

**REGIMENTAL BAGGAGE.**

Our illustration, from a photograph, depicts the arrival at Camp Alger of the quartermaster's train of the 34th Michigan Volunteer Infantry. It also affords some idea of the bulk of what Cæsar termed the "impedimenta" of a single regiment—a matter to which few people give little thought or attention. What, then, must be the proportions of the wagon train accompanying a brigade, a division, or corps? And yet this illustration gives only an inadequate idea of camp equipage proper, plus, perhaps, the commissariat supplies for a few hours—supplies that require to be replenished at frequent intervals and often from considerable distances. Who has ever told of the difficulties encountered by the quartermaster's and commissary departments between Bani and the hills overlooking Santiago?

Here too, also, is furnished a clew to the difficulty of transporting large bodies of troops across considerable stretches of water, and the apparent lack of facilities afforded by the largest ships. The "City of Pekin," we are told, could accommodate but barely 3,000 men; even then she was relieved in part by the fact that quartermaster's stores and camp equipage for the campaign were not included in regimental impedimenta. In a general way, it may not be difficult to compute the amount of provision necessary to such a force for a period of fourteen days, but when it comes to estimating the supplies for a six months' campaign for 24,000 men, and the space and tonnage required for transshipment and storage, including horse boxes, forage, etc., the problem assumes no inconsiderable proportions. Remember the "Great Eastern," with all her enormous bulk, could, when crowded, carry but 3,000 men with their baggage, camp equipage, etc., along with supplies for two months. It is only when all these facts are taken into consideration that the difficulties attending the moving of an army, on either sea or land, can be at all appreciated.

**THE RED CROSS SOCIETY AND THE AMBULANCE SERVICE.**

The Society of the Red Cross appears to be generally misunderstood, for it is neither a charity organization per se, or an "order," but merely a confederation of relief societies existing in different countries, acting under the treaties secured by the Geneva Convention, and deriving its specific title from the fact its work

is carried on under the red cross emblem. Its aim, broadly stated, is a system of national relief applied to the mitigation of the sufferings induced by war, pestilence, famine, or other great calamities, without reservation as to friend or foe, race or color; its purposes are now so generally appreciated that on all occasions, by all civilized people, those connected therewith and

The first International Conference looking to such universal organization as now obtains was held in Geneva, Switzerland—hence the red or Geneva cross—in 1863, and an outline treaty drawn up that subsequently was greatly remodeled and improved. This treaty, as at present constituted, has been subscribed to by thirty-two powers, including Japan, certain South American republics, and several European states and grand duchies. It was, of course, not available during our late Civil War, its place being substituted for by the Sanitary Commission, but it was no inconsiderable sanitary and hospital factor in the Austro-Prussian war. In the Franco-Prussian conflict it assumed magnificent proportions, and the services afforded won the warmest encomiums from both parties to the strife. Since, it has found a field of usefulness in almost every war, including petty rebellions in the Balkan States and Turco-Hellenic Peninsula—often when one or the other of the two sides had given it no recognition. Russia carried it to the gates of Samarkand and within the walls of Khiva; and even in South American wars its labors have been inestimable; and now its ships fully equipped are in Cuban waters, and its surgeons, nurses, attendants, etc., are faithfully performing the duties

wearing the proper badge receive the treatment that is due to neutrals and non-combatants, this treatment being even extended to those under the immediate charge of the Society.

Neither can this confederation be deemed as series of societies existing among different nations, but controlled by one central organization, inasmuch as each society is distinct and independent and governed by its own laws, which are formulated according to the needs and genius of each nationality. With this explanation, it is perhaps hardly necessary to state there are no members, regularly constituted as such.

In the confines of United States authority, the Red Cross Society is at present engaged in a laudable attempt to ameliorate the condition of ill and wounded sailors and soldiers, not alone of this country, but also—in so far as possible—those of the allies and foes which are parties to the existing conflict. It is neither its intent nor purpose to in any way supersede or conflict with the medical staff afloat or ashore, but to afford aid and support to both in a way to admit of greater scope, more prompt action and more ready relief to want and suffering.

appertaining to each. Its badge is everywhere recognized, and the only requirement is that such shall be properly *viséd* by the Central Commission and one of the belligerents, as a protection against deceit and fraud.

The ambulance, which has now become an essential part of the equipment of every army medical corps, in its wheeled form originated in the United States; but its use as a means of affording initial aid on the field of battle and as a means of immediate transport for the wounded and invalid, so far as foreign countries are concerned, is due to the practical exhibition of its value in the hands of the Red Cross Society. Further, in all services, ambulance corps are now existent, made up of surgeons, nurses, bearers, attendants, and drivers, all well drilled experts in their individual duties; so that the wounded are no longer left, as formerly was the case, to the tender mercies of comrades, or the oftentimes ill-directed efforts of the drum corps and other non-combatants.

In the United States the meager proportions of the regular army rendered its medical corps inadequate to the emergencies of an extended campaign, or the care



A UNITED STATES ARMY AMBULANCE.



ARRIVAL OF QUARTERMASTER'S TRAIN OF 34th MICHIGAN AT CAMP ALGER.