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FORT SHERIDAN.

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First Sergeant John Frakes, of Troop L, returned from his month's furlough, which was spent in St. Louis, Mo., where he met several of his old comrades, who were extremely pleased to see the sergeant. He will now take up the reins of office and be in harness once more for three years.

Private Wiche, of I company, is back with us once more, he having returned from his furlough which was spent around Buffalo and Hornellsville, N. Y. At the latter place he was employed to run an engine, which he did in an admirable fashion, for he at last ran it into a bridge where it fell into the creek. Then he thought that it was about time to return to soldiering, which we think was wise.

Private Pluff, of K company, is the recognized authority on all field sports. He has been chosen as captain of the football team for the season of 1903. He is looking for material at the present time for a base ball team and he says that his team will easily defeat all visiting teams. He is at the present time enjoying the best of health, as he has not been on the sick report for a long time. That is because there has been no drill.

The 9th Battery is going to give a farewell masquerade ball at Fort Sheridan Park on the January 10. The boys are unceasing in their efforts to make the affair a success, as it will be about the last time that the men will be together in a social gathering in the United States for some time as they expect to leave the post on January 17th for San Francisco, where they take the transport for the Philippine Island on February 1. A good time is assured to all.

The men of Troop M have organized a bachelors' club and its members are pledged not to keep company with any young lady while they are stationed at this Post under the penalty of a fine of \$5.00. There is a membership of twenty already and more applications coming in. Sergeant Femeyer, president; Corporal Boles, vice president; Private

Tuttle, secretary; Private Albrand, treasurer. The genuine woman hater, Private Mitchell, is master-at-arms.

The men of the 21st Battery were agreeably surprised last Sunday evening at an impromptu social which they held in their day room by their vocal selections which were rendered by Private Clark, better known as "Slats." The exercises consisted of Hebrew impersonations by Private Wimberger, which were true to life, and acrobatic exhibition by Private Donoran. The program ended by Private Campbell giving a short talk on how to spend a month's pay in two hours.

Corporal O'Conner, of Troop L, received a telegram on Tuesday last notifying him of the probating of a late uncle's will, by which he becomes the fortunate possessor of a goodly sum. It is believed by the men in his troop that as soon as his time expires, which is less than two months, that he will marry one of the leading society ladies of Highwood. We hope that he may, for he would make a good husband as he at the present time is very settled. That is what makes us believe that the wedding is fast approaching.

Corporals Whitaker and Boles, of Troop M, spent Wednesday in Chicago on business.

Privates Smith and Miller, of M troop, spent Wednesday night and Thursday in Chicago on business.

M troop's detail was late at the guardhouse, Wednesday morning. Consequently the adjutant would not inspect the detail. We are confident that Private Norton would have caught orderly had he gotten a chance. Very unfair treatment.

Corporals Gidley and Huntoon, Troop M, are busy in their attempts to spend \$10,000 which was a portion of the proceeds from some property belonging to the former.

Private Humphrey, of M troop, was the winner of the first prize, an elegant sterling-silver brush and comb, awarded to the best dressed gentleman. He was in the uniform of a Russian Cossack captain, and undoubtedly deserved the prize. Congratulations, Humphrey.