

Miscellaneous Notes and Receipts.

A New Gold Field.—From Godemesterháza, a town situated at the foot of the Górgény snow mountains, the former favorite hunting grounds of the departed Austrian Crown Prince Rudolf, sensational news reaches us. In the wilderness of the virgin forests, an immense gold field has been discovered. In different places diggings have already been instituted, with the result that in nine cases rich veins of gold were found at a depth of 10 to 12 meters.—Edelmetall-Industrie.

Adulteration of Linseed Oil with Cod Liver Oil.—According to the Pharm. Ztg., this adulteration occurs very frequently, of late. For the detection of this sophistication mix 10 parts (weight) of the oil with 3 parts (weight) of commercial nitric acid in a glass cylinder by stirring with a glass rod; place aside until the oil layer and the acid layer have separated. If the linseed oil contains cod liver oil, the oil layer takes on a dark brown to blackish color and the acid becomes orange-yellow to yellow-brown, while pure oil, after being treated as aforesaid, first shows a water green, later a dirty yellow-green color, the acid taking on a light yellow.

To Mount Photographs on Glass.—According to the Werkstatt, clean the inner hollow side of the pane thoroughly, pour on gelatine dissolved in boiling water, lay the picture on and pour on gelatine again, so that everything swims. Then neatly remove what is superfluous, so that no blisters result, and allow to dry. The following recipe is said to be still better: Gelatine, 16 parts (weight); glycerine, 1 part (weight); water, 32 parts (weight); methylic alcohol, 12 parts (weight). The mixture is prepared by causing the gelatine to swell up in water, then dissolving it with the use of moderate heat, adding the glycerine, stirring thoroughly and pouring the whole in a thin stream into the alcohol.

Chinese Varnish for Wooden Articles.—The wood is coated with a puttylike mass, which is prepared from gypsum, potter's clay, common earthy feldspar and glue. When this putty is dry, it is carefully rubbed off with sandstone; then it is coated with black paint dissolved in lac varnish, and when this is dry a lac varnish is applied, derived from a tree called tsie chou in China, a variety of sumac, whose sap exudes in the form of a gum. In the liquid state this lacquer is so poisonous that it causes painful swellings on the faces and on the hands of those working with it. The varnish must dry in the air, whereupon the decorations are engraved with a graving tool and the pieces of mother-of-pearl are pressed in. The color or gold which one desires to apply is mixed with oil varnish and the whole is lacquered. According to Macaire Princep, the varnish consists of benzoic acid, yellow resin and colorless volatile oil. It has a brown color and a peculiar aromatic odor and a taste similar to that of copaiva balsam. On wood the varnish gives a glossy coating which dries readily. According to the Zeitschrift für Drechsler, it can be dissolved in cold alcohol and still quicker in boiling alcohol, likewise in oil of turpentine.

Waterproof Wax Polish on Oak.—Oak furniture is known to be provided externally with a wax polish. The wax coating enters the cavities of the coarsely porous wood and fills them, imparting a handsome dull gloss to the wooden surface. Complaints were heard everywhere that wood surfaces thus treated were found to be extremely sensitive to water. Every drop of water which touches the polish produces an ineradicable ugly white spot. Wax is a firm substance which cannot be so readily distributed over the wood surface. It must, therefore, be previously transformed into a dissolved state, which is frequently done by dissolving the wax in turpentine. After the application the solvent evaporates and the wax remains finely and uniformly distributed. Another process consists in boiling the wax in water containing soda. A soaplike mass results, consisting of fine wax drops, which are suspended in the liquid similar to the fat globules in milk. This mode of preparation is more recommendable, because it is cheaper than the turpentine solution and also because it can be diluted to any proportion with water. More suitable than soda, however, is potash for preparing the stain. If potash is employed, the liquid attains greater softness and suppleness, enters the wood better and is easier distributed. In case one desires to alter the tone of the wood somewhat, the stain is tinted by the admixture of a pulverized dyestuff or by dissolving a soluble color. In the latter case care is recommended, as the organic coloring matters bleach very much, when exposed to the light. With mineral dyestuff powders this need not be apprehended. Frequently Vandyke brown is added to the stain, as the oak wood receives a dark, pleasant shade from it. A wax polish obtained by applying the aforementioned stain is just as sensitive to water as any other wax coating, but it can be protected from the access of water and the action of same by providing it with a thin coat of rubbing varnish. Such a varnish is obtained by dissolving 6 parts (weight) Zanzibar copal in 5 parts (weight) boiled linseed oil and diluting the mixture with 10 parts (weight) turpentine. This coating dries in one day at most and leaves

a dense, firm covering of resinized oil and copal. It is perfectly impervious to water, so that the wax layer under it cannot suffer from any drops of water falling on it. The drop of water may even slowly evaporate on the spot where it has fallen and dry up, without leaving anything else behind than perhaps the line contained in the water. The latter can be easily wiped off. The proportions of copal, linseed oil and turpentine as enumerated give a good varnish.—D. Allg. Gewerbezeitung.

OUR TROOPS AT CHICKAMAUGA PARK.

Our acquaintance with large bodies of troops is chiefly limited to gala day parades, owing to the fact that the United States has such a small standing army, so that the mobilization of a large body of men, which is so frequent in Europe, has not been seen in this country in this generation. Not only have the troops of the regular army been called to active duty from the humdrum existence of army stations or from the Western plains, but the National Guard of every State is mustering into service up to the limit allowed by the War Department; and over 600,000 men have volunteered their services in the present war, although this is more than four times as many men as are required. The subject of the mobilization of a vast army is so interesting that we take pleasure in presenting views of some of the stirring scenes which have been recently enacted at Chickamauga Park, which is, or rather was, up to a few days ago, the great center of activity.

Chickamauga Park, near Chattanooga, Tenn., is really over the border line and is in Georgia. It has been the point of concentration for the regular troops which are being gathered for the war with Spain, and it is the initial camp where mobilization has taken place and from which the soldiers and supplies are dispatched to the sea coast towns, as Tampa, within striking distance of Cuba. Of the 25,000 troops which make up the standing army of the United States, nearly 20,000 have been in camp at Chickamauga Park and at Port Tampa, Fla., but they have now left for the South, and it is probable by the time this paper reaches our readers 30,000 volunteers will have taken their place. The gathering at Chickamauga Park was the largest concentration of the regular troops which has taken place in this country since 1865, and special interest attaches to it from the fact that the mobilization took place in the South, and the united forces from the North, South, East and West occupied the historic field of Chickamauga, where one of the bloodiest and most desperate battles of the civil war was fought. Almost twice as many laid down their lives in that engagement as were represented in the entire army recently encamped there. The thick woods, open meadows, brooks, hills, everything, in fact, is topographically the same to-day as then.

The regular army, which has been for the most part relegated to Indian fighting in the far West, is now brought together, so that thousands of our people have, for the first time, seen an imposing army, and the troops have created much enthusiasm in the smaller towns and cities through which they have passed. Even before the ultimatum was sent to Spain, the regular army was moving toward Chickamauga, the first troops arriving April 20.

Our large engraving shows the Ninth United States Infantry en route to the South, the photograph being taken from Maryland Avenue, Washington, D. C., and the Capitol of the United States may be seen in the distance. Every incoming train at Chattanooga is met by a throng of people who cheer the soldiers as the train rolls into the station.

It is a busy scene, as the troops load their baggage into the long line of blue wagons with white covers, bearing the brand of the United States, which recalls vividly to the veteran the days when this section of the country was alive with those who followed Grant, Sherman, Thomas and Rosecrans.

The following are some notes on the scenes at Chickamauga Park during the occupancy of the regulars:

While the infantry comes in for a share of enthusiasm, the cavalry is naturally the favorite. When the stock cars reach the platform, each horse knows his master and greets him with some expression of pleasure familiar to himself. The horses first, and all the time, is the motto of the Western cavalryman. As soon as the horses have been saddled, the order, "Mount!" peals out from the cavalry bugle, and the troops are off and down the dusty road leading toward Chickamauga, and when the last of the lumbering wagons following the troops turn out of sight, the crowd again directs its attention to similar scenes, which occur almost hourly.

When the cavalymen reach the camp ground, a long rope is stretched on the ground and a picket line made, to which the horses are tethered. The affection displayed by the trooper for his horse is reciprocated by the intelligent animals, and it is largely due to this fact that accidents to man and beast are few and far between. The cavalryman always provides for his mount, and it is amusing to watch the mounted artillerymen taking their horses out to good grazing spots the moment the escort dismounts.

"Camp George H. Thomas," as the rendezvous has been named in memory of the hero of Chickamauga, is a bustling scene of military activity. The rattle of the artillery is often heard, and the historic battle ground is now covered to a great extent with the tents of the soldiers, and parties of cavalymen may constantly be seen driving their horses to water at Chickamauga Creek. The establishment of the community at Camp Thomas is much like the establishment of a colony in an unsettled land, in so far as domestic conveniences are concerned, for everything has to be taken there, and each regiment is a small canvas town in itself, and has to depend entirely upon its own resources. Dotted here and there throughout the entire expanse of fifteen miles of reservation these cities of tents are seen.

The description of the quarters of one officer will serve for all. An "A" or wall tent is 10 x 12 feet and some of them a size smaller. On one side is a folded camp cot with a thin yet comfortable mattress and an abundance of heavy woolen army blankets. A table about 20 inches square, with legs that fold up into the smallest possible space, stands near the door or opening at the foot of the cot. A folding chair or two for his visitors, a large valise or very small trunk, a bit of looking glass hanging from a tent pole, and a tubular lantern or candle attached to a stick stuck in the ground finish the equipment of the tent. Commanding officers at regimental headquarters have an extra roof or "tent fly," as the awning in front of their quarters is called, but otherwise they live as other officers do. The enlisted men, quartered in conical wall tents now adopted by the army, bunk with heads to the wall and feet toward the center, from nine to twelve in a tent. Their bedding and blankets are good and they are as comfortable as soldiers can hope to be in the field.

Some of the regiments coming from the Northwest have the Sibley conical tent, which has no wall, but which has a small sheet iron stove. These have been more than appreciated during the cold, rainy weather which has prevailed until recently at Camp Thomas. The mess tents and cook houses are nearly alike in all arms of the service. The "cuddy-bunk" oven, made of sheet iron, bakes well and looks like two iron pans fastened together, one upon the top of the other. The men are detailed as cooks and waiters and attend to the preparation and serving of the meals. The soldiers live very well indeed. Field rations are used when in transit from point to point, but when in camp the companies or troop mess purchase fresh meats, vegetables, eggs, fruits, etc. Wells are being driven all through the camp to furnish an abundant supply of pure water. While the soldiers do not have many of the luxuries of life, still they have some of them, as represented in one of our engravings, which shows a camp barber shop, where one of the soldiers is being shaved. The camp barber shop is a primitive affair, of which it has been humorously said that it "consists of a cracker box and a towel." Trades are made between the men and the barber, or sometimes a cash consideration is promised; but "You cut my hair and I will clean your horse" is the average exchange.

The regulations of the camp are as follows: Reveille, 6 A. M.; breakfast, 6:15; sick call, 7; drill by companies, 9; recall drill, 10; recall fatigue, 12 M.; first sergeants' call, 12; dinner, 12:15 P. M.; fatigue, 1; drill by battalions, 4:15; guard mount, 5; parade, 5:30; supper, 6; tattoo, 9; call to quarters, 9:10; taps, 9:15.

The soldiers manage to amuse themselves in many ways. The colored troops are well supplied with guitars and mandolins, and the vocalists of the regiments give very acceptable concerts, which would do credit to the best negro minstrels. As the prospect of being sent to the frontier came nearer there was less and less time for amusement, but the historic associations around them, the prospect for the longed-for fighting, the new scenes and martial spirit of mobilization made it interesting enough for the troops, who are tired of the humdrum life of their reservations; and when the volunteer troops shall have occupied the camp, it is likely that their attention will be largely devoted to the necessary drills, for there is plenty of hard work at Camp Thomas, and drills are the order of the day, morning, noon and night. There are company and regimental drills, and field maneuvers are to be held in which the combined forces will participate. In these the actual conditions of war will obtain, with the exception of ball cartridges, and the soldiers will get a taste of real service on a large scale as far as fighting under the new tactics goes. One of the prettiest sights is the cavalry drill, and some of the many commands are at it nearly all the time, and one of our engravings shows the second division cavalry en route for the drill field. This cavalry drill is one of the features of interest to visitors, and they stand for hours watching the evolutions of the men and horses as they break into squadrons, wheel, charge, re-form, with perfect alignment and go thundering away with flashing sabers and piercing yells.

There are many indications that Camp Thomas is more than a temporary camp, and the chances are it will be maintained as a military training ground as long as occasion shall require. It was at first intended to

concentrate nearly 60,000 of the National Guard at the camp, but the plans have changed several times since, but as we go to press it is said that 30,000 volunteers will be sent there immediately, and will be in a condition to strike Cuba after the expected naval battle.

It has been decided to build a track on the Western

for actual service. When orders were received to go to the front, the signal to strike tents was given just after reveille, and in the cold, gray light the canvas city fell to the ground. Tents, cooking utensils, rations, baggage and all impedimenta were quickly packed into the blue army wagons and six mules tugged each over the road,

disappeared and grass would quickly grow again, were it not for the fact that the site will probably soon be occupied by regiments of volunteers.

Our engravings show the Ninth Infantry at Washington en route for the South, the camp of the Twelfth Infantry, the Second Division Cavalry en route for the



CAMP OF TWELFTH INFANTRY.



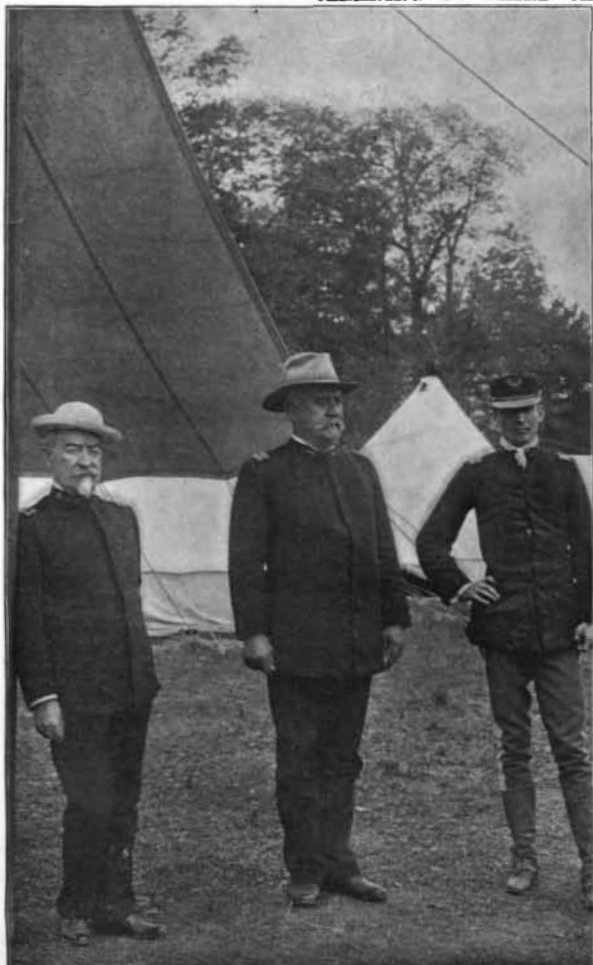
SECOND DIVISION CAVALRY EN ROUTE FOR DRILL FIELD.



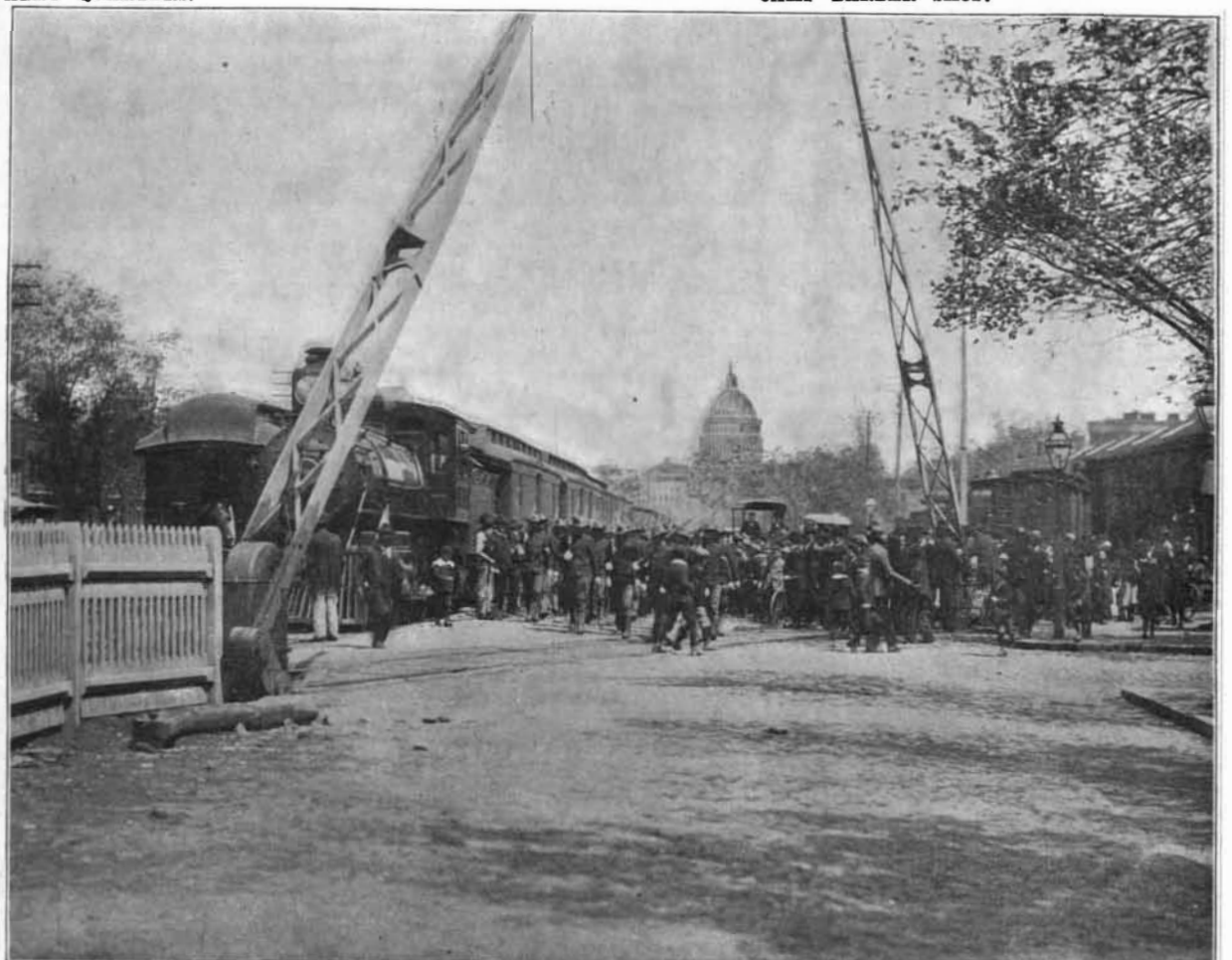
CLEANING UP THIRD CAVALRY QUARTERS.



CAMP BARBER SHOP.



MAJ.-GEN. BROOKE AT HIS HEADQUARTERS.
 ADJ.-GEN. M. V. SHERIDAN. LIEUT. McKENNA.



NINTH UNITED STATES INFANTRY EN ROUTE TO THE SOUTH, ON MARYLAND AVENUE, WASHINGTON.

MOBILIZING THE UNITED STATES ARMY AT CHICKAMAUGA PARK.

and Atlantic road, at Ringgold, to Chickamauga, a distance of eight miles, for the quick transportation of troops. It is expected that it will take sixty days to build the track; so that it is presumed by some that the volunteer troops which are sent there are to be drilled for some time before they are sent away to the front

now well worn, to Chickamauga Park station, where the wagons, still holding their cargoes, were rolled upon flat cars. The mules and horses were put into box cars and company after company were assigned to comfortable tourist cars. There remained behind only an empty, barren field, where the last traces of grass had

drill field, "cleaning up quarters," Third Cavalry, a camp barber shop, and Major-General Brooke, who commanded the camp, at his headquarters with Adjutant-General M. V. Sheridan and Lieutenant McKenna. Our Chickamauga views are by M. M. Mudge, of Chattanooga.