

Notes of the National Guard

A letter was received during the past week by C. Watt Brandon, of Minneapolis, from E. C. Culp, secretary of the committee on ceremonies of the Louisiana Purchase exposition, in which it is stated that seventy-eight acres have been set aside at St. Louis for the military encampment. Barracks will be built and perfect sanitation measures provided. Space will also be allowed for regiments and brigades desiring to bring their camp equipment with them. Detachments of the regular army will be there during the entire term of the fair. It is also expected that several states will arrange for holding their annual encampments there in 1904, and it is understood Minnesota is on this list. Mr. Culp also states that he will send an invitation to Gov. Van Sant to send a regiment of infantry to participate in the dedication ceremonies which occur on the three days following April 30. Minnesota sent a fire brigade to Chicago in 1892 to attend the dedication of the world's fair buildings, and during the fair in 1893 the Third regiment also attended. The state, however, defrayed none of the expenses for the latter trip. In view of the fact that a movement is on foot to send the brigade to St. Louis in 1904, there will be no troops sent to the dedication.

Twenty union men in Schenectady, N. Y., in the employ of a contracting firm, recently announced to their employers that they would strike because of the fact that William Potter, a mill-tiaman, who was expelled by the painters' union in October because he served in the state militia during the strike, recently had re-entered the employ of that firm. Potter, several days ago, secured an injunction from the supreme court compelling the painters' union to reinstate him. The officers of the union announced that they would consider him a member, although they could not grant him a card. It is understood that with the passage of the Dick bill the one great obstacle in the way of members of organized labor joining the national guard will be removed. Those who are familiar with the bill say that certain provisions can be construed in such a manner as to prevent that body being called out in times of labor troubles unless so ordered by the president, who will become commander-in-chief. This will seriously handicap the governors in several states who have made a practice of calling out the national guard without the least provocation, or at times when civil authorities could be made to cope with conditions.

An agreement has been reached between Secretary of War Root and the senate leaders to strike out section 24 from the Dick bill. This section, which was recently published in this department, provides for a national volunteer reserve force of 100,000 men, in addition to the organized militia, and was strongly opposed when it came up last Wednesday for consideration by the Democratic senators, who could probably defeat the bill if it were retained. The Republican senate leaders conferred with Secretary Root and an agreement was reached to have the section stricken out, whereupon the Democrats said they would withdraw their opposition. The militia law which the pending bill seeks to amend was enacted 110 years ago. Countless efforts at amendment have been made since then without avail, and the present bill will go through by grace of the lessons taught by the Spanish war.

Plans are formulating to open the state fair, which begins Aug. 30 next, with a grand military day. The national convention of the Society of the Army of the Philippines will be held in this city on Aug. 13 and an attempt is being made to have them postpone it until during fair week. The Spanish War Veterans' convention, which is to be held at the fair grounds, will be held on Sunday. It is more than probable that inducements may be held out to them to hold their convention at the fair grounds. Capt. C. R. Smith, quartermaster of the First regiment and vice president of the State Agricultural association, speaking on the subject the other day, said he thought it could be so arranged as to set the first day aside as "military day" and arrange for a programme that would be interesting to all the troops located at Fort Snelling which are invited to attend, also national guard regiments. He thought it could easily be arranged with Adjutant Libbey to secure plenty of tents and other paraphernalia necessary for the veterans to establish a camp. There is plenty of space at these tents erected on the grounds that were occupied by the Twelfth regiment during the mobilization of the state troops in 1898. The camp could be established on Sunday if the boys so desired it and a "camp fire" could be held on that evening, at which it would be possible to secure some interesting entertainment would probably last several days and the veterans could make their home on the grounds and also be saved a great expense that would be incurred if held earlier. The state fair association secures a one fare rate for the round trip from points as far south as Kansas City and Indianapolis.

Maj. Oscar Seebach, state commander for the Spanish War Veterans, is heartily in favor of the plan, and will give it all the support he can. It is thought probable that the Philippine war veterans will look on the plan with favor. Each body will hold separate conventions and probably establish separate camps. Capt. Smith's plan also is to try and secure the attendance of Gens. Funston and King and all the other officers of prominence possible. In past years it has generally been customary to set the first day aside as labor day, as the opening generally came on the first Monday in September. But this year Labor day will come on the Monday following fair week.

Carl A. Franklin has been commissioned as captain of company A-3, of Duluth. Capt. Franklin was identical for many years with the Wisconsin national guard and was first lieutenant in one of the cavalry companies. He is an excellent soldier and a very popular. Sergt. Max W. Hoppe, Company K-1, Stillwater, has also received his commission as second lieutenant.

Lieut. A. B. Cox, Eighth United States cavalry, and well known in this city, where he served several years as a member of the national guard, is home on a leave of absence. He has been located for some time at Fort Riley, Kan., but has now been assigned to Jefferson barracks, Missouri, where he will go on leaving here. Col. Van Duzee, Third regiment, gave a luncheon in his honor at the Windsor last Friday, at which Capt. W. M. Van Duzee, W. S. Brislin and Lieut. R. D. O'Brien were present. Capt. Matson also entertained at his home, on Dewey avenue, Meridian Park, in Lieut. O'Brien's honor on Sunday afternoon and evening. Lieut. Cox served with the Fourteenth Minnesota volunteers as regimental quartermaster.

Maj. Fred B. Wood, Second regiment, Austin, spent several days in the city during the last week.

Capt. W. W. Kinn, well known in the Third regiment, where he served for several years as captain of Company D, of Zumbrota, has been elected first lieutenant of Company D, Second, Northfield. The Second regiment is very fortunate in securing such an able officer.

The first gun to be fired in the interest of the national guard is known as H. F. No. 10, and introduced by Representative Hickey. If passed this bill will pave the way for securing

Advertisement for GEORGE E. LENNON clothing store. Text includes: 'Open at 8:30 a. m. Close at 5:30 p. m.', 'Suits and Overcoats', 'Honest Fabrics—Careful Tailoring—Latest Styles', 'First Class Trimmings—Models That Fit.', 'Lennon's Clothing has all these, and, on top of them all, it has that finished touch they call smartness, meaning that it makes a man look dressier than custom-made garments. It is as near perfection as human skill can make it; it is clothing that gives a man that dressy appearance we all want. Come in and see these grand \$15, \$18, \$20, \$22, and \$25 Suits and Overcoats at \$9.75 each. VISIT THIS GREAT SALE TOMORROW.'

a new armory for St. Paul, and its life will be anxiously watched by St. Paul guardsmen.

Maj. E. S. Person, Third regiment, Zumbrota, visited the city during the week as a delegate to the state agricultural convention.

It is more than probable that the annual convention of the Interstate National Guard association will not be held until May, at least such is the opinion of Maj. George C. Lambert. It will then be held in Washington, and Minnesota will send delegates.

Capt. George M. Coon, medical department, who has been at Hot Springs, Ark., for some time past owing to ill health, is reported to be much improved and will return home shortly.

Col. Van Duzee has made his request for the summer encampment of his regiment to be held early in June. The Second regiment will probably hold its encampment later in June, while the First will probably go during July, as has been customary in the past. The battalion of artillery will go in camp with one of the regiments during June.

A movement is on foot in this city to organize a troop of cavalry, but it is most probable that the intention of the movement to secure admission to the national guard they are likely to be disappointed. Minnesota has had all the experience it wants with a troop of cavalry. It is a costly arm and very hard to keep up. Wisconsin appropriates \$4,000 per year for horses for its troop alone. It is understood that Tom Brennan, of the St. Paul Lee company, is at the head of the movement. An independent troop might be organized, but it would be hard work to enforce the discipline that is necessary.

Owen Fay, whose death was reported from New York as occurring by asphyxiation from gas, this week, will be well remembered by the members of Company E, Third, located in St. Paul, as he attended camp with the company three years ago. He was a very popular lad, and entertained the boys with recitations and song. Prominent among his recitations was "Down in Texas, by the Rio Grande." The boys

of other companies who attended camp that year will remember him better by his association with the piece. He was popular and well liked by all.

The organizations of the Pennsylvania national guard will be inspected, beginning on Feb. 1, in their armories. Adj. Gen. Stewart has announced the issue, without charge, of new uniforms to replace those worn out during the recent campaign in the coal regions. The cost of the new issue will be charged up against the expenses incidental to the service, and will not come out of the regular appropriation.

Adjutant General's Office, St. Paul, Dec. 31, 1902—General Order No. 23.—The following changes have taken place in the military forces of the state since the publication of General Order No. 27, A. G. O., c. s., dated Nov. 23, 1902: Resigned—First Infantry, Elmer M. Bassett, second lieutenant, Company G, honorably discharged Dec. 22, 1902; Second Infantry, Fred F. Delford, first lieutenant, Company D, honorably discharged Dec. 2, 1902; Third Infantry, Albert E. Barnes, second lieutenant, Company B, honorably discharged Dec. 18, 1902. Commissioned—Third Infantry, H. L. Keller, Crookston, captain, Company I, Dec. 11, 1902; C. A. Hitchcock, of Crookston, first lieutenant, Company I, Dec. 11, 1902; First Infantry, Emil C. Schroeder, of St. Paul, second lieutenant, Company G, Nov. 24, 1902, vice Albert C. Eddy, resigned. Promoted—Third Infantry, Company I, at Crookston, Dec. 11, 1902. By order of the commander-in-chief, E. D. Libbey, Adjutant General.

A bill providing for amendments to the state military code will be introduced early this week. The bill has been drawn up by the legislative committee, and covers the suggestions of the late national guard convention. Following is the senate committee on military affairs: Eberhart, Gjertsen, Campbell, Cole, Cooke, Hardy, Nichols, Fugh, Stephens. The house committee consists of the following: Bouck, Peterson (S. D.), Nyquist, O'Laughlin, Norman, Jacoby, Wells, Erickson, Randall. Several of the members of both committees had had connection with the national guard, and will be warm supporters of whatever legislation will be needed.

Carbolic Acid Is Popular as a Method of Suicide. St. Paul has no Suicide club, but during the year of 1902 thirty-one persons found reason to decide to curtail their time of toiling for the trusts. In this connection many very interesting, if gruesome, facts come to the surface, facts gathered in the course of their duty by medical men and the police. Opinions concerning the morality or even expediency of suicide have always differed as widely as those concerning anything else, though probably with a larger statutory majority upon one side—that of the opposition. The ancient Romans rather encouraged the practice among offenders against the state. The bow-string and the sword, the gallows, have been their official hasteners of funerals among the Turks and Chinese since Confucius

routes taken by self-destroyers of other days. In the Bible Samson, Eleazar and Judah Iscariot, tired of the things of earth, and Hannibal and Mithades, sought death by their own hands rather than be taken in battle. The list is long. Socrates drank hemlock, Demosthenes committed suicide; and then up the line of history they come—Themistocles, Marc Antony, Cleopatra, Diogenes, Lucretia, Chatterton, Clive, Blout, Haydon, Chateaubriand, Cowper, Rousseau, and Lamartine frequently made attempts upon his life. Burns considered much the advisability of remaining one apart from his Mary; and George Sand admitted that "whether it is bile that make me melancholy, or melancholy that makes one bilious, I am seized at times with almost uncontrollable fits of suicidal frenzy." Even Abraham Lincoln, by his own admission in after years, was the victim of a constitutional melancholy that assumed threatening aspects in his youth. As to the causes it would seem from local research that different reasons are to be assigned for the manner in which the victims of their own frenzy seek to obtain transportation to wish-ed-for bliss.

Naturally enough, the source of the prompting delusion, the convenience of means, the influence of suggestion and imitation, the customary occupation and the desire for notoriety and publicity all play parts in the choice of instruments and means of death.

For instance, physicians will invariably choose aconite, morphine, laudanum or chloroform, and the religious fanatic generally something that suggests to his fevered mind a part of his frenzy, as a crucifix. It is mainly a result of environment and habit.

Jim Younger's Suicide. As a means of illustration there is the famous suicide of Jim Younger. All his life that had been spent on the side of Stillwater prison his playboy had been a revolver of large caliber. When the end came he chose it as the method. Habit follows man to the brink of the grave. Thirty-one persons ushered into eternity by self-propulsion! And strange it that the average of ages among those who seek this rash and cowardly end is that of the midst of the prime of life. The average is forty-three years of age. Just at the age when life should mean most to all men! Of the thirty-one self-destroyers four were women. Their ages averaged thirty-seven years, the youngest was nineteen and the oldest sixty-five. Three of them chose carbolic acid and one was content with the painless end provided by drowning. Of the entire number two had recourse to the razor and throat connection. Nine shot bullets into convenient portions of their anatomy, and three danced on air in their attics. It will probably never be known what forms the strange fascinations into which the house has for a man who has resolved to hang himself, but it is a fact worthy of note that 90 per cent of those who seek death by this means are discovered in the attic. Five were recovered from the Mississippi river, and ten swallowed the fascinating carbolic acid. But two of the number seemed to exhibit any degree of solicitude for their last sensations, for only that number had the good sense to take an opiate. They drank morphine.

good things of the world, the flesh and the devil. He evidently desires not to investigate the novelties of the "un-discovered country from whose bourne no traveler returns." To the Teutonic mind the passing seems to be but rest. Who can devise a more fiendish, horrible, agonizing death than by carbolic acid? It is a remarkable thing that it is the only drug on the shelves of the druggist that is known by an incorrect term. In point of fact, not an acid at all. It has absolutely no acidic characteristics. But it is caustic, acid and pungent—all peculiarities of the acid family. Neither is it the antithesis of acid, that is, of the alkali family. It is what is known, technically, as a hydro-carbon, possessing the qualities of being strictly neutral. It is known to chemists as "phenylic alcohol," "phenic acid," "phenol" and a multitude of other names; but, defined for the benefit of the layman, it is perhaps best described as "an energetic caustic." To those who have come in contact with the fiery qualities there is little doubt left of its energy.

To the writer a well known physician of St. Paul described vividly all the results of carbolic acid poisoning as felt by himself after drinking the deadly potion in mistake for distilled water. He said: "It was when I was doing laboratory work in the health department of St. Paul that I had this very disagreeable experience. How Carbolic Acid Sets on Stomach. 'Over the sink we used to keep a large jar of distilled water and along with it was a smaller jar containing a 5 per cent solution of carbolic acid. They were both equipped with siphons and entered into the apparatus in all ways were counterparts, and this accounts for the experience. 'One day the city water was very rough and I did not feel like drinking it, so I decided to use that from the distilled water jar. Unthinkingly, I opened the pinchcock on the carbolic acid siphon and took a large mouthful of it. Luckily I had no time to swallow it before detecting my mistake, and rushing to a bottle of alcohol I took a great mouthful of it and allowed it to remain there for some time. It is the greatest, indeed the only real antidote for carbolic acid poisoning known. 'By the way, it is used in a strange manner by the German surgeons. When they desire, as surgeons so often do, to disinfect their hands they plunge them into a bath of pure carbolic acid and then into a bath of absolute alcohol. It is done so quickly that the carbolic acid has no time to act—the alcohol neutralizing its effect faster than it can act upon the flesh; but all traces of the disease germs of which they wished to rid themselves are gone. 'Immediately after I had taken the alcohol I felt the strangest sensation clear down past my esophagus to the pit of my stomach. The deadly stuff had penetrated through the membranes to the blood and in that short space of time had been distributed all through my system by the action of the heart. It is almost impossible to believe that such could be done, but it is true. And for such days and days I felt it in my mouth, could tell its tingling in my blood, and in my very bones. And that was but a 5 per cent solution—imagine, only five parts of acid in ninety-five of water! What must it be when one gets the benefit of a full strength solution? 'In view of the great increase of the number of suicide cases in the land the medical associations all over the country are taking active measures to

endeavor to stamp out the growing evil. It has been asserted by various members of these bodies that the newspapers of the land are in great measure responsible for much of the self-destruction of which the United States seem to be enjoining a particularly heavy wave. Meetings are being held, and resolutions being drafted requesting publishers of papers to eliminate this class of articles from their columns. A portion of such a notification is appended.

Ask That Method Be Canceled. A resolution will be acted on at the next meeting of the Hennepin County Medical association providing that newspapers be requested in the interest of humanity to refrain from printing, in connection with accounts of suicide, anything concerning the method of self-destruction employed.

Members of the medical profession are convinced that the large number of suicides resulting from use of carbolic acid is attributable to suggestion derived by ignorant people from newspaper publication of suicidal method. Within the last year carbolic acid poisoning came within one of heading the list of causes of death in suicide cases, and the doctors believe that resort to the first means of self-destruction at hand was due to belief in the painlessness of carbolic acid poisoning, which is reported in the papers most frequently as the method of suicide.

White is a fact that carbolic acid taken in sufficient quantity is almost as immediately fatal in its effects as hydrocyanic acid, an underdose of the poison produces death as lingering and horrible form. The unfortunate suffers from all the symptoms of gastro-enteritis and finally chokes to death. Carbolic acid is one of the most commonly used household necessities, and from this fact drug store clerks have no compunction about selling it whenever it is called for. The acid, as diluted for household use, is in precisely the form to produce death in its most horrible aspect.

Alcohol is an antidote for carbolic acid poisoning, a fact with which the public is not generally familiar. The formula for treatment is first the stomach pump, then the administration of lime water in large quantities and glycerine salts in solution. Alcohol is given at frequent intervals.

Dr. W. A. Jones said yesterday, in a conversation concerning the frequent recourse to carbolic acid as a means of suicide, that the explanation was to be found largely in suggestion, acting on the minds of persons in depressed mental condition. The fact that carbolic acid so frequently figures in newspaper reports as the suicidal agent and that this acid is usually within reach of the always happy acid bottle, are responsible for the increased number of cases attributed to this cause. It is also to be feared that suicidal use of the always happy acid bottle will increase unless something can be done to keep details of suicide cases from the eyes of persons in depressed and nervous condition. "It is not the theory that cases of suicide ought not to be printed," said Dr. Jones. "Newspapers are published to print the news, and suicide is news of a sort, but it has occurred that the danger to a certain class of newspaper readers could be materially lessened if an agreement could be reached between the papers not to publish anything as to the methods used in suicide cases. If John Smith has killed himself it is really not a matter of great moment

whether he took carbolic acid, shot or hung himself. "He that cuts off twenty years of his life cuts off so many years of feasting death," said Shakespeare. "To die in order to avoid the pains of poverty, love, or anything else disagreeable, is not the part of a brave man, but of a coward," wrote Aristotle. "Suicide originates in that sort of fear we call ptoimetry," proclaimed Napoleon; and Webster declared that "there is no refuge from confession but suicide, and suicide is confession." The law in nearly every civilized community treats self-murder, or its attempt, as a heinous crime, and in many localities the bodies of suicides are subjected to hideous indignities; but, outside the pale of superstition and statute, the most common feeling for the poor wretches is—pity.

ENGLAND ROUNDLY LECTURED BY RUSSIA

Says She Has No Right to Interfere in Russian Legislation. ST. PETERSBURG, Jan. 17.—Russia has replied to the British note of Nov. 30 last, on the subject of the sugar convention. She says she considers the British contention to be an attempt to interfere in her domestic legislation and repudiates the idea that another state may in its own interest press for a change in Russian internal legislation or in the event of Russia not agreeing to its proposals that it can penalize Russia's products without violating existing commercial treaties. The note declares that Russia can in no event give her adhesion to the Brussels agreement.

THOMAS VERY MUCH AHEAD IN A COTTON DEAL

Wins a Fight for \$52,000 in the Federal Courts. NEW YORK, Jan. 17.—Michael H. Thomas, of Dallas, Tex., has won a fight for \$52,000 in the United States court, the amount of his verdict being the difference between the price of 23,900 bales of cotton on the day the brokers sold him out and that on the day a month later when he ordered his New York holdings sold. Mr. Thomas was "bucking" a panicky market on a dollar margin, and the brokers gave him eight minutes in which to put up \$20,000 additional margin. He replied that the margin was not asked in his contract, and added an order to hold the cotton, and a threat to hold the brokers personally responsible if they disobeyed his command. The brokers sold out the cotton and informed Mr. Thomas. He replied that he would not recognize the transaction, and when the market soared again he ordered a sale. The brokers said they had already sold the cotton, and Mr. Thomas came to New York and began suit.

Congressman Ruple May Die. CHICAGO, Jan. 17.—Congressman J. N. W. Ruple, of Marengo, Iowa, is at St. Luke's hospital suffering from a tumor on his neck. His malady is such that the surgeons say it is impossible to successfully perform an operation, and it is feared that his death will result within a short time.