

CHRISTMAS LAST YEAR

CHARLOTTE HELPED SOLDIERS
KEEP THE DAY.



CHRISTMAS found Camp Greene astir with excitement last year because 60,000 soldiers were preparing to make the journey to France within a matter of weeks. There were more than 75,000 packages delivered to the camp during the Christmas week from "home folks" who were making a last effort to cheer the lives of their boys.

The weather was on its bad behavior but every event planned for a camp celebration was carried out to the letter.

Charlotte came to the camp through its most representative citizens to help the soldiers keep the day and to give as much of the Christmas spirit as possible. Athletic events made up a field meet during the afternoon and every event was hotly contested by the men who were later destined to be a part of the brigades which chased the Huns from French soil.

The old Eighth Massachusetts Infantry won the field meet and Colonel Perry, their commanding officer, was presented a large loving cup by the city of Charlotte in recognition of the prowess of his followers.

The Eighth Massachusetts acquired a total of 21 points, six points ahead of the nearest opponent, the team of the First Connecticut Infantry.

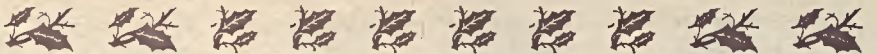
MADE SPEECHES.

Mayor McNinch of Charlotte, presented Major General Dickman, then camp commander, and who has since been honored by a position on the forefront in France and Brigadier General Sweetser, then stationed at Camp Greene, with loving cups in behalf of the city.

In response to the able talk by the mayor, General Dickman said:

"The presentation of the souvenirs to the officers of allied nations and the loving cups to the officers commanding the various regiments and the generals was particularly affecting and a courtesy very much appreciated by officers and enlisted men as an evidence of the good spirit and feeling of Charlotte toward the soldiers

THE CADUCEUS



POINTS A HIGHER PURPOSE

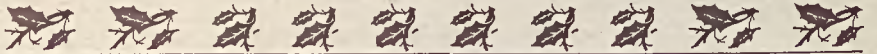


PEACE on earth and good-will among men assumes a new meaning at the return of this Christmas season. As of old at the time of the coming of the Christ child, the nations of the earth, resting under arms, were little stirred by the event of great significance. In the past few years, those scenes from the Galilean plains have seemed but a paradox intruding amid the stern realities of a world gone astray.

To-day, the principles of the Christ have been vindicated. Thru suffering and sacrifice has come victory. With humility we accept the gift. This shining star of hope which has lead us thru the dark vale of those uncertain days shall be our guide to make these things secure, for ourselves and those who come after us during the critical period of reconstruction.

Spiritual values, thus laid hold of, have brought a deeper religion, a firmer belief in Almighty God and the mission of Christ's Church upon earth. Let us not lose sight of this vision we have seen. Let us come with Thanksgiving and merry hearts, joining with the folks at home who are with us in spirit at this-festal season. God has made us better men and better women but it has not been without cost to us and to others. A higher aim and a higher purpose leads us forth into a new year of life.

By R. Rowland



at Camp Greene, and we feel that mutual understanding and co-operation will make the problems, which always arise in the large camps and the cities near the camp, easy of solution."

GAVE TO SOLDIERS.

Charlotte delivered its well wishes to the soldiers in the form of hundreds of boxes of dainties. Twenty-nine gaily decorated army transport wagons which were employed in the transportation from the city of Charlotte to Camp Greene of the great quantity of fruits, nuts, candies, cigars, cigarettes and similar articles, which were distributed to the soldiers as Charlotte's part in the effort to make their holiday in camp entirely enjoyable. A committee of Charlotte women were in charge of the distribution from each wagon. Major Kahill and the fife and drum corps of the Fifth Massachusetts Infantry led the procession of heavily-laden wagons from the concentration at The Observer to the parade ground of the Thirtieth Infantry. There the wagons were parked at points convenient for distribution. Two were sent to the detention camp nearby, where several hundred men exposed to contagious diseases were under quarantine

and held apart from the celebration.

AT THE HOSPITAL.

At the hospital the day was quietly kept but every effort was made to bring a bit of the season's joys to the shut-ins of the wards. Pretty Christmas trees, given by the Red Cross, were set up in each ward and were decorated by the nurses and orderlies.

The keeping of the day started before daylight when a small band of nurses, who had been rehearsing during the evenings, when their ward work was finished, made the rounds of the buildings and sang Christmas carols. It was a most impressive exercise and the patients aroused from their slumber by the women's voices were deeply moved.

"It sounded like the angel song for sure," said one sick halted westerner, confined in one of the isolation wards.

The Red Cross society had furnished Christmas bags for the patients and these parcels were delivered during the day. The bags had come from chapters in New England and in the gay containers were many articles of use to the soldiers.

During the afternoon the auto trucks from Charlotte came to the hospital and delivered dainties and fruit.

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