THE FOURTH IN CAMP.

THE DAY SPOILED BY THE DRENCHING RAIN.

PEEKSILL, N. Y., July 4.—Officially the glorious Fourth has not been a success at the State Camp, for the only celebration attempted by the authorities, a noon dress parade and the firing of a national salute of twenty-two guns, was interrupted and spoiled by the rain which, at the appointed hour, fell in torrents. But it proved to be the clearing shower, for the sun came out in the early afternoon with a delightful warmth, cheering the hearts of the soldiers and their sweethearts, who by scores had wandered in earlier in the day with their pretty Summer gowns betaggled. Another and by no means successful battalion drill was held for the benefit of these fair admirers of brass buttons, followed by a baseball match between nine chosen from the mess hall waiters and the Fifth Separate Company from Newburg. The waiters won after an exciting game, by a score of 5 to 4.

Shortly before 12 o'clock the real ceremony of the day began, when the trumpet called the troops to the color line for dress parade, but the spectators were doomed to disappointment, for hardly had the line been formed when down came the rain in perfect bucketfuls, and soldiers and spectators, choosing not the order of their going, ran helter-skelter to the nearest refuce. All except the detail from Alderman Wendel's First Battery, which was on hand to fire the salute, and fire it they did in the very teeth of the rain and wind, which had now become almost a hurricane. Just at the hour the first of the two old brass twelve-pound Napoleons belched forth in honor of the "day we celebrate," and it took the well-trained gunners exactly 7 minutes and 20 seconds to complete their work—an average of 10½ seconds for each gun—a splendid record in such weather. The men never flinched for a moment from their duty, though wet to the skin.

The battery, which is one of the best in the State's service, deserves unqualified praise for its good work, and received it after the uncomfortable ordeal from the commanding officer and his staff. The men were the heroes of the day, and many shy glances of admiration did the pretty visitors cast in their direction when, after their drenching, they appeared in all the glory of fresh, clean, and dry uniforms, with brilliantly-burnished trappings. Sergt. Charles Spring was in command of the squad. His men were Sergts. Peter G. Daleser and Henry J. Korp, August Bus, Pratives Joseph App Boes, Martin Kramer, Christian Sausele, William and Charles Schneider, Gustave Winkler, Harry Redlich, Frederick Kotsler, John Hanley, Alexander Schellen, Gottfried Herzog, William Richards, and Louis Kleinbohl.

The day closed with a charming reception to the officers of the post by Mrs. Wallace A. Downs, the wife of Major Downs of the Seventy-first. Mrs. Downs was assisted by Miss Fitzgerald of New-York and the Misses Kopple. Reverend Dr. Newland Maynard, Chaplain of the Ninth Regiment, will preach on Sunday morning at the camp.