

theoretical instruction of the commissioned officers; to military science and practical instruction of the entire Guard in annual encampment. While the law expressly provides for State annual encampment of the whole Guard for the sole purpose of field instruction, our past Legislature failed to make the necessary appropriation for this purpose, resulting in the Guard as a whole being deprived of the annual encampment, while a liberal, though not an extravagant appropriation would enable the Guard to fully comply with the requirements of the law, thereby having a tendency to keep the rank and file encouraged and the Guard in general in a high state of efficiency. It should be borne in mind that at the State encampments the soldier is taught the science of modern warfare. At these encampments the men are instructed how to act (fight) in small groups or singly. The troops thus assembled are drilled to advance in line of battle, in successive lines, in open and extended order, etc., in fact, perfect organization of bodies of troops, and perfect control by the commander of each unit will be learned at these encampments, which is absolutely essential to government, efficiency and success in the field. Community of interest, mutual respect, and familiarity with each other's methods, can be established in a company, troop, or battery capacity at the home station, but unity of action on the field requires the concentration and association of the troops to be successful.

The National Guard of Utah are in very deed volunteers, ever ready and willing to defend the State or Nation in an emergency should arise demanding its services. For nearly three years past by persistent and personal application and entirely at their own expense have both officers and enlisted men been diligently and assiduously learning the routine of the drill, the different requirements of military discipline and acquiring the minutiae of duty. The proper maintenance of our State defenders requires that a reasonable appropriation should be made with a view of encouraging the personnel of the Guard and fully perfecting its efficiency. The attention of the present Legislature should be drawn to the positive needs of a revision of the present Military Code, especially Section 37 which is in direct violation of "Rules and Articles of War," which sec. 52 Military Code says shall be adopted for the guidance of the N. G. U. The present law has been found in many instances to be too lax, and does not meet the requirements of the service. Several actions might be pointed out that are in their nature meaningless and, to say the least, very ambiguous. The National Guard of Utah, its increasing importance, sphere of usefulness, and the methods and measures that are best calculated to promote its efficiency and effectiveness, are subjects to which considerable time and painstaking labor should be devoted by our legislators.

In conclusion, will say that in case of a sudden emergency the Guard would be found ready and indeed willing to defend the rights and property of the people. In case of an uprising against law and order the

people would then look to the militia for protection and their congeners, the volunteers. This being undoubtedly the case, our National Guard should be ably and properly supported by the people of our fair State. We should be prompted by wisdom and patriotic considerations to do all that we can to improve and encourage our citizen soldiery—our State troops.

JNO. M. DUNNING,
Lieut. Col., N. G. U.

RETURNED ELDERS.

Elder Alonzo Francis of Morgan city reached this city Friday on his return from a mission to the French cantons of Switzerland. He left Utah April 21, 1894, and went direct to Berne, where he was appointed to the Lausanne mission. He labored there about eighteen months, when he was transferred to Geneva. The condition of the work in the French part of Switzerland is better now than it has been for many years. Excepting slight sickness, Elder Francis was not sick a day during his absence, and he enjoyed his mission very much indeed.

The News had a pleasant call Monday evening from Elders J. S. Geddes, Ira Call and John C. Poulson, who returned yesterday from the Southern States mission. They have all been laboring in the South Alabama conference, and report the missionary work there in a prosperous condition, over 150 baptisms having been attended to last year. The prejudice that once existed toward the Elders is being rapidly allayed, though occasionally it is manifest in some form or other. The latest exhibition of this spirit was an attempt on the part of a mob to burn down a meeting-house which was being erected by the Elders and Salnis. The building was set on fire but was extinguished by the brethren after one corner had been burned. The fact that it was only partly erected saved it from total destruction.

Elder Geddes, whose home is in Plain City, Weber county, has been president of the South Alabama conference for the past two years. He left here for the mission field on November 10, 1894, and was called to preside over the conference soon after his arrival there. At that time the South Alabama conference embraced the southern part of Alabama and all of Florida, and for sometime he labored in these two states. In the fall of 1895, the conference was divided and Elder Joseph A. West was chosen president of the Florida conference. Since that time Elder Geddes's labors have been confined to the southern part of Alabama. He reports that while his health has not been as good as he would have liked, he has enjoyed his labors very much, and speaks in terms of praise of the hospitality of the people with whom he has been associated. Elder Geddes was met in this city by his wife, and together they proceeded to their home in Plain City this morning.

Elder Call, whose home is in Chesterfield, Bannock county, Idaho, also labored in the South Alabama conference. He left for the mission

field on the 1st day of June, 1894, and was blessed with good health during his absence. He reports having enjoyed his missionary labors very much. Elder Call went to Bountiful last evening, with the expectation of continuing his homeward journey today.

Elder Poulson's home is in Holden, Utah. He left on his mission seventeen months ago and labored in the South Alabama conference. The first year he enjoyed good health and labored assiduously in the missionary work, but about four months ago his health failed and since that time has been poor. His health improved very materially on the journey homeward. After remaining in Salt Lake a few days he will proceed to his home in Holden.

Elder Artemus Millet, of Mesa City, Arizona, was also a member of the same party, but separated from the others at Kansas City, and went direct to his home at Mesa. He also labored in the South Alabama conference.

The Elders were also accompanied by Elders Franklin D. Richardson, of Plain City, Weber county, and Elder Alfred, who did not stop over in this city, but continued their journey home. Both of these Elders labored in the Kentucky conference, Elder Richardson being assistant to the president. He is reported as having done a great amount of good in that conference, having been there since November, 1894.

SHAD! SHAD!

In Bear Lake, and no mistake. Mr. Alley has caught 400 pounds at one haul. Read his letter below.

Messrs. C. H. Alley, Joseph Clark and Joseph C. Rich testify that they are in Bear Lake in great numbers, and in good shape. By the mouths of three witnesses this fact is established beyond a peradventure.

These shad were planted in the spring of 1891. The eggs were brought from Philadelphia and hatched out at Montpelier. From there we carted them twenty-two miles to the lake, over a very rough road and during a severe storm. Now, if they have lived, thrived and multiplied during these six years, as certified, who will even intimate that the plant will not be a prodigious success.

In all of the large cities of the East, and on the tables of their best hotels, shad is the most toothsome fish of the season.

Every year tons of imported shad are sold in our markets for fifteen or twenty cents per pound. Very soon, I firmly believe, these will be superseded by fresh shad from Bear Lake at a greatly reduced price.

So mote it be!

A. MILTON MUSSER,

LAKE TOWN, Rich County,
January 22, 1897.

A. M. Musser, Esq.:

Dear Sir:—Your letter of the 14th just at hand, asking information in regard to shad. In reply I will say, I have seen shad all along the shore of the lake at South Eden; shoals of thousands. They come in to spawn with the suckers about the 1st of June. They spawn in the rocks and gravel.