## RORT. PORTER, Buffalo, D. Y., Oct. 1885.

#### DEAR SIR:

I enclose herewith a copy of Senator Manderson's bill of last winter providing for a three-battalion (twelve-company) organization for the Infantry arm of the service, together with extracts from the reports of the Secretary of War and the Commanding General of the Army favoring such organization.

As no doubt it is generally conceded that such legislation as this has a broader scope than most if not all that has been proposed for some time past, I venture to ask you in common with all the the Infantry officers in the service (who are likewise addressed,) to use the enclosed paper, coupled with such arguments or reasons of your own you may have to advance, in a direct appeal to such Congressmen or other persons of influence whom you may know, to aid the cause, when the bill is again introduced in the 49th Congress.

The following is an extract from a recent letter from Senator Manderson to me:

"It is my intention to introduce the bill at the next session of Congress, and I hope to be successful in procuring its passage. The petition referred to—[meaning the petitions of officers forwarded last winter at the instance of officers of 2d Infantry—C. H.]—will be laid before the committee on military affairs.

It would be well for all army officers favorable to the bill, to write personal letters to such members of Congress as they may know, urging them to give the bill support."

I should be pleased to know your views and actions on the suggestion made herein.

VERY RESPECTFULLY,

YOUR OBEDIENT SERVANT,

Charles Hay, 1st Lieut. 23d Infantry.

f/ 1885. Lungloge between a copy of Senator Mandets ( 1911 of Sen winter infancy and of the service, together with ermanal our the reports of a breader scope than most if notifit that has been of resear for some treat a sentere treats you in you man with all of course I take to officers in the service (who is likewise address of,) to use the confload. and or action or region you may readly to nice the cast or many remainder the bill at to a service of the contract the bill at the manager of Cons. with the state of the more and the state of to the standard of the position of the standard of the standar are instance of others of all latings -C. H. ] - will before the STATE OF THE SECOND PROPERTY OF THE SECOND PR personal return to such members of Lougress as they are tour , undur-

#### THREE · BATTALION

### ORGANIZATION OF THE INFANTRY BRANCH OF THE ARMY.

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"48th Congress, 2d Session.

"S. 2442, Manderson.—To increase the "efficiency of the Infantry branch of the "Army.

"Whereas, experience has shown that the "three-battalion organization of the Cavalry "and Artillery branches of the Army is the "most useful in time of peace, and best "adapted to expansion in time of war:

"Therefore, be it enacted, etc., That Sec"tion 1106 of the Revised Statutes of the
"United States of America be amended so as
"to read as follows:

"Each infantry regiment shall consist of twelve companies, one colonel, one lieuten"ant-colonel, three majors, one adjutant, one 
"quartermaster, one sergeant-major, one quar"termaster-sergeant, and one chief musician, 
"who shall be instructor of music, and two 
"principal musicians. The adjutant and 
"quartermaster shall be extra lieutenants, 
"selected from the 1st or 2d lieutenants of 
"the regiment: Provided that all appoint"ments to the original vacancies above the 
"grade of 2d lieutenant created by this act 
"shall be filled by seniority in the Infantry 
"arm of the service."

The foregoing bill was introduced in the United States Senate by Senator Manderson of Nebraska, during the 2d session of the 48th Congress, but owing, no doubt, to that being a short session, and there being much other business before Congress, the bill failed to receive definite consideration. As Senator Manderson, at the 1st Session of the 49th Congress, proposes to again introduce the bill, in the interests of the service, the subject is now revived and somewhat in detail, in the sincere hope that as thus presented, it may receive from its friends the united aid and earnest attention and action that it is believed its importance warrants and deserves.

That there should be a common organization for the three fighting branches of the Army would seem no more or less than a natural, reasonable, and logical proposition. If the premises as laid down in this bill are substantial and true—(and they are supported by the best of expert testimony, as shown by this paper,)—the rest naturally follows.

In connection with, and germane to, this subject, it may be said with force and fitness, that the efficiency of the Infantry arm of the service suffers vastly by reason of slowness of promotion, which evil will, in a considerable measure, be remedied by the passage of this bill. At present, the Infantry is materially behind the Cavalry and Artillery respecting promotion, a condition resulting greatly from the difference of organization, which discriminates against the Infantry.

In support of a bill of the character specified, the following weighty official opinions are quoted:

Extract from the Report of the General of the Army for 1883.

"On the 8th of February, 1884, I will attain the limit of age fixed by Congress for military service in the Army, and I purposely asked of the President the privilege of anticipating this date to enable my successor to make such recommendations as he may deem necessary; but before leaving I beg to record an expression of opinion that it will be found wise to provide a common organization for all arms of the service, viz:

That each regiment of infantry be composed of twelve companies, the same as now with the artillery and cavalry, making three battalions, each of four companies in time of peace, and of eight in time of war; that each company shall have a hundred men; and that in time of peace two of these battalions (eight companies) shall be maintained on a perfect war footing, whilst the other battalion (four companies) may be a mere skeleton, with its complement of officers, and used as a nucleus for recruits. In this battalion can be placed the officers and soldiers

invalided by hard service or sickness, and such as are not weaned of home influence or family importunity.

Were such an organization (thus briefly sketched, but more elaborately described in former reports) to be sanctioned by Congress, the military peace establishment could, I believe, be maintained on the present estimates, and would possess the inestimable advantage of admitting of an increase without "disorder or confusion" to 6,000 artillery, 12,000 cavalry, and 30,000 infantry by the mere scratch of a pen and the magic wand of money; and afterwards by doubling the enlisted strength of each company without the further addition of a single officer we should have the respectable force of 95,000 men, a force large enough for any probable necessity during the remainder of this century.

The militia and volunteers of the States would soon follow suit, and we should have throughout the country these small handy battalions of four companies, instead of the large cumbersome regiments of ten companies, —a bad tactical unit, and in practice always scattered."

Extract from Report of the Secretary of War for 1883.

"The report of the General of the Army has a special interest in being the last annual report that General Sherman will make. At his own request he has been relieved from the command of the Army, preparatory to his re tirement from active service under the Act of 1882. He has therefore thought it best to refrain from making any new recommendations in his report, leaving that duty to his successor in the command of the Army, Lieutenant-General Sheridan. He, however, calls attention to and renews a former recommendation that a new organization be adopted for the

regiments of infantry, so that each shall be composed of twelve companies, making three battalions of four companies each, each company having one hundred men; and that in time of peace two of these battalions shall be maintained on a perfect war footing, while the other battalion may be a mere skeleton, with its complement of officers, and be used as a nucleus for recruits. The great advantage of this change, as suggested by the General, is the important one of being able to put a large and effective force in the field, on short notice, by merely enlisting a sufficient number of additional private soldiers, the officers and organization being always ready to receive them."

Extract from Report of the Lieutenant-General commanding the Army for 1884.

"The discipline of the Army is excellent, and I have no schemes to present for its reorganization.

For many years of effective service it has been organized substantially as now, and were I called upon to recommend any change whatever, it would be simply to make a uniform organization for the three arms of the service by adding two companies and the corresponding majors to each regiment of infantry."

Extract from Report of the Secretary of War for 1884.

"The Lieutentant-General renews the recommendation of General Sherman that there should be made a uniform organization of the three arms of the service by adding two companies with the corresponding majors, to each regiment of infantry.

The reasons for this change were given at some length in my last report, and I concur in the recommendation of the Lieutenant-General."

# THREE BATTALION ORGANIZATION OF THE INFANTRY BRANCH OF THE ARMY.

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Concluded to give her this order. "Ind Make my Peace, with powers that, mo H- mill understand. That it

nothing for it in Merryork.

Mond, F.E.

Deven Mile, Ohio. Oct. 1, 1883. Gen. O. O. Howard, Drar Sir: Enclosed find card, on which please be so kind as to send your autograph. Respectfully B. W. Kumler

Tumber 19. 9 Seven Mile, Ohio, Octs. 1885.

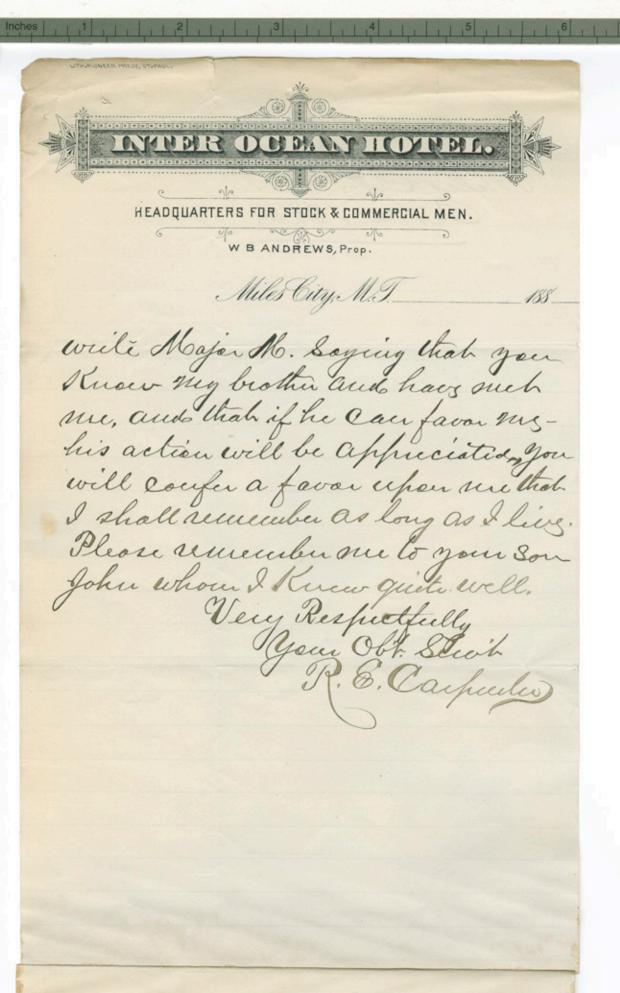


W B ANDREWS, Prop.

Miles City, M.J. Och. 3 1885.

Guil O. O. Howard. Defit of the Platte Omaha. Sket. My Dear Sir:

meeting me at the Hotel in the Upper Leyen Basin, Nail Park. during the lash Season, you will also recall that I am a brother of Low. Carpenter of Lowa, whom you Knew in the Anny of the Demissee, I would like very much to ask afavor of you, and you will hardon me if you Cannot Consistently Complywith the request:—
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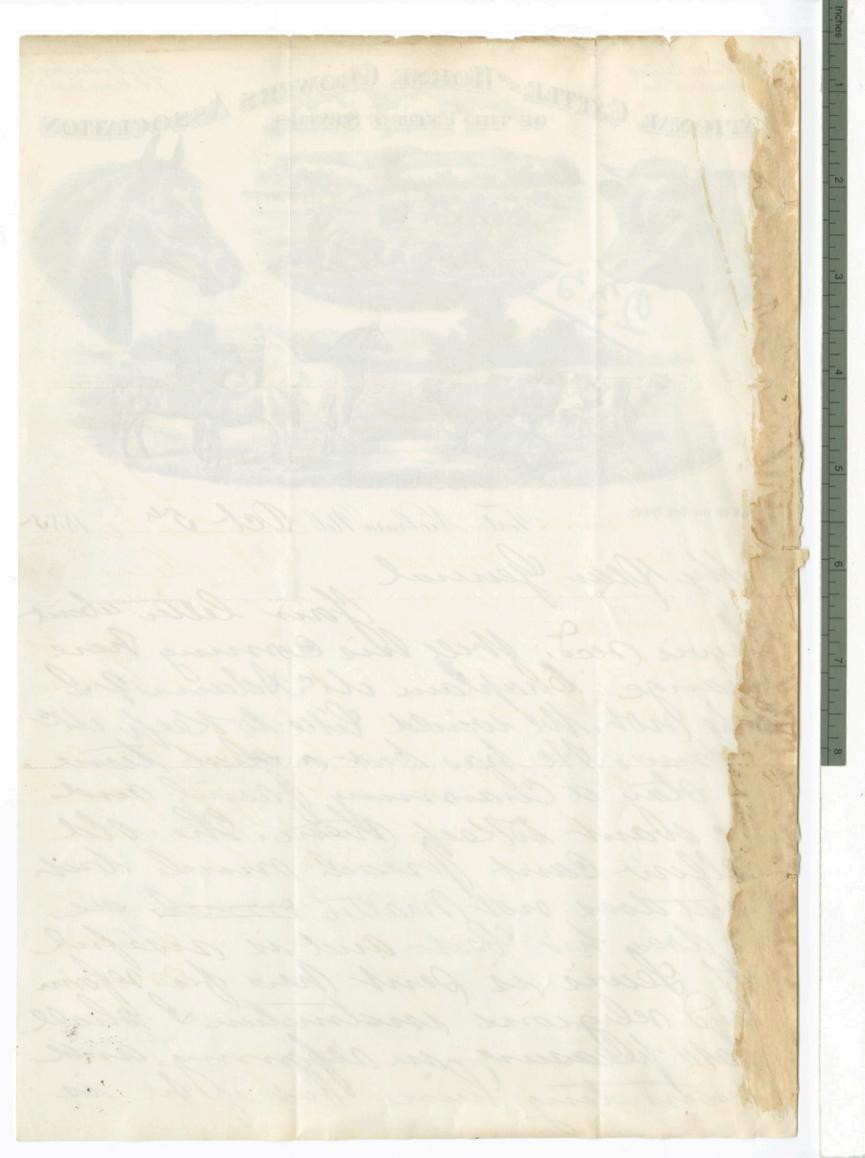


Carpenter, A. C. Mile City M. T. Oct 2. 1885;

Bradfard Oct 3-85 I gan Howard Stanst you will pardon me for intending whom your time and patience. Shave employed many invalid haves in campiling a book of the autographs of celebrated people of one country May I presume to ask your for your autograph? Hoping for the farm asked autin H. Hall Beneficel Mass

Hall, a. H. Bradford Mass. File

NATIONAL CATTLE SO HORSE GROWERS ASSOCIATION A.J. Atwater, Levy. R.D. Hunter President. Fort Niebrara Meb. Och 54 OFFICE OF THE VICE PREST. 1885 My plan General your letter about Lewis recd, three this corning here Change Chaplan Mc Adam 22 hope not . We would like to Keep che Adam, He has but a short time to stay a Charmy family and me want tillet them. The old felfour Cant Jereach much but that does not matter amely are he does his test and is resoful If Lowis is sent here for reform and religious instruction I shall talle pleasure on reforming and Instructing him but if he is



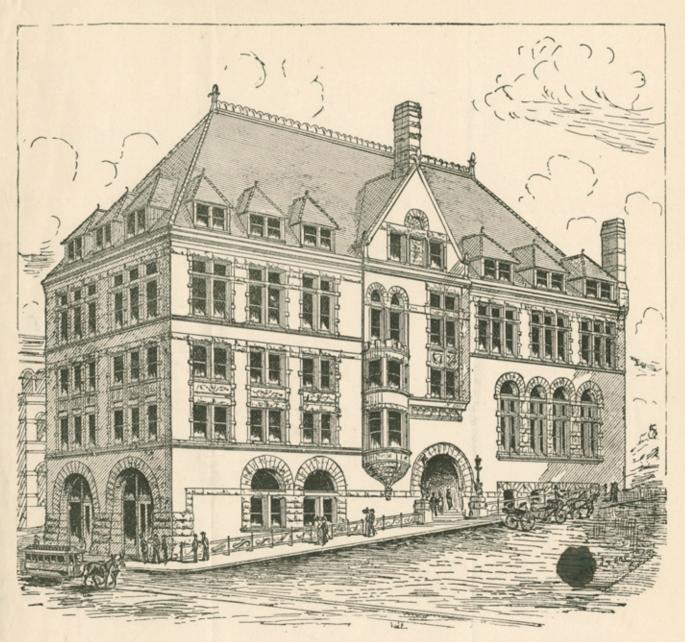
to replace our old Chaplain There is work here for a dozen Chaplains and me need at least two. Thould this view meet your pleasure send Lewis along, can give him a mice (holise to live on this winter will revamp him therengles by spring dud send being Robinsen is an awfull wicked post and needs a Chaplain Do if Lewis is to suppet wien Meddam possible Lewis Conla at Robinson, Ranch in a clay or two. If my passed over it if you were as fivenegation It is at the Flack Brand RIE on the WPRR 10 miles from Levingsten Jongo That way again you ownest man and beast and lockyings There Jams Jung/ Utas Donsbin

SENATE CHAMBER.

SENATE CHAMBER.

Detalex 5, Gen. O. O. Howard, Cmaha, Rebr Dear In Eld Bro-Dieler, and a copy of The letter you so Kindly wrote in reply thereto -To say that I am very grateful to you, is but a fuble expression. I trust that There coile never be cause for you to regret this favorable expression of apinion-Vry truly, Chas & Rierce-Two enclosures-

E. CASE, Jr., President. A. G. TRUMBULL, Vice Presidents. F. N. CHICK, Treasurer. E. A. HALSEY, Recording Secretary. CREDERICK A. HATCH, General Secretary YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION. CHAS. E. FISH, Assistant Secretary. Temporary Rooms, 542 Main Street, DR. E. S. NORTHRUP. W. McDonald. P. D. RIDENOUR. H. E. SCHULTZE. W. A. HOYT. W. W. KENDALL. I. M. COBURN W. B. GRIMES. F. L. UNDERWOOD. Kansas City, Ma. Oct. 7 1885 F. F. BRUMBACH. C. MANHART. DR. C. B. HEWITT. Jen O O Howard Dear Sir -We are making up our lecture- course for the winter, and I have been asked by the commettee in charge, to mile you to deliver a lecture on Frant. In this city where north and south are so mingled, anyother topic relative to the war would be inwise for the ass to put forward, but the life and character of Sout during and after , would strike a responsive Please let me knew of you could gwi us such a lecture and on what terms. Irenear Yours vary truly Drest A Hatch



PROPOSED BUILDING, YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION, KANSAS CITY, Mo.



238 Dear Fril.

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late was it will be under to recount his landuct or recale the fact that langues lang three heaviged his lunier in Javing un further minacian at Tellysburg. The ming you are a friend of the President and would hat home him heater a thickate I write fruly. The owing Fail Howard and the mindy Fishing I feel Jam but doing gusties in putting the Privilent french on quard of you think as Ido and Jam June jan bole jan bole hat only take a personal and public interest in the matter but I me will interest the soldiers in and all your friends on this Subject. I shall winter Thil droward dudling a Copy of the letter and in affrones, Jaile write zam He he doubt will do to for there is halling unfair or unjust in Just action but on the other trank of all Jam doing what I would like a brother Officer to do for he without talestation, I ome time duice I Tent the stoward on the quark agarding the matter but Ido hat theming he has made Much Festion axide from Manding on his Merit When the home Comes