

# New York and the War with Spain

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## HISTORY

OF THE

## EMPIRE STATE REGIMENTS

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HISTORY OF THE SIXTY-NINTH REGIMENT, NEW YORK  
VOLUNTEERS.

Headquarters 69th N. Y. Vol. Inf'y,

Camp U. S. Troops, Tampa, Florida,

June 23rd, 1898.

Hugh Hastings, Esq., State Historian, Albany, N. Y.:

Dear Sir.—Inclosed please find a report of our doings for the first month that we have been in camp. I send this in compliance with your suggestion of the 31st ult., and will continue to send reports in monthly.

Very respectfully yours,

EDWARD DUFFY,

Colonel 69th N. Y. Vol. Infantry, Commanding.

On Monday, April 25th, I received a telegram from General Charles F. Roe, commanding Fifth Brigade, National Guard New York, requesting information as to the number of officers and men of the Sixty-ninth who would volunteer to serve in the armies of the United States for a period of two years, unless sooner discharged. On the following day at noon I reported, personally, to General Roe that the Sixty-ninth Regiment would volunteer to a unit to serve anywhere that the country might require its services. The regiment at that time consisted of eight companies, numbering 31 officers and 529 enlisted men.

I was at once directed by Adjutant-General Tillinghast to recruit the regiment to twelve companies, of three officers and eighty-one men each.

The work was begun without delay, and on Monday morning, May 2nd, the regiment marched from its armory with full ranks and proceeded to Camp Black at Hempstead Plains, Long

Island, New York, reporting to General Roe. On arrival at that point tents were pitched and the work of drilling and equipping the regiment for active service was begun. The roster of the officers of the regiment at this time was as follows:

Edward Duffy, Colonel.

Joseph L. Donovan, Lieutenant-Colonel.

Thomas F. Lynch, Major First Battalion.

Michael J. Spellman, Major Second Battalion.

John A. Davidson, Regimental Adjutant.

John A. Delaney, Regimental Quartermaster.

George W. Collins, Surgeon.

Frank L. R. Tettamore, Assistant Surgeon.

William J. B. Daly, Chaplain.

#### COMPANY A.

Michael Lynch, Captain.

Patrick M. Haran, First Lieutenant.

William F. Guilfoyle, Second Lieutenant.

#### COMPANY B.

Edward T. McCrystal, Captain.

John J. Henry, First Lieutenant.

Mortimer M. O'Sullivan, Second Lieutenant.

#### COMPANY C.

———, Captain.

Thomas J. Quinn, First Lieutenant.

Patrick McKenna, Second Lieutenant.

#### COMPANY D.

James Plunket, Captain.

Christopher H. R. Woodward, First Lieutenant.

James J. Tuife, Second Lieutenant.

## COMPANY E.

John E. O'Brien, Captain.

Nicholas J. Ryan, First Lieutenant.

John F. Bolger, Second Lieutenant.

## COMPANY F.

Thomas J. Griffin, Captain.

Philip E. Reville, First Lieutenant.

James H. Little, Second Lieutenant.

## COMPANY G.

John E. Duffy, Captain.

James M. Cronin, First Lieutenant.

Bernard F. Cummings, Second Lieutenant.

## COMPANY H.

Daniel C. Devlin, Captain.

T. Hill Leary, First Lieutenant.

Peter W. Maguire, Second Lieutenant.

## COMPANY I.

Charles Healy, Captain.

Patrick J. Molahan, First Lieutenant.

Granville T. Emmett, Second Lieutenant.

## COMPANY K.

Daniel McCarthy, Captain.

Francis J. Keaney, First Lieutenant.

Edward P. Gilgar, Second Lieutenant.

## COMPANY L.

Hugh J. Barron, Captain.

William J. P. McCrystal, First Lieutenant.

Francis J. Cronin, Second Lieutenant.

## COMPANY M.

John J. Roche, Captain.

John J. Kennedy, First Lieutenant.

John P. Devane, Second Lieutenant.

During the next twenty-two days much was accomplished, notwithstanding the unprecedented inclemency of the weather. For the season of the year the cold and almost continuous rain was unparalleled in the history of the vicinity, and, consequently, worked many hardships that were entirely unexpected at that time. That no serious illness resulted from the long exposure proves the hardiness of the command, and that its numerical strength never lessened gives additional evidence that in case of need its services to the country would be such as to sustain its noble traditions.

On Monday, May 16th, the first list of recommended promotions while in the field was sent to Governor Black, being intended to fill vacancies in the field and staff of the regiment. This list read as follows:

First Lieutenant John J. Kennedy to be Captain of Company C.

First Lieutenant John J. Ryan to be Captain of Company E.

Second Lieutenant Edward P. Gilgar to be First Lieutenant and Battalion Adjutant.

Second Lieutenant John F. Bolger to be First Lieutenant of Company E.

John P. Devane to be First Lieutenant of Company M.

Sergeant-Major John P. Scanlon to be Second Lieutenant of Company E.

First Sergeant L. J. F. Rooney to be Second Lieutenant of Company M.

On Thursday, May 19th, the regiment was mustered into the service of the United States by battalions amid the greatest enthusiasm of officers and men, an especial pride being shown in the fact that every member of the regiment who had passed the Surgeon's physical examination answered his name as the Mustering Officer called it and took the oath of fealty to the Government. The Mustering Officer on this occasion was Captain Schuyler, United States Army.

After the ceremony of mustering on May 19th the regiment was presented with a handsome stand of colors by "The Friendly Sons of St. Patrick," of the city of New York, the presentation address being made by Judge James Fitzgerald, of New York city. The stand consisted of the National and State emblems and the historic green flag of Ireland.

On Friday, May 20th, the regiment received with enthusiasm the order to proceed to Chickamauga and report to General Brooke, U. S. Army, and on Tuesday, May 24th, it moved, passing en route through the streets of New York city from the Thirty-fourth street ferry on the East river to the Twenty-third street ferry on the North river. During this parade the citizens of New York city showed by their many marks of appreciation that the course of the regiment in volunteering so unreservedly was valued to the full extent. The demonstrations of approval, it must be said, had not been equalled since the Civil War, and officers and men again determined that the Empire State should not be disappointed in its faith in the Sixty-ninth.

Embarking on Baltimore and Ohio cars at Jersey City, the regiment started forward in three sections. En route it passed through Philadelphia, Baltimore, Wheeling, W. Va.; Cincinnati, Ohio, and Lexington, Ky., the citizens of Lexington and Cincinnati especially receiving the regiment with many honors.

On Friday, May 27, the regiment arrived at Chickamauga National Military Park and reported to General Brooke and was assigned camp site at about two miles from Lytle Station on the Southern Railroad.

Here tents were pitched the same evening, the men showing remarkable proficiency in caring for themselves, considering that many of them had been in the field but three weeks.

During the six days' stay at Chickamauga Park the regiment improved greatly, special attention being given to the extended order drill. The regiment was here equipped with a wagon train, consisting of thirty wagons and 121 mules. While at Chickamauga the Sixty-ninth was attached to the Second Division, Third Army Corps.

From this point I again sent to Governor Black a list of names for promotion as follows:

Captain Edward T. McCrystal, Company B, to be Major, original.

Second Lieutenant Edward P. Gilgar, Company K, to be First Lieutenant (Battalion Adjutant), original.

Second Lieutenant John P. Scanlon, Company E, to be First Lieutenant (Battalion Adjutant), original.

Sergeant-Major William G. Massarene, to be First Lieutenant (Battalion Adjutant), original.

Second Lieutenant Peter W. Maguire, Company H, to be Captain Company B, vice McCrystal promoted.

Regimental Quartermaster-Sergeant Bernard J. Glynn, to be Second Lieutenant Company E, vice Scanlon promoted.

First Sergeant Michael O'Connell, to be Second Lieutenant Company K, vice Gilgar promoted.

First Sergeant William W. Bryant, to be Second Lieutenant Company H, vice Maguire promoted.



On Monday, May 30th, I received orders from Major-General Brooke to proceed with the regiment to Tampa, Florida, and there report to General Carpenter, Commanding the Second Brigade, Second (General Snyder's) Division, Fourth Army Corps, Major General John J. Coppinger. Thursday, June 2nd, the regiment struck camp and embarked on cars of the Southern Railroad, being divided into three sections. The march from the camping ground to the point of embarkation at Rossville was about six miles, but the men carried their heavy equipments through the suffocating dust and intense heat with a sturdiness that would have done credit to troops long immured to the fatigues of campaigning.

It was with much sorrow that the regiment was obliged to leave behind it in hospital Major Thomas F. Lynch and Lieutenant John P. Devane, of Company M. This brings us to the end of the first thirty days of the regiment's service in this campaign.

Respectfully submitted,

EDWARD DUFFY,

Colonel 69th N. Y. Vol. Infantry, Commanding.

Headquarters 69th N. Y. Vol. Inf'y,

Tampa, Fla., July 20th, 1898.

Hugh Hastings, Esq., State Historian, Albany, N. Y.:

Sir.—In compliance with your request of May 31st, 1898, I herewith transmit an itinerary of our regiment for the month of June, 1898.

Very respectfully,

EDWARD DUFFY,

Colonel 69th N. Y. Vol. Inf'y, Commanding.



My last report to you closed on Thursday, June 2nd, the regiment having on that day embarked on board cars at Rossville, near Chickamauga, to proceed to Tampa, Florida.

By Saturday afternoon following we had arrived at Ocala, Florida, after a very fatiguing journey, and I detailed Lieutenant Rooney to proceed to Tampa by fast train and report to General Carpenter for assignment to camp site. On his arrival there he was directed by General Shafter to report to General Guy V. Henry, Commanding Third Division, the Sixty-ninth having been transferred to that Division. At General Shafter's Headquarters the Sixty-ninth was highly complimented for having thus reported in advance of its arrival in Tampa, as much delay would consequently be avoided in placing it in camp. General Henry assigned camp site at Palmetto Beach, which lies about four miles east of Tampa.

On Monday afternoon, June 6th, after many delays, occasioned by the crowded condition of the railroad tracks for many miles north of Tampa, the regiment marched into camp. Beside it, to the eastward, lay the Thirty-second Michigan, Colonel McGurkin; on the south the First Florida, Colonel Williams, and the Second Georgia, Colonel Brown, while a quarter of a mile to the north were encamped the Third Ohio, Colonel Anthony, and the Fifth Ohio, Colonel Kennan.

Palmetto Beach is a sandy neck of land a few feet above sea level, about half a mile in width, shaded here and there by pine and palmetto trees and covered thickly under foot with the gnarled roots of the palmetto. After much labor we succeeded in digging out nearly all the roots within our camp lines and also cleared a large plain which we use for a drill ground. Up to the present date the rains have been so light that little or no incon-

venience has been suffered, notwithstanding the low level of our encampment, but it is quite probable that when the heavier rains begin later in the month poor drainage will compel a move to higher ground. Light showers fall nearly every afternoon, and we are informed that the "rainy season" is nearly upon us. The proximity of the beach is a source of great comfort, as it permits bathing to be indulged in with but slight effort. Officers and men are gradually becoming acclimated and find their duties easier to perform and are able to use a greater variety of food. The drinking water is piped from an artesian well near at hand, but is so warm that it must be iced before it is fit to drink. Like all artesian water in this neighborhood, it is very hard, but is strongly indorsed by the Army Surgeons on account of its freedom from impurities.

Shortly after our arrival the Sixty-ninth was merged with the Fourth Army Corps, commanded by General John J. Copping. He has expressed himself as highly pleased with the work and appearance of the regiment, as did also General Henry while in command of the Third Division.

A week after our arrival in Tampa Brigadier-General John N. Andrews, formerly Colonel 12th U. S. Infantry, assumed command of our Brigade, the Second. The regiments composing this Brigade are the Third Ohio, the Second Georgia and the Sixty-ninth New York.

On Saturday, June 18th, we were ordered to prepare to proceed to Jacksonville, Florida, and on the following Monday we received instructions to be ready to embark on board ships at Port Tampa. Both of these indications of active service were received by the regiment with much satisfaction, and a corresponding regret was felt on their cancellation a short time after

each came to us. The regiment reported as being ready to move promptly on receipt of the above-mentioned orders.

On June 25th we were greatly pleased to welcome Colonel MacArthur,\* not only for the substantial evidence of our service which he brought, but also that his kindly offices, we knew, would enable us to pass over the first pay-day out of the State with no friction and great promptness. His unvarying courtesy was as delightful to us as it seemed pleasurable to himself, and he carried with him on his departure the sincerest and heartiest God-speeds of officers and men. The State has now paid this regiment in full, as you, no doubt, are aware.

On June 24th General Howard Carroll† visited the Sixty-ninth during his tour of inspection, and expressed his satisfaction with the condition of the regiment. The officers and men were glad to see General Carroll and to extend to him, as Governor Black's representative, their most hearty marks of appreciation for the care for our interests and welfare which the Governor was thus showing. We had hoped that General Carroll might be able to stay with us longer than he found it possible, but we trust that he may again be detailed by Governor Black on like important service to the State and her soldiers in the field.

On June 27th Brigadier-General James Rush Lincoln assumed command of our Brigade, General Andrews having been transferred to a brigade at Chickamauga. General Lincoln is a volunteer officer from Iowa, where he has been connected with the National Guard for over twenty years and Inspector-General of its forces for the past eight years. Under his command the Second Brigade has become known as the most active in Tampa.

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\*Colonel Arthur MacArthur, Assistant Paymaster-General on the Staff of Governor Frank S. Black.—STATE HISTORIAN.

†Chief of Artillery on the Staff of Governor Black.—STATE HISTORIAN.

Brigade and regimental drill, together with theoretical instruction, have their full share of attention under his direction.

An important change in the standing of the regiment since my last report to you has been the addition of 303 recruits from New York, made necessary by the order to bring all companies up to a standard of three officers and eighty-one men.

Since my last report we have constructed a rifle range and rifle practice now constitutes a part of each day's work.

The health of the men during the past month has been excellent, there having been no serious illness whatever, and in this connection I am glad to be able to say that Major Lynch and Lieutenant Devane have reported for duty, having recovered from the illness which confined them in hospital at Chickamauga.

The above report includes the principal happenings from June 2nd to July 2nd.

Very respectfully,

EDWARD DUFFY,

Colonel 69th N. Y. Vol. Infantry.

Headquarters 69th N. Y. Vol. Inf'y,

Fernandina, Florida, August 22, 1898.

Hugh Hastings, Esq., State Historian, Albany, N. Y.:

Dear Sir.—Inclosed please find the itinerary of this regiment for the month of July, 1898.

Respectfully,

EDWARD DUFFY,

Colonel 69th N. Y. Vol. Infantry, Commanding.

Referring to my last report, ending July 2nd, I beg to ask that you correct the paragraph relating to the addition of three hundred and three (303) recruits, to read: "An important change

in the standing of the regiment since my last report to you has been the addition of three hundred and three (303) recruits from New York, made necessary by the order to bring all companies up to a standard of three officers and one hundred and three (103) men, from the former standard of three officers and eighty-one (81) men." In the copy sent to *you* last month the above paragraph *may* have been as above, and, therefore, correct, but the copy retained by *me* (not a carbon copy) is not correct, and I, therefore, am in doubt as to whether a *clerical* error has been made or not. By comparing above correct paragraph with copy sent you the change may be made, if necessary.

Shortly after my last report a decided change in the weather occurred, and, from being a pleasant and healthful camp site, Palmetto Beach, at Tampa, became a dangerous and uncomfortable place. The former light showers increased in number and finally turned into torrents of rain. The level ground failed to absorb it quickly enough, and, there being no considerable fall for drainage, the water stood deep in places, and, in fact, made a swamp of the encampment.

For nearly three weeks, with short intermissions, this continued, the sick list increasing gradually through malarial, typhoid and kindred fever developments. My strong requests to the proper officers resulted finally in our being ordered to move to Fernandina, Florida, and on July 24th the regiment embarked on board cars at Tampa and next day arrived at Fernandina. We encamped about a half mile north of the town on a sandy plateau, covered by a sparse growth of grass and with sufficient fall for drainage purposes. The ocean lies about two miles to the east and affords excellent facilities for bathing. The camp is supplied with water by mains and the



water itself, although strongly impregnated with sulphur, is not unpleasant and is recommended for its purity and medicinal qualities.

It is to be regretted that no large level drill ground is near at hand and that there is no place in the vicinity where target practice might be safely carried on. Extended order drills in the undulating and brush-covered country in the neighborhood of the camp, however, afford very good practice, although the work is necessarily light on account of the heat and the heavy marching through the deep sand.

Our Brigade on leaving Tampa parted with the Second Georgia Regiment, Colonel Brown, which was ordered to remain at Tampa. The Second Brigade, therefore, contains but two regiments, the Third Ohio and our own.

Although we have been here only a week we have been very comfortably established and find the climate pleasant and as healthful as any to be found in this part of the country. The germs of disease which were unquestionably generated during the last three weeks of our stay at Tampa have resulted in many cases of very malignant typhoid, and our Surgeons and Hospital Corps are fighting day and night to overcome them. We have taken every precaution possible with the limited means at our disposal, but have been obliged, notwithstanding, to send many men to Division Hospital for treatment and care, and some of these men have been transferred to hospitals in Atlanta, Georgia; Cincinnati, Ohio, and Newport, Kentucky.

Leaves of absence for sickness have been granted to Captains Lynch and Kennedy, and Captain Healy is absent on a sixty days' leave granted by the War Department.

There has been one death, Private Flynn, of Company C, from typhoid fever at Fernandina, although we learn unofficially that



several other comrades who have been transferred to outside military hospitals have met with the same fate. We have four other critical cases of typhoid fever now under our care in this camp and all efforts are being made by our Surgeons to save these lives.

Assistant Surgeon Oswald has been appointed Surgeon, with rank of Major, vice Ramsay resigned.

Private Martin Crimmins, First Volunteer Cavalry, has received a commission as Second Lieutenant in our regiment, but has been detailed to duty on the Staff of General Coppinger, commanding Fourth Army Corps. The vacancy was created by the resignation of Second Lieutenant O'Sullivan, Company B.

This brings me to August 2nd.

Very respectfully yours,

EDWARD DUFFY,

Colonel, Commanding 69th N. Y. Vol. Infantry.

Headquarters 69th N. Y. Vol. Inf'y.

Camp Wheeler, Huntsville, Ala.,

September 12th, 1898.

Hugh Hastings, Esq., State Historian, Albany, N. Y.:

Sir.—Inclosed please find the itinerary of this regiment for the month of August, 1898.

Respectfully,

EDWARD DUFFY,

Colonel 69th N. Y. Vol. Infantry, Commanding.

On Wednesday, August 10th, Governor Shaw,\* of Iowa, visited the regiment, escorted by our Brigade Commander, General Lincoln.

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\* Leslie M. Shaw, who subsequently succeeded Lyman J. Gage as Secretary of the Treasury.—  
STATE HISTORIAN.

Governor Shaw remained with us several hours and expressed himself as greatly pleased with the appearance of the men and our encampment. Before leaving he delivered a short address full of admiration and kindly sentiment towards the Sixty-ninth. These were fully indorsed by General Lincoln later when he paid a high tribute to the soldierly qualities of our organization.

This visit was one of the pleasantest we have had since coming into the field. It was unexpected and so cordial in its nature that both officers and men were not prepared to fully express the appreciation which they felt for the honor the Governor did the Sixty-ninth in thus practically spending the greater part of his visit to Fernandina within its lines. A hearty welcome will certainly be given him if he can find the opportunity to visit us in New York sometime, as he anticipates.

After arriving in Fernandina the health of the regiment began to improve gradually and so continued up to the date of our departure for Camp Wheeler, Huntsville, Alabama. The citizens of Fernandina did everything in their power to insure our comfort, and we broke camp with a feeling of regret at being obliged to sever many pleasant associations which had been formed during our short sojourn.

On August 12th the regiment received orders to proceed to Huntsville, Alabama, and there go into camp.

Accordingly, on Saturday morning, August 27th, we embarked on board cars. The regiment was separated into two sections as it left Fernandina, but at Montgomery the railroad found it necessary to form three sections on account of the heavier grades to be encountered. On arrival at Montgomery on Sunday morning nearly the whole of the command attended church services. On leaving Montgomery Companies E and G occupied the first five cars of the first section and had proceeded about eight miles

west of Birmingham, Alabama, to a point near the town of Newcastle on the Louisville and Nashville Railroad, when suddenly at about five o'clock in the afternoon the five cars above mentioned left the rails while at a high rate of speed and were dashed to pieces.

The wreck occurred in a "cut," and the cars were thrown against the side of it with such force that they shot high into the air and then turned bottom up.

It was found on examination that Private Peter Farley, Company G, had been instantly killed and that Sergeant Frank Glennon, Company G, was dying. In addition twenty-six other non-commissioned officers and privates and one civilian teamster were more or less injured. Sergeant Glennon died on the train while being sent to hospital at Birmingham. In this terrible scene there were many instances of heroism, both on the part of the wounded and of those who aided in the work of alleviation. Surgeons Fichsins and Daley, assisted by Sergeant Connellan, of the Hospital Corps, deserve special mention for the able and expeditious manner in which they handled the wounded under very unfavorable conditions.

The injured men were immediately sent back to Birmingham for treatment and were installed at Wilson & Brown Infirmary, a private institution. Fifteen of them were found to be in such condition as to make their detention there necessary; all but three of these have since rejoined their regiment.

Considering the complete manner in which the five cars were wrecked, it is providential that the casualty did not assume greater proportions. I have reported the accident to my superior officers according to prescribed methods and have also filed claims, through Messrs. Bowman & Harsh, of Birmingham, Alabama, and John E. Duffy, of New York, attorneys, on behalf

of the relatives of the killed and for the wounded. The names of the men and other particulars connected with the accident you will find attached.

It is needless for me to say that this terrible experience has cast a gloom over the entire regiment, coming, as it did, in the trace of other harrowing, if less sudden, afflictions.

I am greatly grieved to have to announce the death by typhoid fever of Corporal Edward Dwyer, Company K, on August 10th, at Fernandina, Florida, and Private Nicholas Duffy, Company B, in hospital at same place.

On Monday, August 29th, the regiment reached Huntsville and were put into camp about a mile west of the town in a beautiful farming valley. The soil is a red shale and is covered with a short thick growth of grass. The encampment drains well, and, judging from appearance, the location should prove a healthy one. The water is particularly good, being furnished through mains from a magnificent spring, which is one of the principal attractions of this part of the State.

Captain Lynch rejoined the regiment, having entirely recovered from the illness which compelled his return to New York some weeks previously.

On Wednesday, August 31st, Governor Black visited our encampment, but was compelled to continue his journey after a very short stay. He expressed himself as much pleased with the condition of the regiment and its present camp site, and spoke some encouraging words to those who had the honor to see him. He was very sorry that unforeseen delays on the railroads did not permit him to remain some hours with us, as he had expected.

As we had arrived but two days previously, our camp was not in such condition as I would have liked it to have been for his

reception, but I am glad to note that he has spoken since his return to New York in terms of satisfaction as to the health and equipment of officers and men and the general standing and record of the regiment.

Very respectfully,

EDWARD DUFFY,

Colonel 69th N. Y. Vol. Infantry, Commanding.

RETURN OF CASUALTIES IN 69TH N. Y. VOL. INFANTRY, IN WRECK AT  
NEWCASTLE, ALA., ON L. & N. R. R., ON AUGUST 28TH, 1898.

No.	NAMES	Rank.	Co.	Regiment or Corps.	Nature of casualty.
1	Glennon, Frank*...	Sergeant..	G	69th N. Y. V. I..	Compound fracture (R) and (L) thighs and hemorrhages
2	Farley, Peter† ....	Private...	G	69th N. Y. V. I..	compound fracture (R) leg.
3	Lawlor, Patrick W.	Sergeant..	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Compression brain and scalp wounds.
4	O'Keefe, Gerald....	Corporal..	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Ankle sprained, contusion back head.
5	Carey, John.....	Private...	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Laceration (R) hand, contusion back and (R) side, and little finger dislocated (R).
6	Reardon, Thomas...	Private...	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Contusion across chest and head.
7	Wright, Nicholas...	Private...	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Wrenched knee cap (L).
8	Pentony, John.....	Sergeant..	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Contusion (L) leg.
9	Merritt, Samuel....	Sergeant..	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Scalp wound, left side head.
10	Guthrie, Jacob.....	Corporal..	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Scalp wound, left side head.
11	Daley, Thomas.....	Musician..	G	69th N. Y. V. I..	Contusion, right leg.
12	Meade, James.....	Private...	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Contusion (L) knee and back head.
13	Sherlock, James ...	Private...	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Contusion on chest and stomach.
14	Crowley, Timothy...	Private...	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Abrasion on face and hands, back wrenched.
15	Kilclive, Thomas...	Private...	G	69th N. Y. V. I..	Contusion on chest.
16	O'Connell, Michael..	Private...	G	69th N. Y. V. I..	Contusion on face and chest.
17	Noon, George.....	Private..	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Contusion on back and left hip.
18	McMahon, Thomas...	Private...	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	4 and 5 ribs left side fractured and contusion left elbow.
19	Lewis, Charles....	Private...	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Contusion abdomen and back.
20	Donahue, Henry J..	Private...	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Wrenched left knee and thigh.
21	Reilly, Patrick.....	Teamster..	...	Wagon Train....	Back and (L) leg covered with bruises.
22	Lane, Thomas.....	Private..	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	(L) elbow dislocated and shoulder
23	Gordon, William...	Private...	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Scalp wound forehead and contusion.
24	Manning, John J....	Corporal..	G	69th N. Y. V. I..	Wrenched right knee.
25	Vaughan, Michael...	Sergeant..	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	(I) shoulder dislocated and contusion over spine.
26	Skelly, Thomas J...	Private...	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Scalp wound and large wound over (R) forehead.
27	O'Keefe, William...	Private..	G	69th N. Y. V. I..	Large wound over left eye and contusion left thigh, left arm dislocated.
28	Moran, John.....	Private..	G	69th N. Y. V. I..	Back and stomach bruised.
29	Doran, Michael.....	Private...	E	69th N. Y. V. I..	Scalp wound, contusion (R) knee
					Ankle sprained and contusion left knee

\*Died on way to Birmingham.

†Died at wreck.



Headquarters 69th N. Y. V. I.

Camp Albert G. Forse, Huntsville, Ala.,

November 19th, 1898.

Mr. Hugh Hastings, State Historian, Albany, N. Y.:

Sir.— I have the honor to hand you herewith copy of historical report of our regiment from September 2nd to October 2nd; also copy of similar report from October 2nd to November 2nd. I regret that these reports could not have reached you sooner, but we have so been overburdened with current work that it has been impossible for me to put the data in such shape as you now find it. I hope in the future I will be able to hand you such reports more promptly.

I have the honor to be,

Very respectfully yours,

EDWARD DUFFY,

Colonel 69th N. Y. V. I.

Huntsville, Ala., October 2nd, 1898.

On Monday, September 5th, a heavy wind storm, accompanied by rain, visited our encampment and did some damage and caused much discomfort. On the following day the Government began to issue lumber for flooring all the tents and the work was quickly completed and has added greatly to the comfort of the men, and, no doubt, improved the sanitary condition of the camp.

The Third Ohio Volunteer Infantry, which has been brigaded with us since June, has returned to its home rendezvous, Columbus, Ohio, and the Sixty-ninth Regiment, therefore, is the sole remaining regiment in the Second Brigade, Third Division, Fourth Army Corps.



Secretary of War Alger reviewed the Fourth Corps on the streets of Huntsville on September 23rd, in the presence of many thousands of people. The Sixty-ninth had recently been reuniformed, and, as each company was able to turn out thirty-two files, the regiment presented a handsome and solid appearance that brought commendation from everyone. Colonel Duffy received from our Brigade Commander, General Lincoln, a note of congratulation, which read as follows:

“I desire to express my admiration of the magnificent appearance made by your regiment to-day. The Sixty-ninth is certainly a fine example of the volunteer soldier, and you can well, with your brother officers, feel proud of so efficient a regiment. Promptness is the foundation of all military efficiency; your command was halted in position assigned for the formation for review exactly on time. With best wishes for yourself and splendid command.

Respectfully,

(Signed) JAMES RUSH LINCOLN,

Brigadier-General, Vols.”

The above, and the fact that we paraded nearly 1,000 officers and men, speak for themselves of the standing and efficiency of our organization to-day.

I am sorry to have to record the resignation of Regimental Adjutant John A. Davidson, Captain Barron, of Company L, and Captain Plunket, of Company D. Second Lieutenant Martin Crimmins, of Company B, has passed the Examining Board and entered the Regular Army as Second Lieutenant. Second Lieutenant Emmet, of Company L, has been promoted Regimental Adjutant; First Lieutenant McCrystal, of Company L, Captain of Company L, and Second Lieutenant Tuite, of Company D, Cap-

tain of Company D. Second Lieutenant Francis J. Cronin, of Company L, has been promoted to the First Lieutenancy in Company L, and First Sergeant Thomas F. Keogh to the Second Lieutenancy of Company L. First Sergeant Charles J. Crowley, of Company D, has been promoted Second Lieutenant of Company D, and Regimental Sergeant-Major Daniel P. Sullivan to the Second Lieutenancy of Company I.

The deaths in the regiment during the month of September are as follows:

Privates James Tracey, Company A; William Sweeney, Company C; Thomas Young, Company C; Charles Gallagher, Company G; John J. O'Brien, Company K; John Reilly, Company M; John Kennedy, Company M.

Of the above list, William Sweeney died in New York and the remainder at the Corps Hospital at Huntsville, Ala. The terrible railroad accident in which the regiment was involved and mentioned in my last report has not resulted in further deaths, I am happy to say.

This brings my report to October 2nd, 1898, and I trust it will be satisfactory.

Very respectfully,

EDWARD DUFFY,

69th Regt., N. Y. V. I.

Huntsville, Ala., November 2nd, 1898.

So many changes have taken place during the past month that it is almost impossible to designate those particular ones which may be of interest and use in the records which you are compiling. First of all, it may be noted that during September we have experienced some cold nights for which we were not

quite prepared. During the hours of the days the weather was bracing and for the most part very pleasant. Now, that we have been supplied with heavier clothing and new tents, we expect to be entirely comfortable.

We were all greatly grieved when we learned of the changes made necessary by the measures adopted for the reorganization of the army. So many friendships had been formed during our wanderings that it seemed as if we had known our friends in the Corps, Division and Brigade for years instead of for months.

General John J. Coppinger, always a warm friend and admirer of our regiment, retired at the age limit during October, and General Joseph Wheeler assumed command of the Corps. Before leaving Huntsville General Coppinger accepted a review, which our regiment tendered him, and afterward expressed his thanks for the manner in which the regiment had, while a member of his Corps, done its duty. General Carpenter, our former Division Commander, and General Lincoln, our Brigade Commander, also honored us by accepting reviews before leaving their old commands. I cannot help quoting here Special Orders No. 29, handed down by General Lincoln a few days prior to his departure from Huntsville for his new brigade command:

“In severing my connection with the Sixty-ninth N. Y. V. I., as their Brigade Commander, I desire to express my appreciation of their soldierly qualities and my regret in having them taken from command. We have been denied a soldier's desire for service in battle, but together we have served under trying circumstances, and it is a pleasure to remember the cheerful response you have ever made to duty's call. May God bless you and protect you.

(Signed) JAMES RUSH LINCOLN,

Brigadier-General, U. S. V.”

I hope you will not think me over-zealous in incorporating such encomiums in my reports to you, but I take it that these evidences of appreciation, coming, as they do, from our superior officers, who see our work every day in the field and know us in many lights, form part of a chain of our regimental history, which it would be careless to overlook. In fact, it seems to me that any praise our regiment may receive redounds to the credit of our State in such great measure that none of it should be permitted to pass by unnoticed by a regimental historian.

At this writing there are present for duty 38 officers and 915 men.

I regret to announce the following resignations during October: Captain and Regimental Quartermaster James M. Cronin, First Lieutenant and Battalion Adjutant Massarene, First Lieutenant C. H. R. Woodward, all for business reasons. Second Lieutenant W. H. Bryant's resignation has also been accepted.

Captain J. J. Kennedy and First Lieutenant Francis J. Cronin have returned to duty, after having undergone severe illness in hospital.

We are now serving in the Second Brigade, First Division, Fourth Corps, the Division being under command of General Chaffee,\* and the Brigade under General Richard Comba. It will be noted that now the Corps, Division and Brigade is each commanded by officers who achieved distinction in Cuba during the late active campaign there. In fact, General Comba, our Brigade Commander, while in command of the Twelfth U. S. Infantry at Santiago, won his brigadiership.

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\*Adna R. Chaffee, subsequently Lieutenant-General, United States Army.—STATE HISTORIAN. ; .



Arthur MacArthur  
Jr.







During the month of October our death list was as follows: Privates John F. Donnelly, Company D, at Huntsville, of typhoid malaria; Private B. Pyne, Company B, died at Huntsville; Private Thomas Casey, Company F, of typhoid fever.

On October 27th the War Investigating Commission reached our camp and inspected, and I have no doubt that their report as to condition of this command, both in the matter of health and equipment, will be found to have been satisfactory. I spared no pains to give the Commission all the information within my power in answer to their questions.

Under General Orders No. 77, Corps Headquarters, General Wheeler has given this encampment the name of Camp Albert G. Forse, "in honor of Major Albert G. Forse, First U. S. Cavalry, who was killed in the gallant charge of the Cavalry Division at Fort San Juan July 1st, 1898."

This report includes the matters pertaining to the regiment's history from October 2nd to November 2nd, 1898.

I trust that the data may prove of interest and that all necessary points will be found covered.

I have the honor to be very respectfully,

Your obedient servant,

EDWARD DUFFY,

Colonel 69th N. Y. V. I.