

battery B, Utah volunteers, returned home pinched and worn, from Manila, Friday morning, fifty pounds less than when he enlisted for the service. Wagner was perfectly well when he left here but contracted rheumatism in Camp Merritt before sailing for Manila. He recovered somewhat, however, on crossing the Pacific and when in Honolulu was in the best possible health. When he reached the Philippines, however, he had to be carried off the boat. He did not reach there until after the surrender of the Spanish colonial capital to the American forces.

On arriving there the city was full of the sounds of victory, and everywhere the praises of the Utah volunteers were being heralded. The Utah men, he says, have the entree to everything in Manila; every man is looked upon as a hero, besides that they are regarded as superior in personal appearance; they outclass any other company or set of volunteers. When a soldier or a body of soldiers go by looking particularly cleanly and nice as to appearance, it causes the remark to be made at once, he or they are Utah volunteers. This is considerable of a compliment when the fact is taken into account that all the men in all the companies wear precisely the same kind of uniforms.

Mr. Wagner was in the hospital nearly the whole part of his stay in Manila but got out occasionally to mingle with the boys. On Sept. 22nd, he with three other Utah men, Privates Lacey and Roland of Salt Lake, and Bluth of Ogden, started home on sick furlough on the transport ship Rio de Janeiro. In all there were 120 sick soldiers on board. Nearly every one had to be carried on to the boat, being so emaciated and reduced in strength and flesh; but considering there was much delay the Rio de Janeiro was chartered and proceeded to load her down with regular government rations. To this Captain Ward, the owner of the ship, objected and declared that he would not set sail with such food for sick men, and that if he conveyed them back to the United States he must feed them rations of his own selection. The result was that Captain Ward won his point and the men got good food. As a sample of what they received the following was the bill of fare for breakfast: Good coffee, hot rolls, plenty of beef steak and hash and potatoes. The government rations for breakfast would have been, pork, hard tack, salt horse. The bill of fare furnished by Captain Ward and his kindly treatment resulted in very many of the sick soldiers almost recovering en route home.

But there were some sad scenes on board the ship during the voyage. Nine of the men died. Of these four were buried at sea, three were embalmed and brought to San Francisco and from there shipped to their homes. One was buried in Japan, and another who became insane from his sufferings, jumped overboard and was drowned with \$475 on his person.

All of the Utah boys mentioned are on sick furlough and expect their discharges soon in the event none of them will again return to the Philippines. Mr. Wagner desired that he be permitted to pay tribute to Captain Young, whose brain he says evolved and perfected the plans which resulted in the splendid victory achieved by the Utah batteries. Captain Young, he declares, is not only loved and respected by his men for the personal kindness and treatment accorded to them. No matter how humble or ill a soldier may be, Captain Young finds time to call upon and encourage him. These characteristics have won for him the admiration of all his men, and the respect of many in other companies.

#### HOME FROM MANILA.

Great big, good natured 250-pound Chris Wagener, who a few months ago left Salt Lake as one of the recruits for