

MURDEROUS ASSAULT

Wednesday night at Fort Sheridan barracks was an exciting one. Private James McPherson, an old soldier, who has fought on the plains, at El Caney, up San Juan Hill, and in front of Santiago, was savagely attacked and slashed with a razor by Private William O'Neill in the Company E basement of the barracks.

Being thirsty during the night McPherson arose from his bunk and tip-toed down to the basement, where drinking water was kept cool. A dim light burned within the stone apartment. In its faint flicker he saw a wild-eyed man crouching in the corner near the water barrel. McPherson paid no attention to him, but advanced toward the water barrel. The maniac, without warning, suddenly sprang upon him and slashed violently at his face with a razor. McPherson fought his assailant, who only struggled harder and cut deep gashes in both his wrists. McPherson finally broke away and kicked his foe into a corner. Then upon examining himself he found more than a dozen deep cuts in body and wrists and shoulders; in fact he was a mass of cuts and mangled flesh and blood.

McPherson dragged himself upstairs, awoke two of his friends and begged to be taken to the hospital. Horrified, they complied, and then called for the guard. The night guard with Lieut. Saxton, the officer in command, quickly responded. The officer sped to E Company's barracks, routed out First Sergeant Benzinger and together they plunged into the room full of sleepers and in less than a minute every man was awake. Only one did not sit up in bed. The sheets and blankets were jerked off the shivering form, revealing a pair of bloody hands and a torn and bloody shirt. The man was still dressed and wore his shoes. The razor was found in the man's haversack. He was put under a strong guard, marched to the guard house and locked up.

O'Neill is a recent recruit, he having enlisted in Philadelphia, Dec. 27 last. He is 26 years old and was formerly a laborer. He gave no reason for attacking McPherson.

McPherson was one of the regimental cooks and his home is in Jackson County, Iowa. He said yesterday in the hospital: "I think I will get well; but I am very sorry it happened, because it will prevent my going to Manila with the boys. I don't know what that man went at me for. I never spoke to him in my life."

Major Adair, the post surgeon, said that there was a chance for McPherson's recovery, although he is in a very dangerous condition.

NEWSLETS.

W. S. Lane, of the International Home Study Correspondence School of Scranton, Pa., will be in town every Tuesday at Green's restaurant.

The Bachelor's Club will hold a dance at Goldberg's Opera House on Thursday evening, Jan. 19, and cordially invite everybody to attend. They advertise that the best of order will be maintained and good music will be in attendance.

Private Max Hartman of I company, Fourth Infantry, of the Fort, was found lying in the road just outside the post, near the track of the electric railway, with his skull fractured, Wednesday morning. He died a few hours afterwards without being able to tell how it occurred. The generally accepted theory is that he was returning from Highwood with a number of soldiers, all of whom had been drinking freely, and that he was pushed or crowded off the rear platform, striking his head on the iron rail.

Tuesday evening the Village Board at North Chicago received the petition from the C. & M. E. R. R. asking for a 50 year franchise from 22nd street south to the village limits. Under the rules it was laid over until the next meeting. It will undoubtedly be granted.—Sun.

A CARD.

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WANTED—Some one to build an 8-room house; good location; will lease for three years; \$30 per month. Address: C. News.

FOR SALE—2 bedroom sets and other furniture. Enquire of Mrs. Wainwright, 73 Fort Sheridan, Ill.

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