FROM OUT THE DEPTHS

Interesting Letter Written on Spanish Government Ledger Paper

TAKEN FROM A SUNKEN WRECK.

Thomas G. Green and George Duffin Send Tidings From Themselves and Others at Manila.

Manila, Philippine Islands, Oct. 8th, 1898.

Dear Deseret News:

I thought I would write and tell you something of my journey from Salt Lake City to Manila, a distance of nearly eight thousand miles. As you have, we left Salt Lake on the 20th of last month, and went to Ogden via the Rio Grande, Western, and Oregon we were hitched onto the regular Overland special that leaves Ogden at about 2 p. m. Arriving at Ogden we got our tickets and checked our baggage and we had coffee streaming in, and also at the railroad hotel, and it was lovely, nobody knew we were off duty. The next morning at about 8 o'clock we stopped at Wadsworth, or going to get coffee there, and we had to wait a little and we had about twenty minutes to spare to eat, but we were disappointed, as they had neither coffee nor food on account of our coming and it was quite a history. Seeing that we were out of that station. But we telegraphed ahead to Reno, Nevada, to have coffee ready for us, and we received dinner at about one hour, where we had our breakfast.

We arrived at Reno for dinner and then took the train and we arrived at Sacramento, California, where the Red Cross ladies had coffee and a good lunch prepared for us. After dining a good supper we took the train for San Francisco, we arrive about 8 o'clock.

IN CALIFORNIA.

We arrived in Oakland about 10 o'clock, and after the passengers had cleared the train of the troops, we were ordered off and carried back about a mile and unloaded. When we arrived there we had to wait for the cars which took us to the depot and got off all our things and were straightened up for San Francisco.

We got to San Francisco on the ferry at about 3 o'clock and marched into a city where we were treated like princes. We had dinner, and there the Red Cross ladies served us with coffee and a good substantial lunch. We stayed in San Francisco until we came to Camp Merritt, about two miles from the water front. There we found ourselves in a place where we had to sleep in a place in the ground for the entirely nothing could not get every thing to do to be good to us. The next day we were made more fast deep and we commenced, especially when the sun came and we had to get up and we found how the sand blew into our places in spite of all we could do, and it was with great difficulty that we could keep from going to move over in the Presidio. This we did and at the Presidio we pitched our tents and made ourselves quite comfortable, and we were proud with our surroundings very much.

The bay was but a quarter of a mile from our camp and we used to go down every day after drill and go in bathing. The bay, though, it did that I should have had a shark in my hands, but, I wish, for I picked one up on the shore of the bay one day—a little fellow about a foot long. The waves had washed back and dry upon the shore and I wished I should have had.

The Red Cross society had a very good one, and there was a lady corps there in charge. There we received writing materials and other things, and the boys two of all things. They were very kind to us and have cause for their efforts to make us soldiers happy. We were there until the 4th of July, when we moved down to the Pacific Mail Steamship company's docks and were put on board the transport Rio de Janeiro, which was going to take us to Manila.

There was a big crowd there when we had moved and while we were looking over the city talking to some friends who had come to see us of the officers were taken to be published to the regiments. They we met off to town and met off into the bay, which we had not left yet, and the next morning, as it looked out another was added and we commenced the long trip, towards the west. While we lay there the bay the whistles of a great many steamers to the bay and of course sounded our departure, and, in the city, and cannon were firing as we left. Then the people as we passed, there was a couple of hours or so, the tow steamers that came along with us finally down with people, turned back and we continued on our way and when long were out of sight of land.

ACROSS THE PACIFIC.

We were nothing except water and sky for eight days and a, day with great to that we sighted land, and when we arrived in Honolulu we were tumultuously received.

After the same passage—everything for the 8th of Manila, when we had 11 pretty rough—we finally arrived off Cavite, which is just above the bay of Manila and but seven miles distant from Manila. There South Dakota lots were landed and taken the great ship moved anchor and among many others and headed toward Manila. We ran right between the Olympia and the Petrel, two of Dewey's ships, and passed right in among all our battleships and a lot of other transports and in a day or so began we were hauled and marched through the city to where the Utah artillery were and stationed with the rest. We were all glad to see so and we to see them.

SETTLED DOWN.

They did good work on the 13th of August, the day of the taking of Manila, and the boys have some very interesting accounts to relate of the bombardment of Manila. After having been assigned quarters with the rest of the boys and having got all straight and settled in military shape, we all felt much better satisfied with our surroundings for we were more prepared to go out and pitch our tents in some nearby place and get out in the trenches from what we had.

This would have been so but we got here early and we were put in barracks into their present quarters a few days before from the trenches, where they have been stationed with the rest of the boys and when we were ordered to lay down in Cavite the rain poured down all around.

We would not be more comfortably located if we were in Fort Douglas or Ogden.

Here, for these barracks belonged to the Spanish and were built especially for military use. We have two large pools of water to bathe in, one for Battery A and the other for B.

SOME PETS.

Several of the boys have brought monkeys, and I have some white one called "Battery," and you would enjoy seeing them playing and climbing about. We have quite a menagerie and anything that happens to be handy. Then we have about a dozen cages of birds, we are all kinds. Roosters, hens, we also have one big parrot and to a beautifully colored and resembling the parrot, but we have lost the whole.

DAILY DUTIES.

We drill every morning, some mornings we have the fort drill, and I think we have more than we care to see as, for we go through all the ceremonies of a regular fort, and we would if it was actual, we have to do all the work ourselves, for we had some that the rebels were used to make an attack and set camps in the trenches, and we have to do a moment's notice to the trenches. We are everything ready, filled the cartridge belt, we attached to the camos with water and rations, and we have to start right off at a minute's notice to fight the insurgents, but we were not called on yet, and we have not a job in the office's dining room assisting the cooks for the month, we now get a per diem of $1 a day for us, we were packed in close ships like sardines, and the grub for the soldiers was very poor, once in a while they would get a couple of barrels and some hash, but the regular meal was hard tack and fat pork. I shared wine for my meal and a job in the officer