

New Albany Daily Ledger 02-06-1864 p2c2 CAMP NOBLE. – The management of affairs at Camp Noble, in this city, has elicited the highest praise from all at all conversant with the proper management of a military camp, who have visited it. The health of the men is excellent – the slight sickness which prevailed some weeks ago having entirely disappeared. This sickness was not, as has been fully proven, the result of any lack of sanitary regulation or discipline in the camp, and only those were attacked who had been much exposed in that section of the country where fevers were prevalent. We do not believe that to-day there is a military camp in the State which will show anything like so favorable a record of good health and good discipline among the men as Camp Noble.

We hear it stated that there is probably an intention on the part of the Governor, to order the removal of the cavalry companies now in Camp Noble to the camp at Columbus. We cannot but think that such an order would be most unfortunate, and would result most seriously to the recruiting interests in this district. There is an excellent feeling in this district at present, and this is attributable to the policy of Col. Wilson, Commandant at Camp Noble, in keeping out on furlough, all the time, twenty per cent of the men enlisted to aid in recruiting. The good results of this policy daily become more apparent in the increasing number of volunteers received. Take away the companies from this district, and of course this valuable influence to the recruiting service will be lost.

In the Columbus District there is but one cavalry company, and but two or three in the Vincennes District; while in this District there are eight. It would seem to us the better policy to transfer the companies from the Columbus and Vincennes Districts to Camp Noble. There are no better drill or parade grounds to be found in the State than those at and immediately contiguous to Camp Noble, while there is sufficient room in the Camp, without at all crowding it, to accommodate most comfortably and healthily a full brigade.

We hope Governor Morton will not order the companies away from here, and we feel satisfied that he will not if the positive advantages not only to the recruiting service but also to the health and comfort of the men are properly represented to him.

The work of recruiting is going on in this district most energetically, and it certainly would be bad policy to do anything to check it. If Gov. Morton will permit the companies in Camp Noble to remain there at least till after the first of March, he will do a good work for the service and have the pleasure on that day of hearing that the Second District is out of the draft, and her quota ready to march where they can illustrate Hoosier gallantry, and add to the glorious fame which Indiana's sons have already won for their glorious State.

New Albany Daily Ledger 02-29-1864 p2c1 Much complaint has lately been made that the soldiers at Camp Noble are daily guilty of the grossest outrages and depredations upon the property, and in some instances the persons, of farmers and others living in the vicinity of the camp – stealing chickens, shooting hogs and other stock, tearing down and turning over out-buildings, and similar disgraceful conduct. That there is just grounds for these complaints, cannot be gainsayed; but there is no justice in holding all the soldiers at Camp Noble responsible for these outrages. They are confined, we are credibly informed, to a

very small proportion of the men, and but a very few of them belong to the new recruits for the Tenth Cavalry.

We are authorized by Col. Wilson, Commandant at Camp Noble, and by other officers there, to say to those who suffer from the depredations of soldiers, that if complaint is lodged with the city police or with any of the officers at Camp Noble, every facility and aid will be given by the officers and the well-behaved soldiers to ferret out and punish the offenders in the severest manner.

The great majority of the soldiers at the camp are filled with indignation at these repeated outrages, and are smarting under the disgrace which necessarily attaches alike to the guilty and the innocent until the really guilty are discovered. The officers likewise feel this disgrace; and it is fully determined to put a speedy and decided end to the evils complained of. The good men in the camp will turn out to aid citizens and officers in discovering the guilty parties, and citizens, hereafter, have only to lodge their complaints with the proper officers – either of the city or the camp – to have justice meted out to those who disgrace the uniform of the American soldier by a system of larceny and outrage at which a Hottentot would blush.