

espoused, and if succeeding regiments had imitated your example, Provost Marshals and Sheriffs would have had but small duties to perform in searching in the crevices of the rock for those ruffian deserters and niggardly cowards who have stolen the form of man to disgrace the creature that God made in his own image. You saw the embers of Liberty were uncovered afresh; you saw the fires of freedom burning with renewed heat over the prairies of the west, mountains of the north and granite hills of the east; you saw the lovers of your country renewing their allegiance. You saw the mountains and the vallies, the ships and the railroads teeming with fathers, brothers, sons and lovers, eager for the battlefield, demanding an atonement for the insult offered to our flag on the walls of Sumpter. Officers and soldiers, you went at the call of your country, with hearts beating and throbbing for victory, and you bore with you the prayers of those who, from age and inability, were not permitted to share with you a soldier's fate and a soldier's honor. You went to join your brethren in arms, to strew their pathway with laurels of fame to be won by noble daring in deadly conflict.

"With the patriot's prayer your bosoms were beating,

With the patriot's arms the flag you unfurled,
Defend it or die each man was repeating,
It is libertie's cause—its the hope of the world."

You went exhibiting that cool, calm, determined fortitude and bravery which enabled you to welcome the approach of your enemies with a heroism that has quailed at no glistening steel or booming cannon.

The contract you entered into with the Government has been performed its conditions executed, and nobly done, and we have met this day with this vast assembly to satisfy you that we are proud of our country, that we are proud of our institutions, that we are proud of our Government; but above all that we are proud of you the citizen soldiers, who have gallantly defended them. And although our hearts are made glad at your presence yet where are all the brave men who went with you? I see your ranks are thinned, your numbers lessened.—Where are they? Have they fallen? Yes, the rebel foe cast his arrow but to slay. The sacred soil, cursed by the ingratitude of its owners, is to be enriched by the flesh and bones of brave men who fell fighting with you. They lived for imitation, they died for example. Though the sigh of affliction may heave, the tear of regret may fall at severing the chords of consanguinity, yet we will boast of their deeds with an enthusiasm in after years, that shall blot out the anguish their death has created. The sleeping patriotic friend upon the battle field is

a heaven-born legacy. It is a legacy which time cannot destroy. It is written in the family bible of fame, a rich inheritance which descends to future generation, unimpaired or unstained.

The humble graves where rest those who struggled with you for victory, have no Parian marble to mark the place where sleeps the man; but at that roll call of national justice, the true and good will point to the spot, and the acacia of fame, fresh from the grave of loyalty, will rise a towering evergreen, spreading its branches to shade a world of freemen, as fadeless and undying as the fame of those who gave nourishment to its roots.

You have come back to finish that which you had commenced when the clarion note of war summoned you to guard the temple of Freedom. You have learned the casualties of war, have felt its burdens and responsibilities, and have come home to enjoy its honors so richly won. Yours indeed, is an enviable reputation. It is a reputation worthy of preservation,—as a regiment your glory is unfading. That glory is the individual property of you all; each man wears the crown of success. Each man holds before him the record of his own achievements, written with the indelible ink of a nations gratitude. To preserve that reputation is the work of your coming life. And, whether in the tented field or on the battle ground, amid shot and shell from deadly foes; or surrounded with northern traitors or southern sympathizers, with hypocritical cant or loud professions, or reposing in the more quiet and unobtrusive employments of life, I pray you, yield to no allurements or enticements that shall betray your want of courage to overcome every enemy which may assail your future comfort. History informs us that war demoralizes a nation. The experiment has never been tried where, like this, the people are the Government. Remember that each man here is a sovereign, and charged with the preservation of our institutions and the moral character of our nation. Remember that though the strong arm of military power may resist oppression and subdue rebellion, that power must be based upon the moral character of the people. Go then, officers and soldiers, to your different employments and associations, crowned with the congratulation of a grateful people, and may that God who guided the dove from the ark to the mountain, direct your footsteps and preserve you though the frost of many winters, to live in the affection of the people and prove a national truth, that in a Republican form of government war does not demoralize the citizen soldiery.

At the close of the oration, Col. Laf-

lin announced that the Regiment would return at 5 o'clock, excepting those soldiers in this vicinity to whom their Captain saw fit to grant furloughs until Tuesday. The reception ceremonies closed with a bountiful repast furnished by the ladies of the County. The tables presented a most inviting appearance, fairly groaning under the weight of good things spread upon them. Enough was provided for soldiers, firemen, and citizens, and none were allowed to go away unsatisfied.

We have thus attempted to give a general outline of the proceedings connected with the reception of the 34th. We had taken pains also, to collect the various mottoes to be seen along the streets through which the procession moved, with descriptions of the decorations, so tastefully and universally made use of by our citizens. Instead of giving them, however, in full, we appropriate the summary made by the Utica Herald, giving our space to various correspondents, among them L. N. C., of the 34th, who has given a graphic description of the journey of the regiment from the Rappahanock to Albany.

1. A semi-gothic arch, with flags and festoons of evergreens, and the mottoes, "Welcome gallant 34th," and "Your record is immortal." 2. A monster circular arch of peculiar construction, with the motto, "How are you Vets." 3. Unique and very beautiful; circular pieces of red, white and blue cloth, surrounded with wreaths,

formed into an arch, each one containing the name of one of the battles in which the regiment had participated; above a statue of Washington. Near this arch was suspended across the street a coarsely painted portrait of McClellan, with the names of battlefields, and a little further on, suspended between two flag-staffs, painted red white and blue, festooned with evergreens, and surmounted by evergreen bushes and flags, were the sentiments; "Brave 34th; we welcome the living and mourn the dead; your heroism is recorded." 4. A handsome arch, with the mottos, "To valor and constancy," and "Brave as the bravest." 5. Circular arch, with circles of red, white and blue depending, and from the cen-

tre, "34th." 6. A simple arch, with the motto, "34th welcome home." 7. Circular; on one side, in large green letters, on red background, "Welcome, thrice welcome, noble 34th;" on the other, in white letters on evergreen background, "Home, sweet home."— 8. Gothic arch, with wreath hung from centre, a star above, and a fine effect produced by the motto, in letters of red, white and blue, "Welcome home, 34th." 9. Beautiful circular arch, festooned and flagged with the mottoes, "Herkimer greets her heroes," and "Ever faithful to the flag."

There were also along the route hundreds of designs and mottoes that we cannot stop to specify, although many of them merit mention for their beauty and appropriateness. There was many portraits along with the decorations of the private residences, the most frequent was that of Washington. The most impressive, and perhaps the most beautiful object which the Committee had prepared, was a pyramidal monument, some 20 feet high, in imitation of gray granite, on Ann street, in memory of the gallant dead. It was surmounted by a bronze eagle and national flag, and was twined and hung with evergreen wreath-work. On the shaft and base were the names of the battles of the regiment, and on the four sides of the pedestal these sentiments: "The memory of their gallant deeds will live forever;" "Virginia's soil is consecrated to freedom;" "They died in the defense of the good old flag;"

"Freedom's battle once begun,
Bequeathed from bleeding sire to son
Though baffled oft is ever won."

At this point the Little Falls Band filed to each side of the monument, stopped, and played a mournful dirge while the procession was passing by.

The following are the present officers of the regiment:

Colonel—Byron Laffin.
Lieutenant Colonel—John Beverly.
Major—Wells Sponable.
Adjutant—John Kirk.
Quartermaster—Nathan Easterbrooks.
Surgeon—S. P. Manley.
Assistant Surgeon—J. Hurley Miller.
Chaplain—S. Franklin Schoonmaker.
Company A—(from West Troy)—Captain, B. H. Warford; First Lieutenant, R. L. Brown; Second Lieutenant, John Oathout.
Company B—(from Little Falls)—Captain, Irving D. Clark; First Lieutenant, Francis N. Usher; Second Lieutenant, William Burns.
Company C—(from Norway, Herkimer county.)—Captain, Thomas Corcoran; First Lieutenant, William Wallace; Second Lieutenant, Simeon P. McIntyre.
Company D—(from Champlain)—Captain, John O. Scott; First Lieutenant, vacant; Second Lieutenant, Byron Coats.

Company E—(from Steuben county)—Captain, Henry Baldwin; First Lieutenant, Henry W. Sanford; Second Lieutenant, Melville S. Dunn.

Company F—(from Herkimer)—Captain, Charles Riley; First Lieutenant, William Van Valkenburg; Second Lieutenant, B. F. Minor.

Company G—(from Herkimer)—Captain, Joy P. Johnson; First Lieutenant, John Morey; Second Lieutenant, A. Rounds.

Company H—(from Crown Point)—Captain, William S. Walton; First Lieutenant, vacant; Second Lieutenant, William Kirk.

Company I—(from Weedsport; Steuben county)—Captain, Eugene B. LaRue; First Lieutenant, A. T. Atwood; Second Lieutenant, Orrin W. Beach.

Company K—(from Salisbury)—Captain, Emerson S. Northrup; First Lieutenant, James McCormick; Second Lieutenant, Lewis N. Chapin.

Return of the 34th Regiment.

Detail of their Journey from the Rappahannock to Albany.

LITTLE FALLS, June 15, 1863.

MR. EDITOR:—Thinking perhaps, a brief account of our trip up from the Rappahannock to this place, might not be wholly uninteresting to the many readers of the Courier, I will, your highness permitting, venture to intrude once more.

For several days previous to our departure, we had been expecting orders, but owing to the then unsettled state of the army, and the probability of a battle at any moment, we did not start until the morning of Tuesday, the 9th inst. The day before had been occupied in making preparations for the departure, by packing up and turning in tents and camp equipage, making out various papers and statements in reference to the regiment, etc., etc. However, by six o'clock we were in order of march and ready to depart. The brigade had intended to take a formal farewell of the regiment, but permission for such a privilege could not be obtained, though to say that the brigade did not turn out would be untrue. As we marched along, the way was crowded and the leave takings were as familiar as though it was a separation of brothers; crowding around the cars they grasped our hands, and with tears in their eyes, bid us a God-speed to our happy homes. Strange indeed, and sorrowful, was that parting. On one hand frowned the stern countenance of war; while on the other smiled the vales of peace. Strange paradox and contrast, that! But whatever fortune may hover about its footsteps, whatever clouds may lower, and whatever suns may shine around its pathway, in storm and strife, in trials and in battle, Oh! God protect and shield that old brigade! Fostered beneath its strong arm, brave

in the conscious power of its noble and well earned reputation, we have grown proud of our connection, but in our absence we are separated as it were from many dear friends and brothers,—aye, more than brothers,—men with whom we have stood shoulder to shoulder amid the battle smoke, and hand in hand stood round to defend the country of our fathers. May victory everywhere perch upon its banners, and the eulogy of its noble dead be written with the pen of inspiration upon the nations' memory.

As we moved along the road, regiment after regiment turned out to bid us a farewell, and especially among the ...ps of our corps did the greatest excitement and enthusiasm prevail.

From every hill-top as we passed along, from every valley and every camp rolled out in thunder tones the mighty tide of popular applause. There are many things to which this fact refers in a manner never to be mistaken. After the battle of Antietam, certain correspondents writing from the army, charged that the 34th disgracefully broke and ran during the engagement, but without quoting any other argument, the facts relating to our departure from the seat of war, ably refute all such charges, and are an evidence of the popularity and high esteem which the regiment had acquired during its connection with the army of the Potomac. No company or regiment once betraying the confidence of the army, can be admitted to the fellowship of its order again, no matter by what noble deeds it may strive to regain its laurels. No regiment left the service with a better name or reputation than the 34th, and no regiment ever so nobly sustained the confidence it held.

Arriving at Acquia Creek, we were soon aboard the boat and en route for Washington, where we arrived about 3 o'clock in the afternoon, having had a very pleasant and agreeable trip up the Potomac. Here the men had sufficient time to subdue the "irrepressible conflict" going on within, and quell the desire for that which no other element in the physical world can equal in a soldier's idea of the matter. Ornamented with plug noses and black eyes, under a heavy sail of canvass, and with a fresh breeze ever now and then springing up from the odoriferous re-

Interesting Correspondence.
Ogdensburg, July 24, 1863.
Hon. S. N. Sherman, Surgeon of the 34th Regiment
New York Volunteers.

Dear Sir: Your fellow citizens, friends, and neighbors, were gratified with your promotion in volunteer service. Camp of the 34th Regiment of N. Y. S. V., on the Potomac, 25 miles above Wash., Aug. 12. To the Hon. A. B. James, J. C. Spencer, Charles Waterman, Committee.

Gentlemen: Your kind and too flattering letter, in behalf of yourselves and forty others of my neighbors, covering a draft of two hundred and six dollars, reached me at Washington, on the 29th ult. I have delayed a formal acknowledgment until I could announce the application of the money to the purpose for which it is intended by those who gave it.

Words are scarcely adequate to express the gratitude I feel to those friends who, irrespective of party affiliation, have contributed to this munificent bequest, united in expressions of approval of my course, and tendered their kind wishes for my health and safe return when the country no longer needs the services of volunteers. I shall carefully preserve their names and your letter as among the most valued testimonials I possess, and shall henceforward be stimulated to renewed efforts to merit and retain their approval and esteem.

Say to the subscribers of the fund to purchase for me a horse, that it has been so applied, and that I am now in the possession of one that for speed, power, endurance, safety and comfort to the rider, I have rarely seen equalled, and never excelled; and that so long as I retain him I cannot but be constantly be reminded of their generosity and friendship.

In the consciousness that he is serving his country in this the hour of her peril, is the soldier's richest reward, but when to that is superadded such testimonials of the approbation of those whose good opinions he values, couched in such languages of kindness as your letter abounds in, then is the servitor of his country, no matter in how high or humble a sphere acts doubly rewarded.

Will you gentlemen accept my grateful thanks, and allow me through you to tender them to each and every of those you represent, and hoping that I may so discharge the new duties which I have assumed, as to continue to receive your and their approval, and that when war gives place to peace, the integrity of the Union maintained, and the Republic restored to its wonted state of happiness and prosperity, if I am permitted to return again to these scenes around which center all of my affections, that I may find you all in the enjoyment of health and prosperity, and make to you and them personal expressions of the esteem in which I hold you all, is the wish, gentlemen, of

Your obliged and grateful friend,
S. N. SHERMAN.

gions where grow gin-cocktails and brandy-smashes, half seas over and hard a-ground under the, to many never before equaled occasion, passed off in hilarity and joyous excitement. After awhile, however, everything was in readiness, and we got aboard the cars,—cattle cars,—and started for Baltimore. On the way up, several persons, who had doubtless been drinking too many glasses of "strawberry lemonade," fell asleep and accidentally rolled off upon the ground, injuring them quite severely, but none I believe mortally. The next day about ten o'clock we were in Philadelphia; here we were served to a most excellent dinner by the fair ladies of the city, in the cooper shop soldiers' home. By this time the men had entirely recovered from their exuberance of spirits, and conducted themselves in a manner highly creditable to the regiment, and which won from the citizens many remarks of commendation. After dinner three cheers were given for the cooper shop retreat, and three more for the ladies of the city of brotherly love,—after which the regiment formed in line and marched to the ferry of the Camden and Amboy Railroad, whither a large crowd accompanied us, and where we crossed the river to take the cars for New York. About three o'clock we arrived in Jersey City, and were soon marching up to the Park Barracks. Here, as at Philadelphia, refreshments were served out, but we confess we were disappointed in the manner New York treats her returned soldiers. The victuals were far inferior to the fare in ordinary camp life, and not such as were very likely to gratify the voracious appetite of a hungry soldier. Many friends here crowded around to extend their congratulations, but we saw very few from Herkimer county. Nine o'clock saw us on the road again,—the old Hudson River Road, flying along behind the steam horse toward our great and nearly last destination. Night was spent upon the road, and morning found us nearly home. Soon the shriek of the whistle announced our approach; and we are whirled along into ferry at Greenbush. Breakfast was served at the Delovan House, and soon after we formed in line, and after perambulating the streets of Albany until our feet were sufficiently blisted to make them feel exceedingly agreeable, we were treated to a copperhead speech by the Governor, and then took our wandering way up to the old Industrial School Barracks. During the day the men were allowed the freedom of the city, a privilege well improved,—many of the men, as in the day of Fredericksburgh the first, assumed the prerogative of citizens, and throwing aside the hated blue, could be seen stalking about in all the pride and glory of their an-

cient greatness.

But a word in reference to the reception of Saturday. The men had of course expected that a cordial welcome would be extended to them on their return, but they had not anticipated a reception equal to that which greeted them upon their arrival here. The citizens, and especially the ladies, of Herkimer county, must accept the hearty thanks of the regiment for their earnest endeavors in our behalf. The memory of their kindness will ever be kept green in the hearts of the soldiers, blossoming afresh as each anniversary of the joyous day rolls around.

The papers will be made out and the regiment probably discharged during the present week or the first of next.— Each man who has served two full years, receiving his wages, bounty and commutation money at the moment of final settlement.

Very respectfully,
L. N. C.

Thirty-Fourth Regiment at Washington.

WASHINGTON, July 12.

To the Editor of the Utica Morning Herald:

The Thirty-Fourth, Col. La Due's Regiment, is encamped at Colloranna Woods, up 17th street, about two miles from Washington City. It will remain here probably but a few days, when it will go into active service. Officers and men are healthy and in fine spirits.

Yours truly, J. B. V. P.

The ladies of Herkimer and vicinity sent a large box of provisions to their volunteers at Albany, Tuesday. They didn't want the boys to forget Herkimer sweethearts, nor Herkimer

...

RECEPTION OF SOLDIERS AT WEST TROY.—The citizens of West Troy have held a meeting and appointed a Committee to make arrangements for the reception of a Company of their townsmen in the 34th Regiment.

Major Sponable, of the 34th, now in the Invalid Corps, is at present recruiting in Illinois.

Col. LAFLIN, of the 34th, is temporarily at Herkimer, assisting his brother, Hon. A. H. LAFLIN in the business of manufacturing straw paper.

**NORTHERN AND CENTRAL COUNTIES.
HERKIMER COUNTY.**

Good progress has been made in the formation of an independent military corps in Herkimer.

ESCORT ACCEPTED.—Engine Company No. 8, has accepted an invitation to act as escort to Company A, 34th Regiment, which pays a visit to West Troy this afternoon. Company A. was recruited in that village, and they will undoubtedly meet with a hearty welcome.

The 34th Coming Home.—The 34th Regiment New York State Volunteers, Col. LAFLIN, has arrived in Washington on its way home. It has seen much service and borne itself bravely in many a hard fought field. It left with 1,000, it comes back with 400. It was recruited in Herkimer county, and left this city for the seat of war in June, 1861.

C. Craven.
 At Fredericksburg, Va., of wounds received at the battle of that city, on the 13th of December last, about eight hours after being wounded, Andrew A. SMITH, son of Wm. M. Smith, of Enmonsburg, Herkimer Co., a member of Co. K, 34th Regt. N. Y. S. V., aged 21 years. Kind-hearted, generous, brave, and patriotic, a favorite in his company and regiment, his death in the early morning of his manhood will be mourned, not alone by parents, brothers, and sisters, but by all who knew him. While being borne from the field of battle he uttered the following words: "Tell my mother that I died like a man in doing my duty." His life was a worthy and noble example to his countrymen. His funeral services were held on his account at Salisbury, Centre in the afternoon by Rev. D. Skinner from Ps. cxxx. His remains were deposited in the cemetery at Salisbury and appropriate remarks. The Regiment then proceeded to the

LOCAL DEPARTMENT.

Arrival of the Thirty-fourth Regiment.
 A committee of the City of Utica, consisting of the following gentlemen, met at the City Hall on Saturday morning, and held a public meeting and orderly march to break the return in a house, Falls, where a reception awaits the gallant veterans equalling even that with which Utica recently honored her brave sons. The reception takes place on Saturday. In the evening the Regiment will return to this city to be mustered out of service.

The Thirty-fourth Regiment was recruited mainly in Herkimer county, and was mustered into the State service in this city May 1, 1861, and the United States service the 15th of June following. It then mustered 800 men, under command of Col. Wm. Ladue.

Since leaving the city they have had added to their number about one hundred recruits, and return four hundred and twenty-seven strong.

The following are the present officers of the Regiment:

- FIELD.
 Colonel—Byron Lafflin.
 Lieutenant Colonel—John Beverley.
 Major—Wells Sponable.
 STAFF.
 Adjutant—John Kirk.
 Quartermaster—Nathan Easterbrooks.
 Surgeon—B. F. Manley.
 Assistant Surgeon—J. Hurley Miller.
 Chaplain—S. Franklin Schoonmaker.

A Valuable Relic.

To the Editor of the Syracuse Journal:

It was announced not long since by some one of our city journals, that the sword of Capt. Charles L. Brown, who fell at the battle of Malvern Hill, was recovered at the battle of Gettysburg, and was on its way to his friends in Oneida. This sword, whose history will be better understood by the following letter, was this morning deposited with the Onondaga Historical Association, by Wm. B. Ferry, Esq., of this city, in behalf of Mrs. Brown. The sword, independent of its history, is a curiosity. Capt. Brown, who, it will be remembered, raised a company of volunteers and entered the service at an early stage of the war, being a large and vigorous man, had the sword made to order, which is considerably larger and stronger than those in general use, and though it seems to have had hard usage while in rebel keeping, it is still capable of doing good service in proper hands. The following letter addressed to the widow of the fallen officer, explains the means by which it has been restored, and will be read with interest by all who feel to sympathize in our country's welfare.

H. WIGHTMAN, Janitor.

Rooms of Onondaga Historical Association,
 January 20, 1864.
 HEADQUARTERS EXCELSIOR (2D) BRIGADE,
 2D DIVISION, 3D Army Corps, October 7th, 1863.

MADAME: Among the prisoners taken by the 34th regiment of this brigade at the battle of Gettysburg was a rebel officer, from whom Lieut. James McDermott, of that regiment, took a sword, upon which was engraved the name of Capt. Charles L. Brown, 34th regiment N. Y. V. I learned from Lieut. J. S. Lockwood, one of my ...ds, that this was the name of your late husband, the gallant Major of the 34th N. Y. V., who fell mortally wounded at the battle of Malvern Hill, in July, 1862.

Presuming that the sword carried by your husband through many a hard fought battle, worn by a rebel officer for over a year, and then recaptured by our forces, thus giving it an eventful history, would be considered by you a most valuable memento, I respectfully beg leave in the name of Lieut. McDermott, to present it to you. I have this day sent it to Alexandria with instructions to have it forwarded to your address by Adams' Express Company, hoping that it will arrive safely.

I remain, Madame, very respectfully,

Your obedient servant, WM. R. BREWSTER.

Colonel, Commanding Brigade,
 To Mrs. Charles L. Brown, Oneida Depot, Oneida Co., New York.

ARREST OF A SUPPOSED DESERTER.—Officer Van Buren on Sunday night arrested Jno Muckle on a charge of being a deserter. He was locked up in the Station House over night and yesterday morning brought before the Provost Marshal. The officer testified that he had been informed that Muckle left this city with the Thirty-fourth Regiment, N. Y. S. V., and that he afterwards enlisted in the Eighteenth, then the Thirty-fourth, and subsequently the Forty-third, and then the Third Infantry, and then a cavalry regiment. Muckle's name is not on the roll of deserters, and the tale he told Capt. Parsons was so plausible, and so like the character of Muckle, that those who know him believe it to be true.

John says that he joined the Thirty-fourth New York on the 7th of July, nearly three years ago, and was mustered into Capt. Oswald's company. After being in it four months he was put out of the camp for being drunk and raising the deuce among the boys in the tents. He was not drummed out, nor did he receive any discharge, for they were glad to get rid of him. He enlisted at the time when volunteers were plenty and no bounties were paid. From that time and during a period of two and a half years, he was employed in Washington as a teamster. Muckle was, however, held at headquarters until further information can be obtained.