afternoon of June 30th toward El

for reinforcements? There is ample evidence that sharp words passed between General Lawton and General Wheeler immediately after the skirmish, although Lawton congratulated the individual officers for their gallantry, but his soldierly spirit was shocked at the recklessness of the attack against an enemy whose numbers was absolutely unknown. Had the force which General Wheeler so lightly claimed was present, to wit: thirty-five hundred men, really been there, it is the opinion of every regular Army officer who knows anything about the ground, that our whole Army would have failed to dislodge them, and we should have received at the very outset, the second day after landing, a setback that would have proved simply disastrous in its effects.”

For one or two days after the battle of Las Guasimas, “Rough Riders” sent back to Siboney on account of wounds, sickness or other causes, openly stated that they had been ambushed. On the second or third day, however, these same men denied most emphatically that they had been ambushed.

While the writer was sick in the Newport Hospital, his attending physician told him that a close friend of his, a Captain in the “Rough Riders,” had, only a day or two before, remarked to him that his command had undoubtedly been ambushed at Las Guasimas.

An appeal for reinforcements was made, as the writer himself stopped and looked at the mounted courier who frantically rode by with no hat on his head, wildly calling out for some officer.

On the afternoon of the 24th it was common talk among officers and men that the “Rough Riders” were marching along the trail, chatting, smoking and laughing, when, all at once, their point was killed and the head of the column fired upon. It was the universal impression that the “Rough Riders” must have come upon the enemy unexpectedly, as they unquestionably walked into the V made by the two hills, where the Spaniards were so strongly entrenched.



The Old Ducureau Mansion, the pivot of operations on the right of the line.
Mentioned in a number of official reports.

Caney to begin the attack there early the next morning. After carrying El Caney, Lawton was to move by the Caney road toward Santiago and take possession on the right of the line. Wheeler's Division of dismounted cavalry, and Kent's Division of infantry were directed on the Santiago road, the head of the column resting near El Pozo, toward which heights Grimes' Battery moved on the afternoon of the 30th, with orders to take position there early the next morning, and at the proper time prepare the way for the advance of Wheeler and Kent on San Juan Hill. The attack at this point was to be delayed until Lawton's guns were heard at El Caney, and his infantry fire showed he had become well engaged." (General Shafter's Official Report.)*

Between 4 and 5 o'clock in the afternoon some members of the Signal Corps ascended in a balloon in order to observe the position of the enemy.

Shortly after 5 p. m. we broke camp, and after a delay of several hours started on a disagreeable night march, during which we passed a number of troops, and forded several shallow streams. Between 10 and 11 p. m. went into camp near the ruins of an old sugar mill, near El Pozo.

*However, everyone familiar with the events of July 1st knows that what actually happened is very different from this, the original plan.



The Mango Grove where the Regiment was held in Reserve from 9 o'clock a. m. to 12 o'clock M., July 1, 1898.

THE BATTLE OF EL CANEY.*

Friday, July 1st.—At 5:30 a. m., July 1st, the Twenty-fifth Infantry started for a point near the Ducureau Mansion, a relic of grandeur, and the object designated as the pivot of operations on the right of the American line.

At 9 o'clock we reached our destination, a mango grove, a mile or so from El Caney, a village occupied by about six hundred Spanish soldiers. We were here held in reserve, and a detachment sent under Lieutenant Lyon to reconnoiter in the direction of a heavy, continuous fire.

As we were taking cat-naps, nibbling at our rations and chatting, the musketry fire could be heard as plainly as our own words, but on account of the high weeds, underbrush and trees, we could see nothing, although some of the officers climbed into trees and used their field-glasses with diligence. The intensity of the firing varied considerably, and the many volleys fired were almost perfect—indeed, so much so, that we all thought they were fired as only United States Regulars can fire volleys, and *must* be American volleys. So, every time one was delivered, we would wish from the very bottom of our hearts and souls that more men had been killed or wounded. Not many hours later, however, we learned, to our grief and sorrow, that they were Spanish and not American volleys!

About noon orders were received to strip for action, and leaving a guard of eight recruits in charge of the blanket-rolls and

*The only merit (if such it be) the author claims for this article is that every detail described actually happened, and not a single statement, however unimportant, is an invention; it is a plain, sequential description, woven of facts taken from notes made soon after the battle, and compiled as faithfully and as accurately as the exciting and confusing conditions under which they occurred would permit.



“The Stone Bridge” in the main El Caney-Santiago road—the place where the regiment bivouaced the night of July 1st, 1898—Looking toward El Caney.

havresacks, the regiment started to advance.* Two hundred yards takes them to the main El Caney-Santiago road; turning to the right they follow this road half a mile or so, and making another turn in the same direction, the command enters a by-road. Here they halt. A Spanish sharpshooter, stationed in the top of a coconut tree, has just seen the column, and is making things interesting for some of them—bullets from El Caney are beginning to whiz overhead—word is passed “Lie low, men!”

The dead, dying and wounded are being taken past to the rear; the wounded and their attendants are telling the Twenty-fifth: “Give them hell, boys; they’ve been doing us dirt all morning.”

A member of the Second Massachusetts, carrying several canteens, and going to the rear for water, says to our soldiers: “The buggers are hidden behind rocks, in weeds and in underbrush, and we just simply can’t locate them; they are shooting our men all to pieces.”

The procession is, indeed, terrible! Men with arms in slings; men with bandaged legs and bloody faces; men stripped to the waist, with a crimson bandage around the chest or shoulder; men staggering along unaided; men in litters, some groaning, some silent, with hats or blood-stained handkerchiefs over their faces; some dead, some dying!

It all seems like a dream—a terrible dream!

“Forward, march,” comes the command.

The regiment advances a few hundred yards and halts. Two companies (“G,” Lieutenants McCorkle and Moss, and “H,” Lieutenant Caldwell) are at once ordered to form the firing line, the position of which is about 800 yards from and facing a stone fort on a high, commanding hill almost in the town of El Caney.

*The main object in placing a guard over our effects was to prevent “Our noble allies,” the Cuban soldiers, from stealing them, as they looted our things on every possible occasion.



The 25th's Permanent Camp (to the right) in the distance.

The other two companies of the Battalion (Capt. Scott's) are in support, and the rest of the regiment is in reserve.

The Twenty-fifth's left connects with the Fourth's right.

"Forward, guide left, march!" is given, and advancing two hundred yards through a grass field, hidden from the enemy's view by a double row of trees, they reach a barbed wire fence. Some of the soldiers are supplied with wire cutters—the command at once cuts its way through, and crossing a lane, enters an open pineapple patch. Ye gods! it is raining lead! The line recoils like a mighty serpent, and then, in confusion, advances again! The Spaniards now see them and are pouring a most murderous fire into their ranks! Men are dropping everywhere! "C" Company (Lieutenant Murdock) is rushing up to re-inforce the line. The bullets are cutting the pineapples under our very feet—the slaughter is awful!

One platoon of "E" Company (Lieutenant Kinnison) is running up to strengthen the left of the line. "D" Company (Captain Edwards and Lieutenant Hunt) is on the right, working its way through high weeds and jungle underbrush.

The Spaniards are using smokeless powder, and being under cover, we cannot locate them. A few yards to our left are high weeds, a few paces to the right thick underbrush and trees, a short distance to the front, a veritable jungle—all, for more than we know, alive with Spaniards. The bullets, missives of death from sources unknown, are raining into our very faces. A soldier comes running up, and cries out, "Lutenant, we're shooting into our own men!" Mid the cracking of rifles, the whizzing of bullets, the killing and wounding of men, and the orders of the officers, great is the confusion! How helpless, oh, how helpless we feel! Our men are being shot down under our very feet, and we, their officers, can do



One of the Trenches Occupied by the 25th, from the morning of July 3d to the morning of the 5th.

nothing for them. It seems as if Fate is about to turn against us. Those faithful darkies, with determination and devotion stamped in every line of their black faces, are looking appealingly to their white officers, almost saying, "Lutenant, jes tell me wat ter do, an' ah'll do it!"

The officers in the pineapple patch are now holding a consultation, and decide there is but one thing for United States Regulars to do—Advance! Advance until they find the enemy!

The onward movement is just about to start. Lieutenant McCorkle is under a small cherry tree, kneeling on one knee; unbuttoning his shirt, he lowers his head and beholds in the pit of his right arm a ghastly wound, and then, poor fellow, he falls over, mortally wounded. A man on his right exclaims, "Ugh," and dropping his rifle, falls dead! Another just in front cries out, "I'm shot!" Bullets are dropping like hail! One officer and two privates make two attempts to carry their wounded commander's body to a place of shelter, but both times they are driven back by Spanish bullets; a third effort, however, is successful.

McCorkle is dead! Moss takes command of the company. A rush of fifty yards takes them to a place of comparative shelter; here they rest a while.

Lieutenant Murdock is wounded, and Lieutenant Moss takes command of his company also; another rush over exposed ground, and "C" and "G" Companies find shelter in a small stream.

Lieutenants Caldwell and Kinnison have been gradually working their way up another stream, and are now about two hundred yards from the fort, and for the first time since the firing line was formed do our men see the Spaniards.

Zip, zip, zip! The air is filled with bullets! Captain Edwards



Part of one of the Trenches Occupied by the 25th, from the afternoon of July 5th to the morning of the 11th.

drops, wounded through the right groin, and Lieutenant Hunt takes command of the company.

“Now, men, altogether!” and a dash of forty yards takes “C” and “G” Companies to the crest of a small hill, where they join Lieutenants Caldwell and Kinnison.

Lieutenant Hunt’s company is firing over the crest of a hillock fifty yards to the front and right.

Our firing line is now no more than one hundred and fifty yards from the fort, and our men are doing grand work. A general fusilading for a few minutes, and then orders are given for no one but marksmen and sharpshooters to fire. Thirty or forty of these dead-shots are pouring lead into every rifle-pit, door, window and porthole in sight. The earth, brick and mortar are fairly flying! The Spaniards are shaken and demoralized; bare-headed, and without rifles, they are frantically running from their rifle-pits to the fort, and from the fort to the rifle-pits! Our men are shooting them down like dogs! A young officer is running up and down, back of the firing line, and waving his hat above his head, is exclaiming to the men in the rear: “Come on, come on, men—we’ve got ’em on the run!” “Remember the Maine!” shouts a sergeant. “Give them hell, men!” cries out an officer. “There’s another!” shouts a soldier—bang! bang! bang! and another Spaniard drops! Four are shot down in the door of the fort!

A Spaniard appears in the door of the fort, and presents to the Twenty-fifth a white flag, but is shot down before the firing line can be controlled. Another takes up the flag, and he, too, falls!

The fort has been silenced!

However, a galling flank fire is now coming from the village and a small block-house on our left. As long as we remain in our present position, we can accomplish but little, as the walls of the





Part of Trench Occupied by the 25th, from July 14th, to about 2 a. m. , July 14th.
Santiago and the harbor in the distance.

block-house are impervious to our bullets. It is, therefore, decided to rush forward and change direction to the left, thus gaining a position facing, and slightly above the block-house.

The line is now being formed for the final rush—all is ready—they're off!

One company of the Twelfth Infantry, which has been working its way up on the right, is also rushing up.

Lieutenant Kinnison is wounded and taken off the field.

Men are still dropping by the wayside, but on, on, up, up, they go, those dusky boys in blue!

The line is now occupying its new position—some of our men are shooting into the town, and others are shooting down through the roof of the block-house—the Spaniards are falling over one another to get out!

The heavy firing has ceased, and after twenty-five or thirty minutes of desultory firing, El Caney itself surrenders!

Where but a moment ago floated the Spanish flag, now flutters the Stars and Stripes!

And thus it was that at El Caney, "The Hornets' Nest," our colored Regulars fought and won!*

*An inspection of the captured fort could but cause one to soliloquize with Gen. Sherman, "War is hell." The rifle-pits were open graves, while the interior of the fort, with its walls, floor and ceiling bespattered with human blood, was a real "Chamber of Horrors."

One of the rifle-pits presented a scene which baffles description—a scene as ineffaceable as the image of death, for it was, indeed, death itself in a most horrible form. At one end of the pit lay a dead Spaniard in a sitting position, his back resting against the end of the pit, his knees raised, the legs being drawn toward the body, his hands flabbily resting by his sides, his head slightly thrown back, exposing to view the white of his eyes, and his partially opened mouth showing his teeth. In his lap rested a straw hat—partially filled with his own brains!

The fort captured by the Twenty-fifth was the key to the town, and was made of brick and stone, measuring twenty by twenty-one paces, and the walls being about two feet thick, except at two of the corners, where they were about five feet thick. There were from fifteen to twenty portholes on every side.

By examining on the map the lines of advance of "C" and "G" Companies, and that of "H" Company, it will be seen that they cross each other. Neither the officer commanding



Part of Trench Occupied by the 25th from July 11th to about 2 a. m., July 14th.
Harbor of Santiago in the distance.

After the battle, the companies that had formed the firing line were marched back to the pineapple patch, where they found the rest of the regiment; the men and officers sitting and standing around, many of them eating pineapples and chatting over their first battle. Here we waited—waited until the Pioneer Corps had finished digging the graves, when the regiment was marched to a field near by, where our dead were buried. As the trumpeter blew taps over the graves, we all uncovered, and, with heads bowed, paid a last, silent tribute of respect to our comrades who had that day, on the field of battle, given up their lives for their country's flag!

We then started for the mango grove where our blanket rolls and haversacks had been left. We passed the Second Massachusetts standing on the side of the road. They had seen the Twenty-fifth charging up the hills that afternoon, and gave us a grand ovation as we marched by. All along the line we were applauded and cheered.

That night the regiment bivouaced in the main El Caney-Santiago road, and were continually disturbed by packtrains and

"H" Company, or myself knew, until after the battle, that the companies had crossed each other during the fight, so thick and high were the weeds and underbrush.

It has been stated over and over again that, a day or two before the battle, a thorough reconnaissance had been made of the country around El Caney.

In connection with this statement, attention is invited to the following:

(a) It was expected that Lawton's Division would carry El Caney after one, or perhaps two hours' fighting. As a matter of fact, it took over nine hours to capture the place, and troops that had been designated to remain in reserve that day were ordered on the firing line by one o'clock in the afternoon.

(b) Until about 4:00 p. m. our Artillery did not know of the existence of the block-house that so annoyed the Twenty fifth's left.

(c) None of the officers of our Brigade knew of the existence of the streams south-east of El Caney until they came across them in their advance on the stone fort.

(d) The town was protected on the north by three block-houses and the church; on the west by three block-houses (and partially by the church); on the east by the stone fort, one block-house, the church, and three rifle pits; on the south and south-east by the stone fort, three block-houses, one loop-holed house, the church and eight rifle pits. However, the Second Brigade was sent forward against the south-east of the town, thus being exposed to fire from *fourteen* different sources, nearly all of which were in different planes, forming so many



Railroad Track between the General Line of the American Entrenchments and the Spanish Position. Three Companies of the 25th were entrenched on the left of the Track when Santiago surrendered, July 14th, 1898.

Artillery. During the night the troops were issued rations and ammunition.

Saturday, July 2nd.—About 1 a. m. all fires were ordered put out, as an attack was feared from the Spaniards. At 3:30 a. m. we took up the march to the rear. "H" Company was ordered to form the rear guard. About 4 a. m. there was a heavy, continuous fire (Artillery and Infantry) at our rear. For a time things looked squally. Our rear-guard, however, did not get engaged, although, from the statement of its commander (Lieutenant Caldwell), it looked as if it would be at any moment. About 8 a. m. we passed the old sugar mill near which the regiment had bivouaced the night of June 30th, and shortly afterwards the command stripped for action. The brigade took position in reserve a few hundred yards in rear of the firing line. Lots of bullets passing just above our

tiers of fire. The cover on the south and south-east of the town was no better than, if as good as, that on the other sides.

As well as the writer remembers, and as far as he has been able so learn from his fellow officers, the only orders given the firing line were: 'Our left is to connect with the right of the Fourth Infantry; be careful how you fire, as some of our men (presumably the Second Massachusetts) are supposed to be in the weeds and underbrush to our front.' When the Fourth Infantry firing line started forward, the Twenty-fifth took up the march.

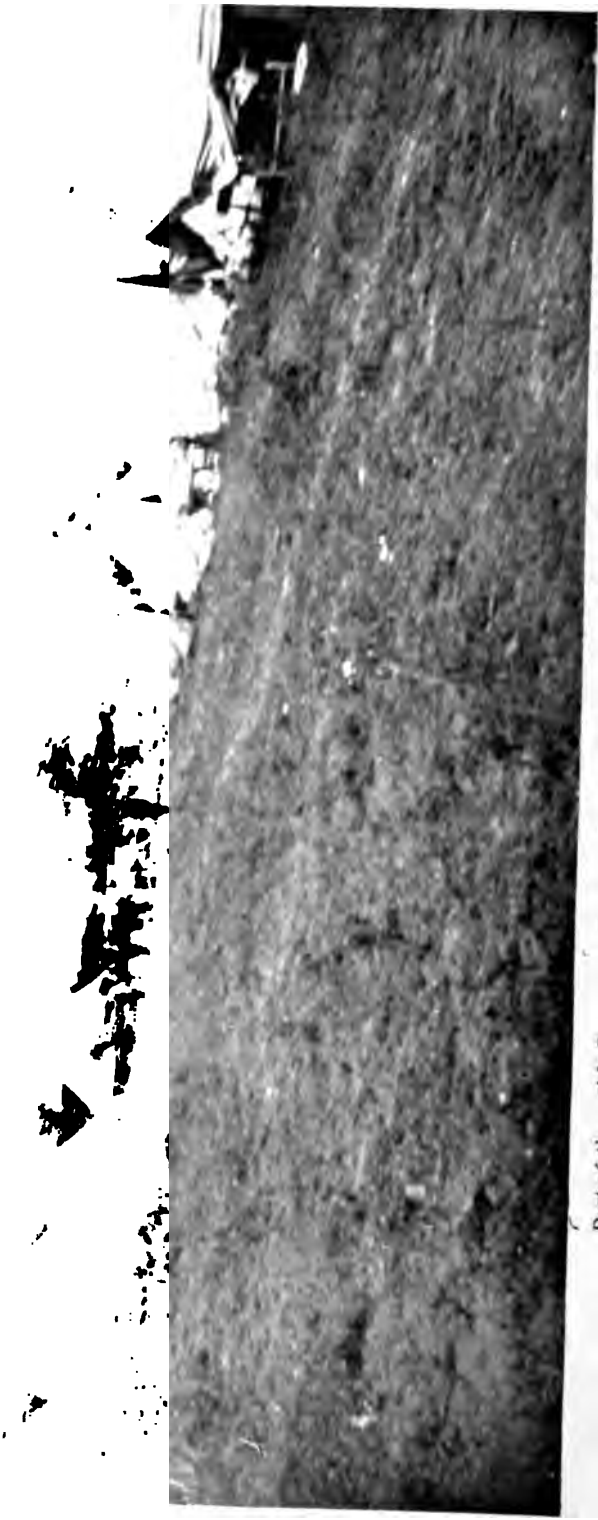
In the second field the companies became separated, and in the high weeds, underbrush, etc., lost sight of one another, so that from that time on, the battle (so far as the firing line was concerned) was necessarily fought by the company commanders and their lieutenants, the non-commissioned officers and privates.

To go from one place of shelter to another it was sometimes necessary to advance along a narrow path, or pass through a narrow opening through a wire fence or dense underbrush, in which cases the *rushes* would be made by file, the company commander at the head of the column, and a lieutenant or non-commissioned officer at the rear.

It is now well known that the Infantry at El Caney was ordered against positions that had not been shaken by artillery fire; in short, the Infantry was called upon to do the Artillery's work. An artillery officer who was with Capron's Battery at El Caney admitted to the writer that such was really the case, but stated that the artillery officers were not to blame, as the Division Commander not only regulated in person the intensity of the artillery fire, but also selected the objectives, which were being continually changed.

The first two shots, according to this officer's statement, fired at the El Viso stone fort, took effect, and the place would have soon been razed to the ground, had not the objective then been ordered changed.

It is the opinion of a number of old and experienced officers, that had the Artillery been properly handled at El Caney, our losses would have been at least fifty per cent. less.



Part of the 25th's Permanent Camp, three miles north of Santiago---July 24th--August 13th.

heads, and one or two of our men were wounded. Were not ordered on the firing line, and bivouaced that night at the La Cruz house, about two thousand yards from the Spanish lines. Several hundred Cuban insurgents also bivouaced there that night. About 10 o'clock p. m. troops near by were attacked by Spaniards—lots of firing right around us; the command at once turned out and prepared for action. In about an hour, however, things quieted down, and we again retired for the night.

Sunday, July 3rd.—About 8 o'clock a. m. the regiment left the La Cruz house, and the First Battalion (Captain Scott) took a position back of a hill just on the right of the main El Caney-Santiago road. A Spanish sharpshooter or two kept us "guessing" for nearly two hours, by dropping an occasional bullet into our midst. At 10 o'clock we moved up to the foot of a hill about one thousand yards from the Spanish intrenchments, and an hour later "G" Company was ordered on top of the hill to relieve "E" Company in digging trenches. About noon the company was informed that a truce had been established, and we were ordered to stop all work, which we did at once, and then returned to the foot of the hill, where everyone proceeded to enjoy a much needed rest.

About 10 o'clock that night Major Webb, United States Volunteers, rode up to where we were, and informed us that the truce had expired that afternoon, and that an attack was expected at any moment. The whole thing turned out to be a false alarm, but succeeded in disturbing and breaking the rest of the command, as some of the companies were ordered out to resist the anticipated attack.

The next morning the flag of truce was still flying.

About 2:30 a. m. "G" Company went into the trenches again and worked until 5 a. m., when we returned to the foot of the hill.



LIEUT. H. L. MCCORKLE
Killed at the Battle of El Caney, July 1, 1898.

Monday, July 4th.—Remained at foot of hill until 4:30 p. m., when the company ("G") went out for outpost duty—relieved "E" Company (Lieutenant Sturtevant). We intrenched on the left of the main El Caney-Santiago road until 2:30 a. m.

Tuesday, July 5th.—About 5 a. m. women, children and other non-combatants began to leave Santiago on account of the anticipated bombardment of the city. They left Santiago by two or three different roads, a great many coming through our lines by way of the El Caney-Santiago road. The procession was a pitiful sight—a number of old, sick men and women being carried in chairs, dogcarts, improvised litters, etc.; weak, decrepit persons were straggling along, and young mothers, with babes in their arms, were leaving their homes to seek food and shelter—God only knew where!

About 9:30 a. m. the company ("G") left the trenches it had occupied during the night, and the regiment started for a point about one mile to our right.

"G" Company was ordered to intrench in a valley, so as to control a road coming from Santiago. The Company Commander (Lieutenant Moss) protested against intrenching the company in the bottom of the valley, as the position was far below the Spanish position and was controlled by the enemy's fire. Finally, authority was obtained from the Brigade Commander to intrench the company on the side, and near the end, of a spur, and about one hundred and fifty yards in front of the general line of intrenchments.

Wednesday, July 6th.—Started to extend the intrenchment on the crest, and at the end, of the same spur, with permission to have "G" Company occupy the position, which was about five

hundred yards from, and slightly above the Spanish line, and which commanded the road and adjacent ground.

Thursday, July 7th.—Worked hard and faithfully the whole day on intrenchment and bomb-proof. Used for head logs cocoanut trees, which had to be carried about half a mile.

Friday, July 8th.—Completed intrenchment and bomb-proof. On account of the prominent, advanced position occupied by the company, the Company Commander expected to be shelled by Spanish artillery; hence the great pains taken in fortifying our position.

Saturday, July 9th.—Waited in trenches for developments.

Sunday, July 10th.—Spaniards given until 4 p. m. to surrender unconditionally. About 4:35 p. m. Spanish flag planted in front of our position, and feeble cheering by the Spaniards. General engagement began at 4:45 and lasted about two hours. Both sides being thoroughly intrenched, the losses were very small.

Monday, July 11th.—At daybreak the company was relieved by a company of the Seventh United States Infantry. At 6:15 a. m. the regiment started for another position about three miles to our right, where we dug *more* intrenchments. Between 12 m. and 1 p. m. we were informed that another truce had been established.

About 10 o'clock p. m. the Regimental Commander sent for the officers. They assembled in a drenching rain and were informed that the command was to advance that night by moonlight and intrench as near as possible to the Spanish lines.

Tuesday, July 12th.—At 1 a. m. the command formed with their blanket rolls, and stood on the top of a hill in a drenching rain until 5:10 a. m., when we were ordered into camp again. The

movement was not executed on account of the non-appearance of the moon.

The ground to our front was a veritable jungle, traversed by a number of barbed wire fences, and, from all accounts, no reconnaissance had been made of it. The non-appearance of the moon that night was regarded by all as providential.

About 1 p. m. a heavy rain.

At 3 p. m. orders were received to advance and intrench several hundred yards nearer the enemy's position, as originally contemplated. The order, however, was afterwards revoked.

Wednesday, July 13th.—In camp, just back of intrenchments, waiting for developments. Heavy rain in afternoon.

Thursday, July 14th.—About 2:30 a. m. the company, with several others, broke camp and advanced about a mile toward the Spanish position. We then struck a railroad track which we followed about one hundred yards, when the command stopped and waited for daybreak. With the dawn of day the troops began intrenching themselves on the side of the track, utilizing the nearer rail as a "head-log."

Soldiers worked hard intrenching until 11:45 a. m. Orders received that everyone should be in the trenches by 11:55 a. m., as the firing was expected to begin at 12 m. Awfully hot and oppressive. Twelve, one and two o'clock passed without any firing. At 2:30 p. m. men of the company allowed to sit out of trenches. The heat something awful. Heavy shower. Cheering heard at our rear. At 3 o'clock the Adjutant (Lieutenant Cronin) directed us to return to our old camp, as SANTIAGO HAD SURRENDERED! Everyone returned to camp with a "we-have-met-the-enemy-and-they-are-ours" feeling.

Friday, July 15th.—The First Battalion (of which "G" Company formed a part) moved their camp on the crest of the hill, near our trenches.

Greater part of "G" Company spent all forenoon constructing a shade-roof.

Saturday, July 16th.—By order of the Adjutant, the Company Commanders announced to the companies at retreat that the Madrid Government had approved the terms of surrender agreed upon by Generals Shafter and Toral.

Sunday, July 17th.—The regiment, as well as the rest of the United States troops, formed along the American line of intrenchments at 9 a. m., the hour the formal surrender of Santiago was taking place. We formed again at 11:30 a. m., and while Capron's Battery was firing a salute of twenty-one guns, the Stars and Stripes were raised over the Palace of the Governor of Santiago!

The following congratulatory order was read to the troops :

Washington, June 16, 1898.

To General Shafter, Commanding Front near Santiago, Playa:

The President of the United States sends to you and your brave army the profound thanks of the American people for the brilliant achievements at Santiago, resulting in the surrender of the city and all of the Spanish troops and territory under General Toral. Your splendid command has endured not only the hardships and sacrifices incident to campaign and battle, but in stress of heat and weather has triumphed over obstacles which would have overcome many less brave and determined. One and all have displayed the most conspicuous gallantry and earned the gratitude of the Nation. The hearts of the people turn with tender sympathy to the sick and wounded. May the Father of Mercies protect and comfort them.

(Signed) WILLIAM McKINLEY.

Monday, July 18th; Tuesday, July 19th, Wednesday July 20th, Thursday, July 21st, Friday, July 22nd, Saturday, July 23rd.—Waiting to be moved to a permanent camp further up into the mountains. A great many men getting sick with Cuban malarial fever. A few cases of dysentery. Scarcity of medicines; hospital accommodations abominable.

Sunday, July 24th.—The regiment was marched over to a hill one thousand yards away, and about three miles north of Santiago. Late that night some of our tents and personal effects were brought up from the transport, and the rest of the camping equipage came up the next day. Our new location was an excellent camping site—high and open, with water near by, and affording an excellent view of Santiago, the harbor, and the surrounding country.

The daily sick report averaged about one hundred and thirty, nearly all malarial fever. Our men suffered a great deal from the lack of proper medical care and treatment. Although the regimental surgeon worked hard, and performed his duties faithfully, he was unable to get proper food and sufficient medicine for the sick.

The following correspondence is a fair index to the workings of the Medical Department:

Headquarters Company "G," Twenty-fifth Infantry.

In camp near Santiago de Cuba, August 2, 1898.

The Adjutant, Twenty-fifth Infantry,

Present.

Sir:—I have the honor to state that Private Hezekiah Bell of my company has been on the sick report, and suffering from chronic diarrhœa for sixteen days. During the last few days he has been getting gradually worse, passing blood, and suffering great pain both day and night. Our surgeon, Major and Assistant-Surgeon Shillock, informs me that the hospital facilities at his disposal

are inadequate to properly treat and care for this patient; that an effort made some time ago to transfer Private Bell to the Divisional Hospital proved futile, and that a subsequent request that he, with others, be sent to the United States, has likewise been unsuccessful.

Feeling that this man's life is being jeopardized through the lack of proper medical treatment, I would earnestly request that his case be at once reported to the Major-General commanding the Fifth Army Corps.

Very respectfully,

(Signed) JAMES A. MOSS,

Second Lieut. Twenty-fifth Infantry, Commanding Co. "G."

First Endorsement.

Camp, near Santiago, Cuba, August 2, 1898.

Respectfully forwarded to Headquarters Second Brigade, Second Division,
Fifth Corps.

I hope this man will be sent where he can receive proper treatment.

Captain Loughborough sends a similar communication on which the Surgeon and myself have put an endorsement that will nearly apply to this case.

(Signed) A. S. DAGGETT,

Lieutenant-Colonel Twenty-fifth Infantry, Commanding Regiment.

Second Endorsement.

Headquarters Second Brigade, Second Division,

Fifth Corps, August 2, 1898.

Respectfully forwarded.

(Signed) C. McKIBBIN,

Brigadier-General United States Volunteers, Commanding Brigade.

Third Endorsement.

Headquarters Second Division, August 4, 1898.

Respectfully returned with the recommendation that this soldier be transferred to the Divisional Hospital on a litter without delay.

(Signed) KILBOURNE, Chief Surgeon.

Fourth Endorsement.

Headquarters Second Division, Fifth Army Corps,
Near Santiago de Cuba, August 5, 1898.

Respectfully returned to the Commanding Officer, Twenty-fifth Infantry (through Commanding General, Second Brigade), for compliance with preceding endorsement.

By command of Major General Lawton.

(Signed) H. C. CARBAUGH,
Assistant-Adjutant General, A. G. Division.

Fifth Endorsement.

Headquarters Second Brigade, Second Division,
Fifth Corps, August 5, 1898.

Respectfully returned to the Commanding Officer Twenty-fifth Infantry for compliance.

By command of Brigadier General McKibbin.

(Signed) C. D. RHODES,
Captain and A. A. G., U. S. V., A. G.

NOTE.

Captain Loughborough's letter, referred to in the first endorsement of the preceding letter.

BRIEF OF LETTER.

Company "B," Twenty-fifth Infantry,
Camp near Santiago, Cuba, August 1, 1898.

Loughborough, R. H. R., Captain Twenty-fifth Infantry, Commanding Company "B," states that Private Lewis of Company "B," Twenty-fifth Infantry, is in a precarious condition; that the surgeon has failed in repeated efforts to have this man, along with others, cared for at a place where they could be properly treated. Asks, in the name of humanity, that some steps be taken in this case.

First Endorsement.

Headquarters Twenty-fifth Infantry,
Camp near Santiago, Cuba, August 1, 1898.

Respectfully referred to the surgeon, Captain P. Shillock, Assistant Surgeon, United States Army, for remarks.

By order of Lieutenant-Colonel Daggett.

(Signed) J. P. O'NEIL,
First Lieutenant and R. Q. M., Twenty-fifth Infantry, Acting Adjutant.

Second Endorsement.

Camp Twenty-fifth Infantry, United States Army,
Near Santiago, Cuba, August 1, 1898.

Respectfully returned. This case is only one of many more such. I have repeatedly made every effort to have these cases transferred to a field hospital where they might be properly cared for, but without success.

Our regimental hospital was broken up at Tampa to help build up the Divisional Hospital. This particular regimental hospital was stripped of all its bunks, several of its attendants and other articles, to help build up the Second Divisional Hospital.

I was told at the time that the regimental remains of a hospital were to take care of only emergency cases; all seriously sick, or of long duration, were to go to the Divisional Hospital. Further, I was told regimental hospitals had proved themselves failures, and that divisional hospitals were *the* thing. Practically, we find the divisional hospital, at least, as far as this Second Division is concerned, a complete failure. In fact, it has not been in existence part of the time, and, at others, was always in process of construction, and not ready for the reception of patients. I again repeat that I have been unable for several weeks, I believe, to transfer men to the field hospital. I have sent the men on several occasions to the field hospital with all the technical formalities of properly made out transfer slips and an accompanying attendant, but they were returned with the curt explanation that they could not be received, or that the hospital was full, or that they were not receiving that class of patients.

I sent an insane man to one of the hospitals, and he was returned the next day; he disappeared from the regiment shortly afterwards—possibly died in his insanity for want of control.

The cases I have tried to send to the field hospital were all proper cases—chronic diarrhoea and dysentery cases that simply do not get well here for want of proper hospital food, tenting and nursing, such as it has been impossible to give them in the regiment at the front, frequently moving. I have done the best I could with them, but they are practically dying from want of proper hospital nursing.

I maintain that severe venereal cases should be sent to the field hospital for treatment, and not dragged along with a moving regiment. A man with an immense *** in the groin, paining him at every step, should be in the field hospital and not with the regiment.

I sent one case of *** to the hospital; they received the case, lanced the *** and returned him to the regiment with a running sore, to be dressed and looked after by me the best way I could. Under the circumstances, that they had at the time all the dressing necessary, and I had none left, it was an unfair deal, to say nothing of the inhumanity toward the man, to make him follow his regiment around from place to place with an unhealed gash in his groin.

The regiment has not been properly supplied and kept supplied with the needful medicines and dressings to take proper care of all the sick. The welfare of the patient compels us to request his being received in a hospital where all necessary medicines and dressings should be on hand.

Furthermore, the ambulance service has proved itself a failure, as far as affording transportation of the sick of this regiment is concerned. I have requested many times to have an ambulance transport our sick, but it has been the rare exception whenever one was sent to me for that purpose.

An empty ambulance has met sick soldiers, wearily treading to the rear, and has refused to allow the patients to ride, although both patient and ambulance were going on the same road in the same direction.

If my remarks viewing the whole medical arrangement of this Division seem hard, I am willing, and more than willing, to have the whole matter investigated, and place the blame of the neglect of patients upon whom deserve the blame. Blame there surely is; here are men dying of chronic diarrhœa and dysentery, whose lives would be saved by proper hospital treatment.

(Signed) PAUL SHILLOCK,

Major Brigade Surgeon, U. S. V., Captain and Assistant Surgeon, U. S. A.

Third Endorsement.

Headquarters Twenty-fifth Infantry,
Near Santiago, Cuba, August 1, 1898.

Respectfully forwarded to the headquarters, Second Brigade, Second Division.
Approved.

I know of the surgeon's unsuccessful efforts to have the sick placed where they could receive better treatment than he has the means to give at this camp.

This man has served about eighteen years, re-enlisted about a month ago, and is too valuable a soldier to lose unnecessarily, even if humanity would not step in and save him.

It seems to me there is neglect or heartlessness in the Medical Department somewhere.

(Signed) A. S. DAGGETT,

Lieutenant-Colonel Twenty-fifth Infantry, Commanding.

Fourth Endorsement.

Headquarters Second Brigade, Second Division, Fifth C.

Respectfully forwarded.

(Signed) C. MCKIBBIN,

Brigadier-General, U. S. V., Commanding Brigade.

Fifth Endorsement.

Respectfully returned to the Assistant Adjutant-General, Second Division, with the recommendation that six of the sick of the Twenty-fifth—those suitable for treatment in the field hospital—be sent down in litters to the Divisional Hospital near the headquarters.

I have been unable to secure ambulances for moving the sick of the Division to-day.

(Signed) KILBOURNE, C. S.

Sixth Endorsement.

Headquarters Second Division, Fifth A. Corps, August 4, 1898.

Respectfully returned (through the Commanding General, Second Brigade) to the Commanding Officer Twenty-fifth Infantry, inviting attention to preceding endorsement.

By command of Major-General Lawton.

(Signed) H. C. CARBOUGH, A. A. G., A. G. Div.

Seventh Endorsement.

Headquarters Second Brigade, Second Division, Fifth C., August 4, 1898.
Respectfully returned to the Commanding Officer Twenty-fifth Infantry.
By command of Brigadier-General McKibbin.

(Signed) C. D. RHODES, A. A. G.

Eighth Endorsement.

Headquarters Twenty-fifth Infantry,
Near Santiago, Cuba, August 4, 1898.
Respectfully returned to Captain R. H. R. Loughborough, Twenty-fifth Infantry,
Commanding Company B.

Attention invited to previous endorsement.
By order of Lieutenant-Colonel Daggett.

(Signed) M. D. CRONIN,
First Lieutenant and Adjutant, Twenty-fifth Infantry.

Between 4 and 5 p. m., Friday, August 12th, the Regiment was formed with the men in their new canvas uniforms, and the following order was read:

Headquarters Twenty-fifth Infantry.
Near Santiago de Cuba, August 11, 1898.

General Orders No. 19.

The Regimental Commander congratulates the regiment on the prospect of its speedy return to the United States. Gathered from three different stations, many of you strangers to each other, you assembled, as a regiment, for the first time in more than twenty-eight years, on May 7th, at Tampa, Florida. There you endeavored to solidify and prepare yourselves, as far as the oppressive weather would permit, for the work that appeared to be before you; but who could have foretold the severity of that work? You endured the severe hardships of a long sea voyage, which no one who has not experienced it can appreciate. You then disembarked amidst dangerous surroundings, and, on landing, were for the first time on hostile ground. You marched under a tropical sun, carrying blanket roll, three days' rations, and one hundred rounds of ammunition, through rain and mud, part of the time at night, sleeping on the wet ground without shelter, living part of the time on scant rations, even of bacon, hard bread, and coffee, until on July 1st you arrived near El Caney. Here you took the battle formation and advanced to the stone fort, more like veterans than troops who had never been under fire. You again marched day and night, halting only to dig four lines of intrenchments, the last being the nearest point to the enemy reached by any organization, when, still holding your rifles within these intrenchments, notice was received that Santiago and the Spanish Army had surrendered.

But commendable as the record cited may be, the brightest hours of your lives were on the afternoon of July 1st. Formed in battle array, you advanced to the stone fort against volleys therefrom and rifle pits in front, and a galling fire from block-houses, the church tower, and the village on your left. You continued to advance, skillfully and bravely directed by the officers in immediate command, halting and delivering such a cool and well directed fire, that the enemy was compelled to wave the white flag in token of surrender. Seldom have troops been called upon to face a severer fire, and never have they acquitted themselves better.

The regimental reserve was called upon to try its nerve by lying quiet under a galling fire, without the privilege of returning, where men were killed and wounded. This is a test of nerve which the firing line cannot realize, and requires the highest quality of bravery and endurance. You may well return to the

United States proud of your accomplishments, and if any ask what you have done, point him to El Caney.

But in the midst of the joy of going home, we mourn the loss of those we leave behind.

The genial, generous-hearted McCorkle fell at the post of duty bravely directing his men in the advance on the stone fort. He died as the true soldier dies, and received a soldier's burial. He was beloved by all who knew him, and his name will always be fondly remembered by his regiment, especially those who participated in the Santiago campaign. The officers of the regiment will wear the prescribed badge of mourning for Lieutenant McCorkle for thirty days.

And Corporal Benjamin Cousins, Privates Payne, Lewis, Strother, Bevill,* Taliafoor, Howe, Phelps, Steele and Leftwich sacrificed their lives on their country's altar. Being of a race which only thirty-five years ago emerged through a long and bloody war from a condition of servitude, they, in their turn, engaged in a war which was officially pronounced to be in the interest of humanity, and gave all they had, their lives, that the oppressed might be free, and enjoy the blessings of liberty guaranteed by a stable government.

They also died like true soldiers and received a soldier's burial.

By order of Lieutenant-Colonel Daggett.

M. D. CRONIN,

First Lieutenant and Adjutant, Twenty-fifth Infantry.

Saturday morning, August 13th, the regiment started for Santiago, to embark on the transport "Comanche," bound for Montauk Point, New York. All our tents were left standing, and the soldiers burnt all the old clothes worn through the campaign.

Between 5 and 6 o'clock that afternoon the "Comanche" raised anchor, and with the band playing "Home, sweet home," we started on our homeward journey. After passing Cayo Smith, the ruins of the "Merrimac" and the "Riena Mercedes," and then Morro Castle, the transport was soon steaming on the high seas. After an uneventful journey of five days, during which we covered about fourteen hundred miles, on the afternoon of August 18th the "Comanche" anchored within the quarantine limits of Montauk Point, and four days later we landed—all delighted to be once more in "GOD'S COUNTRY!"

* Reported dead—error; was wounded.

APPENDIX I.

Roster of Officers with the Regiment.



LIEUT.-COL. A. S. DAGGETT, Commanding Regiment.
CAPT. W. S. SCOTT, Commanding 1st Battalion.
CAPT. C. L. HODGES, Commanding 2d Battalion.
CAPT. R. H. R. LOUGHBOROUGH, Commanding Co. "B."
CAPT. E. A. EDWARDS, Commanding Co. "D."*
1st LIEUT. M. D. CRONIN, Adjutant.
1st LIEUT. J. P. O'NEIL, Quartermaster.†
1st LIEUT. V. A. CALDWELL, Commanding Co. "H."
1st LIEUT. R. L. BUSH, - " Co. "A."
1st LIEUT. H. C. CLARK, - " Co. "F."
1st LIEUT. H. L. McCORKLE, " Co. "G" until July 1st.‡
1st LIEUT. J. S. MURDOCK, " Co. "C."§
1st LIEUT. H. L. KINNISON, " Co. "E" until July 1st.||
1st LIEUT. J. A. MOSS, " Co. "G" after July 1st.
2d LIEUT. S. P. LYON, Adjutant 2d Battalion until July 13th.¶
2d LIEUT. G. SPURTEVANT, Commanding Co. "E" after July 1st.
2d LIEUT. H. W. FRENCH, Adjutant 1st Battalion.
2d LIEUT. J. E. HUNT, Commanding Co. "D" after July 1st.
2d LIEUT. B. ENOCHS, Adjutant 2d Battalion after July 13th.
CAPT. and ASST. SURGEON PAUL SHILOCK, Regimental Surgeon.



- * Wounded July 1st and taken to the rear.
- † Appointed Brigade Commissary August 8th.
- ‡ Killed at El Caney, July 1st.
- § Slightly wounded July 1st and taken to the rear. Rejoined Regiment about July 8th; for duty July 10th.
- || Wounded July 1st and taken to the rear.
- ¶ Taken sick with fever July 13, and sent to the rear.



APPENDIX II.

List of Killed and Wounded at the
Battle of El Caney, July 1, 1898.

KILLED.

NAME.	CO.	WHERE STRUCK.
1. LIEUT. H. L. McCORKLE,	"G,"	Chest and r. axilla.
2. PVT. ALBERT STROTHER,	"H,"	Head.
3. PVT. JOHN W. STEELE,	"D,"	Right thigh.
4. CORP. BENJ. COUSINS,	"H,"	Through both hips.
5. PVT. JOHN B. PHELPS,	"D,"	Head.
6. PVT. FRENCH PAYNE,	"B,"	Neck.
7. PVT. AARON LEFTWICH,	"G,"	Head.
8. PVT. TOM HOWE,	"D,"	Heart.

WOUNDED.

"A" CO.

WHERE STRUCK.

1. Pvt. Wm. H. Clarke, Shoulder and hip.
2. Sergt. Stephen A. Brown, Left shoulder.

"B" CO.

1. Pvt. Tom Brown, Foot.



APPENDIX III.

WOUNDED.

"C" CO.

1. Lieut. John S. Murdock, Contusion, left ankle.
2. Pvt. Joseph L. Johnson, Right eye, nose and left shoulder.
3. Pvt. Samuel W. Harley, Left wrist.
4. Pvt. John A. Boyd, Right foot.

"D" CO.

1. Capt. Eaton A. Edwards, Right thigh.
2. Sergt. Hayden Richards, Left lower leg.
3. Pvt. Robert Goodwin, Left shoulder.

"E" CO.

1. Lieut. H. L. Kinnison, Left chest and left arm.
2. Pvt. James Howard, Left arm.
3. Pvt. John Saddler, Right shoulder.
4. Pvt. David C. Gillam, Right arm.
5. Pvt. Hugh Swann, Right leg.

"F" CO.

1. 1st Sergt. John Coalman, Left hand.

"G" CO.

1. Corp. James O. Hunter, Left wrist.
2. Pvt. Henry Brightwell, Left leg.
3. Pvt. David Buckner, Back.
4. Pvt. Alvin Daniels, Face.



APPENDIX IV.

WOUNDED.

"G" CO.—(Continued.)

- | | |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 5. Pvt. Boney Douglas, | Foot. |
| 6. Pvt. George P. Cooper, | Left hand. |
| 7. Pvt. John Thomas, | ————— |
| 8. Corp. Gov. Staton, | Right leg (very slight.) |
| 9. Pvt. Eugene Jones, | Side of abdomen (very slight.) |

"H" CO.

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Pvt. James Bevill, | Abdomen (reported dead—error;
was wounded.) |
| 2. Pvt. Henry Gilbert, | Right lower leg. |

LIST OF MEN SUBSEQUENTLY WOUNDED.

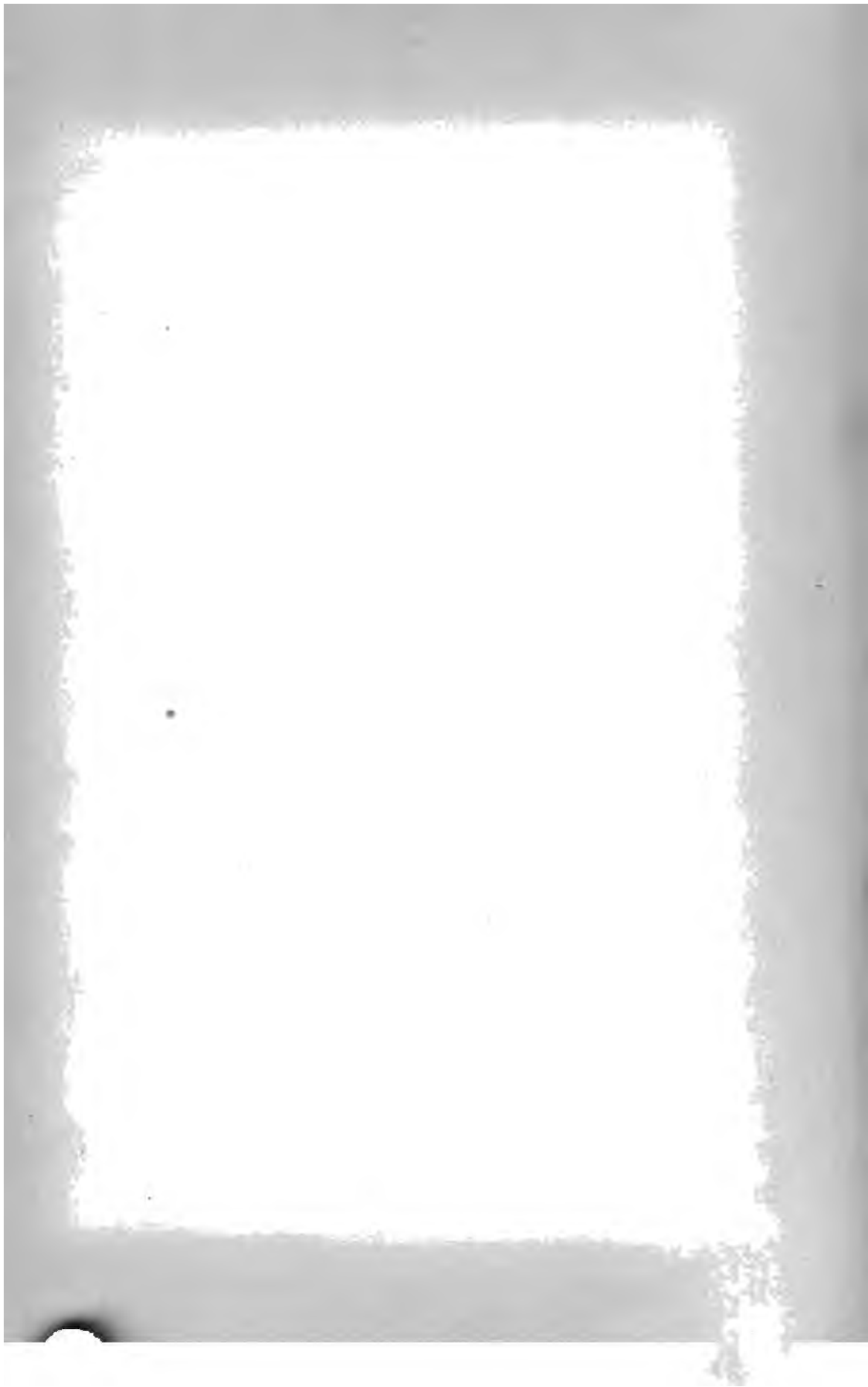
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| 1. Pvt. Elwood A. Forman, | "H" Co., | Left forearm, | July 2. |
| 2. Pvt. Smith, | "D" Co., | Left shin, | July 2. |
| 3. Pvt. Wm. Lafayette, | "F" Co., | Left hand | July 3. |



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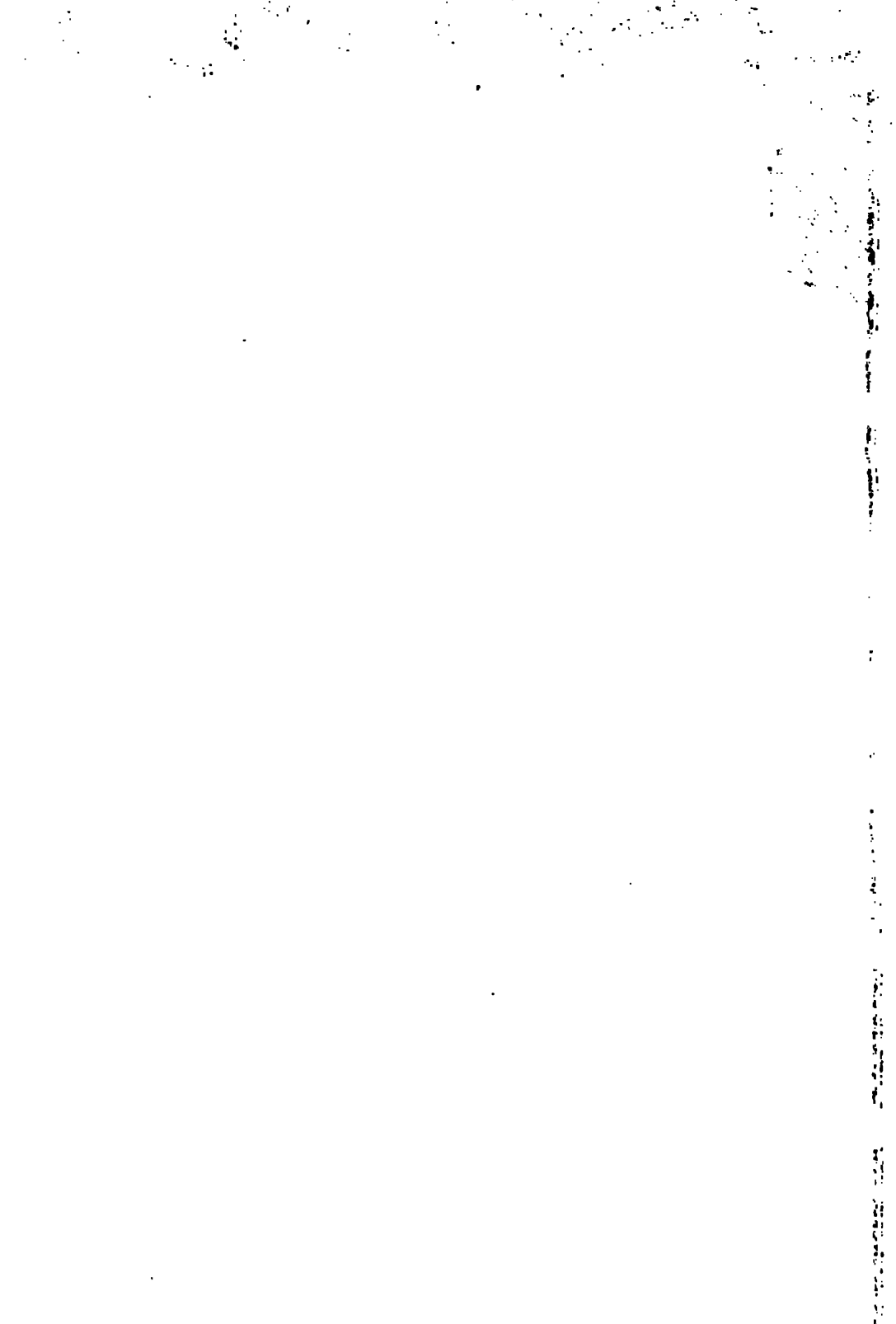


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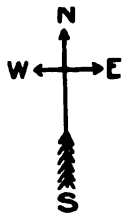
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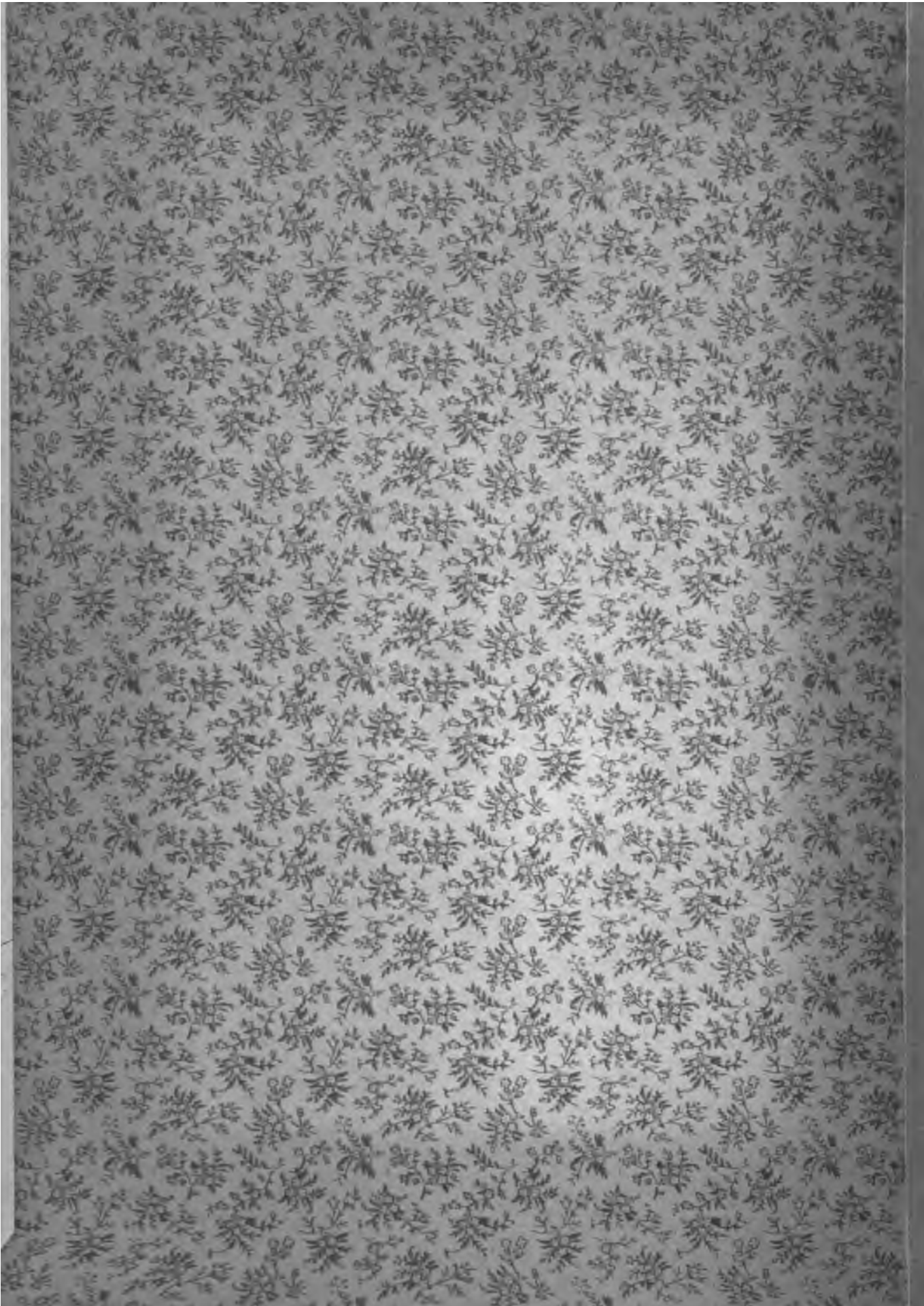
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