

ANDERSON ZOUAVE

NEWSPAPER OF THE ANDERSON BATTALION, AUSTRALIA.

VOLUME 3 NUMBER 1

ISSN 1834-1675

JANUARY 1, 2008

AN "ESSEX" COMPANY AND FRENCH CANADIAN FAMILY CONNECTIONS IN THE ANDERSON ZOUAVES.

Conventional wisdom says the 62nd New York Infantry Regiment was composed of 10 companies all of which were generally recruited in New York City save for the company of Captain Miles L. Riggs (Company "E") which was recruited in Troy, Rensselaer County, NY. It is also part of established 62nd lore that the nucleus of Captain Luigi Lafata's Advance Guard was composed of a company of about 50 ethnic French and other continentals who had switched their enlistment from the 55th New York Militia, Gardes Lafayette, which in early 1861 was under the command of Colonel Eugene Le Gal.

Recently some interesting genealogical information concerning three members of the Anderson Zouaves has made its appearance on the De Larm family website¹ which, in combination with information already in hand, supports an argument that there may have been more than one company which was primarily recruited from outside New York City.

According to *The Communities of New York and the Civil War*,² the only region from which the 62nd recruited was New York City and its immediate environs. Dornbusch makes no mention of the Troy company. Nevertheless, it appears that a large number of the men who volunteered to fill the ranks of the Anderson Zouaves were from much further afield.

According to *History of Essex County*³ from 1885 Lieutenant William D. Ross (who was killed by a train in an apparent act of suicide after being demoted on October 25, 1861) took about forty men from the town of Essex to join the Anderson Zouaves in early 1861.

The first muster roll from the county at the outbreak of the Rebellion was taken in the town of Essex. Captain William D. Ross, eldest son of General Henry H. Ross, took about forty men from the town early in May, 1861, and had them incorporated with the Anderson Zouaves, under Colonel Riker at New York city. The following is a list of the volunteers as named in said roll, most of whom he commanded as lieutenant and captain. The roll is dated May 2d, 1861: William D. Ross, Belden R. Parkhill, James Phillips, Charles Hoffnagle, Edmund Atherton, Albert Green, John Maloy, Joseph Hall, William E. Pratt, Horace A. Pratt, John Gordon, Franklin J. West, Samuel F. West, Henry H. Tucker, Andrew Todd, Napoleon Durant, Joseph Martin, Friend A. Smith, Charles P. Saywood, Henry W. Baldwin, George Tucker, James Stone, John Reed, Peter Lowe, Ira P. Knapp, Nathan W. Lincoln, E. Story, John Damady, Horace Smith, Franklin Flurry, Edwin Clemmons, F. A. Brown, George Chase, Artemas Woodruff, Daniel Cross. With a few exceptions the above names represent the men who left the town in May, 1861, to take an active part in the great struggle.

If we are to believe this information, there were about 35 men from the town of Essex alone who served in company "C", making up about half the number in the company. However, upon checking the muster rolls it appears that, in addition to Ross, only five of these 35 men ever completed their enlistment with the Anderson Zouaves. These were Albert Green, Joseph Hall, William E. Pratt, Horace A. Pratt and Henry H. Tucker. A further, cursory, investigation of the list seems to indicate that Edmund Atherton, Belden R. Parkhill, Edwin Clemmons, John Damady, Napoleon Durant, Franklin Flurry, Charles Hoffnagle, Ira P. Knapp, Nathan W. Lincoln, Peter Lowe, Charles P. Saywood and Artemas Woodruff never enlisted for service with any New York regiment, at least not under the names given in the list. This being said, George Chase, Friend A. Smith and Samuel F. West enlisted in the Elizabethtown company (Co. "K") of the 38th New York Infantry on May 11, 1861.⁴

Clearly there are major errors in the *History of Essex* regarding the enlistments in the Anderson Zouaves from the town of Essex and the surrounding areas. It is worth noting however, that more of the individuals mentioned enlisted in the Anderson Zouaves than in any other New York regiment. Notwithstanding this, the evidence of enlistees from other Essex towns which may still support an argument that company "C" of the Anderson Zouaves originally started out as an Essex County company.

The De Larm Family genealogical website mentioned above, is one such repository of evidence. The information on the website which informs the history of the Anderson Zouaves concerns Nelson Peter Dolbeck, Moses J. Beaudry, Henry Osteen and Francis G. Neddo.



Nelson Peter Dolbeck

NELSON PETER DOLBECK

Nelson Dolbeck who also went under the name George Dolbeck, was descended of an old French-Canadian family that had lived in and around Montreal since the French and Iroquois wars in the late 17th century. Dolbeck's great, great, great grandfather, Jean François Dolbec, was born in St. Ferdin in Normandy France and must have emigrated to New France (Canada) sometime before 1696 which was the year that his wife, Anne Jeanne Masse gave birth to Louis Joseph

Dolbec at Pointe-aux-Trembles in the French colony of Ville-Marie which later was to become the city of Montreal.

The next couple of generations of the Dolbec family remained in Quebec until about 1838 when Nelson's parents, Gabriel Dolbec and Angélique Plamondon moved to the town of Franklin, Vermont, just two kilometres south of the Canadian border. It was here that Nelson Peter Dolbeck was born on April 30, 1836. Despite living in Vermont the Dolbecs clearly still identified with their French Catholic heritage and chose to have both Nelson and his younger brother Cleophus L. Dolbeck baptised in the St. George de Noyan parish in the town of Henryville, Québec, Nelson being christened Pierre Antoine Domitian Dolbec – clearly the anglicisation of his name came about as he grew up in the United States. Nelson and his family undoubtedly had French as their first language and this may have influenced Nelson in his decision to join the Anderson Zouaves.

Dolbeck's marriage certificate says that he was a resident of Ticonderoga, NY on the western shore of Lake Champlain, his family having moved there from Vermont around 1860.⁵ Nelson Peter Dolbeck enlisted with the Anderson Zouaves on May 1, 1861. Whether Dolbeck was recruited in Ticonderoga or whether he travelled to New York City to enlist is unclear.

Dolbeck stayed with the regiment throughout the Tennallytown encampment and during the peninsula campaign. However, on the regimental roll dated August 18, 1862 Dolbeck is noted as being absent without leave since the previous day. This was at the time that the regiment was encamped between Yorktown and Fortress Monroe awaiting evacuation after McClellan's failed peninsula campaign. It is possible that Dolbeck's absence was not a simple case of desertion and he was not labeled as a deserter immediately. There is a suggestion that he may have been suffering a number of ailments including catarrh, rheumatism of the arms and disease of the eyes in the months before and perhaps Dolbeck had been placed aboard one of the many steamers that were evacuating the sick and injured to the northern states. Dolbeck's

“desertion” may have been a clerical error.

Whatever the case, it is clear that by late November 1862, Dolbeck had found his way to Ticonderoga, NY because it was there that on November 24 he married 19 year old Ellen Susan Hayford. The report of the Adjutant General suggests that Dolbeck returned to the regiment but it is unclear just when this was supposed to have been. A War Department statement of service in support of a pension claim does not appear to support a claim that Dolbeck ever returned to the regiment after August 1862 and at the very least it is unlikely that he was with the regiment around April and May of 1864 as the first of his 13 children was born on February 7, 1865. This being said it is interesting that Ellen didn't give birth to her first child for more than two years after her marriage to Nelson. This delay in beginning the Dolbeck family may well have been the result of Nelson's return to the regiment. According to the aforementioned War Department document there is some possibility that he was present with the regiment in late August of 1862 but he is noted as being absent without leave in September and October 1862, being fined \$12 by Lt. Colonel Oscar V. Dayton. After December 1862 he was dropped from the rolls. By the middle of 1863 it must have become apparent that whatever may have been the reason for Dolbeck's absence he had no longer had any intention of returning to duty and he was noted as a deserter. The muster-out roll of the 62nd New York, dated August 30, 1865, reports him to have officially deserted on October 22, 1862. Notwithstanding this, the fact that Dolbeck was eventually granted a pension supports the supposition that he did at some stage return to his regiment.

MOSES J. BEAUDRY

Like the family of Nelson P. Dolbeck, Moses J. Beaudry's parents were from the area just east of Montreal in Marieville, where his parents ran a bakery and restaurant. It appears that the Beaudry family, like many other catholic French Canadians, moved to the United States to escape ethnic pressures at home or in the aftermath of the 1837 Rebellion. They moved to Highgate, Vermont just a few kilometres south of the border, where Moses was born around 1836. At the time of his birth he was most likely the tenth of his parents' surviving children. His sister, Dorothee, 19 years his senior, married Gabriel Archangel Dolbec in 1833 making her the mother of Nelson Peter Dolbeck. This meant that, despite being the same age, Moses Beaudry was the uncle of Nelson Dolbeck. Dorothee and Gabriel Dolbec were married in Henryville, Quebec, and so it appears that both the Dolbec and the Beaudry families lived in the same area around the border of New York, Vermont and Quebec at least up until this date.

Sometime before 1848 the Beaudry family moved to Hague, NY on the western shore of Lake George and just 14 kilometres south of Ticonderoga, where Moses' sister Dorothee was living. Moses and his nephew Nelson, being the same age, must have enjoyed a close relationship and this is very likely a major reason Moses enlisted in the same regiment as his nephew.

Moses' military career appears to have been blessed with somewhat more honor than Nelson's. He enlisted on June 27, 1861 at Saltersville, NJ, into Company "I", of the Anderson Zouaves and can also be found on official documents listed by the surname Bandry, Baudry, Boudry and also by the first name Moise. He was mustered in on June 30, 1861 as a private. He was severely wounded in the head and right leg during the Battle of Malvern Hill on July 1, 1862 along with four other members of Company "I".⁶ Baudry's recovery from his injury appears to have been a short one, being recorded as absent sick for July and August 1862 and absent with leave from August 1. He is recorded present in September and October 1862 during the Maryland Campaign, however, from January through to April 1864 he is recorded as absent. He was tried by general court martial on the charge of desertion but was acquitted by order of General Getty commanding the 2nd Division, VI Corps. He was mustered out on December 20, 1864 at Patrick Station (in front of Petersburg), Va. with the remark: Re-instated and placed upon the Rolls, and restored to duty in compliance with special order 173 Division Headquarters.

Unlike his nephew, Moses managed to wait until after the war was over to marry Lucy A. Osteyee, on October 5, 1865. Lucy's parents, like those of both Nelson's and Moses' were from Quebec. Another of Moses' elder sisters, Marie Esther, married Lucy's older brother Francis Osteyee in 1844.

HENRY OSTEEYEE

Henry Osteyee (who also appears in official records under various surnames including Ostegee, Ostegeer, Oystee, Oytseyu and is listed under the first name of William) recruited into Company "C" of the Anderson Zouaves in Brooklyn by Captain William Hathaway on May 1, 1861. At the time Henry's older brother, Francis, was married to Marie Esther Beaudry who was the older sister of Moses Beaudry. This in turn meant that Henry also had a kinship relationship with Nelson P. Dolbeck who was of course Moses' nephew. In fact, Bruce Delarm has in hand documents which indicate that the Dolbec, Beaudry, and Osteyee families shared common ancestors several generations prior to the marriages which bound them together as they migrated southward to Vermont.

Henry was born about 1835 which would have made him about the same age as both Nelson and Moses. Like the families already mentioned the Osteyee family had moved from Quebec to Vermont before arriving in Hague sometime prior to 1850.

This being said it should come as no surprise that Henry enlisted in the same company of the Anderson Zouaves on the same day as his sister in law's, sister's son, Nelson Dolbeck. However, unlike Dolbeck, Osteyee was transferred served out his time in Wilson Hubbell's Company "B" being transferred on June 30, 1861.

Henry it appears was taken ill on the peninsula and returned to New York to recover. His malady was clearly not too serious as he returned to his regiment in time to be wounded at the Battle of Salem Church on May 4, 1863. He was captured and paroled on or about September 15, 1863. He reenlisted on January 1, 1864, was killed at the Battle of the Wilderness on May 5, 1864, and was buried on the field.

FRANCIS G. NEDDO

Francis G. Neddo, was also a Hague local. The Nadeau family had lived in New Haven, VT, a few kilometres from the eastern shore of Lake Champlain in 1838, when the Beaudrys, Dolbecs, and Osteyees were living in the north of the state and it is likely that Nadeau family did not meet with the others until they had moved to Ticonderoga. It is likely that he was related to Joseph Nadeau (Neddo and Naddo are English corruptions of the French surname) who was married to Esther Osteyee, Henry Osteyee's younger sister.

Francis Neddo, aged 18, enlisted in company "B" of the Anderson Zouaves on August 4, 1861 on Riker's Island, New York City. He was to die of typhoid while at Tennallytown, DC on February 24, 1862. This may have made him the first recruit from Ticonderoga to die in the war.⁷

There were two other recruits in the Anderson Zouaves who came from Ticonderoga. Both of these were of Irish decent and appear to have no connection with the French-Canadian families already mentioned. These were James Ferguson who enlisted on May 25, 1861 at New York City, at the age of 19 as a Private in Captain David J. Nevin's Co. "D", and Francis McCormick who also enlisted on May 25, 1861 at New York City, at the age 20 as a private in Captain Miles L. Riggs' Co. "E" (Troy Company).

At the time of writing there have been 15 members of the Anderson Zouaves identified living in the towns of Crown Point, Essex, Hague and Ticonderoga in Essex County prior to enlisting. Of these nine enlisted into Company "C" while another two enlisted into the Troy Company (Co. "E"). While it is still too soon to be certain, a picture seems to be emerging of a second river county company in the Anderson Zouaves. In addition to Captain Miles L. Riggs' Troy Company (Co. "E"), it appears that William N. Hathaway's Company "C" may have originally been the Essex Company of the regiment.

Furthermore, with the previous information in hand it is clear that the four ethnically French families were an extended kinship group living in and around Hague NY. It is tempting to imagine the four young men – Nelson, Moses, Henry and Francis, all related by blood, marriage, geography or ethnicity, and all, but one, the same age – as close friends. With information from official record, newspapers and Bruce De Larm's website it is possible to partially reconstruct the story of the four young recruits from Hague and Ticonderoga.

Moses Beaudry, Nelson P. Dolbeck and Henry Osteyee had known each other most of their lives first as boys and then as young men. The sons of French Canadian immigrants, they were all distantly related. They were the same age and all part of strong French

speaking community. At the outbreak of the Civil War they lived in the small pioneer towns of Hague and Ticonderoga, on the banks of Lake George in up-state New York. The towns had been carved from the Adirondack wilderness starting in the early years of the nineteenth century and sat upon the land where the armies of the British and the Americans, supported by the French, had played out some of the most important chapters of the Revolutionary War.

The families of the four men were part of an extended family of French Canadian Catholics who prior to emigrating to Essex county had been based around Montreal. Later the families of Moses Beaudry, Nelson Dolbeck and Henry Osteyee moved to the parish of St. George de Noyan, near the town of Henryville. Henryville was by the banks of Lake Champlain and close to the border between Quebec, New York and Vermont. In fact the eldest three of the group were all born in Vermont in 1836: Moses in Highgate and Nelson just 10kms up the road at Franklin, which was just two kilometres south of the border with Quebec. Francis Neddo was born in further away from the other three in New Haven, VT. Despite their Vermont connections the families still considered themselves as catholic French Canadians with the nearby border being little more than a convenient line on a map separating them from British cultural and religious oppression. Prior to 1850 the families moved to the towns of Hague and Ticonderoga. Hague at the time had a population of about 600 to 700, involved mainly in farming and timber cutting.

Hague gave generously to the Civil War providing about 80 volunteers to state regiments. The favoured regiments were the 5th New York Cavalry (Ira Harris Guards), the 23rd Light Art and the 118th New York "Adirondack" Regiment. For a town with such a small population the significant number of volunteers must have amounted to almost every able bodied man. However, these three regiments were organised relatively late and neither Moses or Henry, nor Nelson from nearby Ticonderoga, were willing to wait. Nelson and Henry were the first to enlist. Henry whose wife had died the previous year, put his young child Joel Eugene into the care of his younger sister and he and Nelson travelled to Brooklyn where they enlisted in Captain William N. Hathaway's company "C" of the Anderson Zouaves.

As the regiment attracted more recruits the tent at Union Square was no longer sufficient to hold all the men and, being unable to get permission to send his men to the front, Colonel John Lafayette Riker was forced to send many of his men home until he found suitable accommodation for them at Union Racecourse on Long Island and at the Newark Bay Hotel in Saltersville, New Jersey.

Just whether Nelson and Henry returned home is unclear, but what is certain is that one way or another Moses Beaudry was convinced to join them in the regiment.

In late June Moses travelled to Saltersville where the whole regiment had been gathered since June 14, however, Moses did not join his friends in Captain Hathaway's company which included a number of other upstate and river county New Yorkers.

In the time since his two comrades had enlisted, a new company had joined the regiment which had as its nucleus about 50 members of French and other continentals which had originally been part of a New York Militia regiment known as the Gardes Lafayette. These men had joined the regiment as the Advance Guard under an Italian Captain, Luigi Lafata. It was a prestigious company with many members having seen service in the Crimean War and it wore its own distinctive uniform modeled exactly after the zouaves of the French 3rd Regiment. Perhaps Moses was prevented from joining Hathaway's company because it was already recruited to its full number but it may have been that, as a native French speaker, membership of Lafata's company which gave commands in French and ate separately from the rest of the regiment may have had a greater appeal.

The regiment was eventually mustered in on June 30, 1861. For some reason Nelson and Henry were transferred to Company "B" and the regiment was moved to Riker's Island on July 15. While the regiment was on the island its condition became wretched and there were many complaints about pay not being received. Despite this fellow Ticonderogan, Francis G. Neddo, aged 18, arrived on

the island on August 4 and enlisted in the same company with Nelson and Henry.

On August 21 the regiment was crowded onto the steamer Major Anderson and started for Tennallytown, DC where it was to spend six long months before seeing its first service in the peninsula campaign. The days spent at Tennallytown were boring, oftentimes miserable and frustrating. Many of the members of the regiment deserted at this time and on February 24, 1862, Francis Neddo, who had not yet seen a battle, died of typhoid fever. This event must have shaken and saddened the other three men. It is also very likely that the death of Neddo was the first to be suffered by the town of Hague.

A month after the death of Neddo, the regiment started on McClellan's peninsula campaign. Nelson suffered from rheumatism in his arms, disease of the eyes and catarrh. It seems that after the battle of Williamsburg, the first combat for the regiment, Henry became quite sick and was sent to a hospital on the Pamunkey River, from where he was transported by the steamer S. R. Spaulding to New York. It is likely that after arriving at New York on May 28 Henry was sent back to Hague to recover. During his recovery he met a local girl, Eunice Bevins who was only 16 years old. The relationship became a strong one and before Henry returned to his regiment he and Eunice were married.

While Henry was recovering at home Moses and Nelson still battled sickness and more sanguinary trials on the peninsula. At the battle of Malvern Hill on July 1, Moses was severely wounded in the head and arm and was also sent to the hospital to heal and recover.

The wounding of Moses may well have been the last straw for Nelson who burdened with his own afflictions decided to leave the regiment when it arrived at Yorktown during the evacuation of the Federal army. Perhaps Nelson did not desert and was ill himself. Perhaps he was attending to his uncle Moses as a nurse. What ever the case may have been, around August 18, 1862 Nelson boarded a hospital ship and made his way back to Ticonderoga. Here he married Ellen Susan Hayford on November 24, 1862. It is unclear whether Nelson ever returned to his regiment but it could be that when Henry and Moses recovered and returned to the Anderson Zouaves so too did Nelson.

It seems that the three men did not have the best of luck. Henry was wounded at Salem Church, VA, on May 4, 1863 and was captured soon after. He was paroled around September 15 that same year and was discharged that same month. He reenlisted on January 1, 1864 but was killed during the battle of the Wilderness on May 5 and buried on the field.

Nelson, it seems, tired of the fighting and his name was dropped from the rolls. He was fined \$12 for being absent without leave by Lt. Colonel Oscar V. Dayton but it seems that by July 1863 he had got away with his desertion escaping to the Adirondack wilderness without too much trouble. At the very least he was back at home with his wife Ellen by April or May of 1864 with the first of his first children, Albert, being born in February of the following year.

Moses saw out the war but never fully recovered from his wounds. His recovery was a long one, so long in fact that he was eventually accused of desertion himself, however, he was cleared of the charge by General Getty and was mustered out on December 20, 1864. Moses returned to Hague and on October 5, 1865 married Henry Osteyee's sister, Lucy. Lucy had previously been married to Louis Labounty, who had enlisted in the 5th New York Cavalry in September 1862, was captured twice and died in a Confederate prison in 1864.

Moses moved to Vermont with his wife where he took up farming. Plagued by his injuries Moses applied for a pension in June 11, 1880 and died in the town of Salisbury on October 5, 1898. Nelson P. Dolbeck it seems went on to become somewhat successful as a businessman selling seeds and Dolbeck's Ready Relief. His wife Ellen had 13 children to him. Nelson outlived all of the friends that had enlisted with him in the Anderson Zouaves, dying on September 20, 1920. He is buried Valley View Cemetery, Route 9N, South Ticonderoga, Essex County, NY.

This story is of course speculative in parts. However, it is possible

that in time some of the details may be filled in by descendants such as Bruce De Larm, while Moses Beaudry was relatively obscure, his brother, Louis Napoleon Beaudry, was quite famous and has left behind numerous written documents. Louis enlisted as Chaplain of the 5th New York Cavalry, and there is a collection of his papers in the Buswell Memorial Library, Wheaton College, Illinois, which includes journals covering the period from 1853 to 1863 and 1866 to 1867. Louis was also the author of his regiment's official history the *Historic Records of the Fifth New York Cavalry*.

There is also some other practical information that can be taken from the information on Bruce De Larm's website. For a start it strengthens the argument that Company "C" of the Anderson Zouaves had a large number of members from Essex county. The names of Nelson Dolbeck and Henry Osteyee can be added to those members of Company "C" that we already know came from Essex county: Albert Green, Joseph Hall, Horace A. Pratt, William D. Ross, Henry H. Tucker and Alfred Covell Woods. The information on Bruce De Larm's website suggests that the Anderson Zouaves attracted not only continental French recruits but Canadian French as well.

Notes:

1. <http://freepages.genealogy.rootsweb.ancestry.com/~hagueny/de-larm/>
2. Dornbusch, C. E., 'The Communities of New York and the Civil War: The Recruiting Areas of the New York Civil War Regiments' in Phisterer, F. 1962, *New York in the War of the Rebellion 1861-1865*, New York, NY.
3. Smith, H. P., 1885, *History of Essex County, with Illustrations and Biographical Sketches of Some of its Prominent Men and Pioneers*, Syracuse, NY.
4. Other individuals from the list that may have seen service in New York regiments are Andrew Todd, 96th Infantry; Henry W. Baldwin, 117th Infantry; Franklin J. West, 2nd Veteran Cavalry; and John Gordon, 38th Infantry.
5. US Federal census records.
6. *New York Times*, July 12, 1862.
7. Town records indicate that Henry Davis of the 23rd NY Light Artillery who died November 1861 at Hospital in Albany, NY and Isaac Bristol of the 118th NY Infantry, who died on January 21, 1861, however subsequent searches on Civil War databases have not confirmed these deaths.
8. Ferguson was discharged for wounds on May 24, 1865 at Philadelphia, PA having been wounded at the battle of the Wilderness on May 5, 1864, while McCormick received a disability discharge on July 27, 1862 at Harrison's Landing, VA.

LETTERS OF WILLIAM PECK ALLCOT, COMPANY "D", ANDERSON ZOUAVES.

William Peck Allcot enlisted in Captain David J. Nevin's Company "D" of the Anderson Zouaves on June 2, 1861 at New York City as a Private at the age of 23. He was mustered into Company "D" on June 30, 1861. During the time of his enlistment he wrote letters from the camps and battlefields of the 62d New York State Volunteers and, after he was wounded at the battle of Cold Harbor in 1864, from the Carver Hospital in Washington DC.

Peck's letters are part of the manuscript collection known as William P. Allcot Papers, 1861-1864. Held by the Earl Gregg Swem Library, College of William and Mary, Williamsburg, Virginia. The collection comprises 29 letters to Allcot's parents and brother, all of New York.

Copies of five of the letters were obtained by the editors of *Anderson Zouave* from Susan A. Riggs, Manuscripts and Rare Books Librarian, in 2004. Transcripts of these letters will appear in this paper over the next few months.

Allcot was wounded on or about May 4, 1863 at Fredericksburg, VA and at Cold Harbor, VA, on June 9, 1864. He was promoted to Quarter Master Sergeant on September 1, 1861 and to Sergeant on November 3, 1862. He was transferred from Company "D" to the regimental Field & Staff on September 1, 1861 with his promotion to Quarter Master Sergeant and transferred back to Company "D" with his appointment as

Sergeant on November 3, 1862.

Before enlisting Allcot had, like several members of the Anderson Zouaves, served as a volunteer firefighter in New York city and it was reported in the *Sunday Mercury*, February 16, 1862 that before the war he had been the assistant foreman of Engine Company No. 15.

He was discharged due to wounds on December 19, 1864 from the Carver Hospital at Washington, DC.

A transcription of the first of Allcot's letters from the Earl Gregg Swem collection follows.

Camp Lincoln Washington D. C Sept. 25th 1861

Dear Parrance

I now take my pen in hand to inform you that I am well and hope these few lines will find you enjoying the same one of God's blessings. I have wrote to Edmund and answer to his kind letter but wether he reseaved it or knot I am unable to say as up to this date I have had no answer. When you have time I hope that some of you will write to me and let me know how you all are. Ma thear is hardley a moment passes but what I am thinking of home and what kind parance I have got if I ever return from this worse than wicked war I hope that it will be to bless you and repay you fore the maney kindnesses that you have shone me. I have very little News to tell you only that I am well and contented with my lot. I have heard of the Surrender of Colonal Mulligan at Lesitan as the news has just came in to my camp but that is nothing to fetch our deludid brothers back to thear roility we must expect to be departed sometimes but we will undervedly _ear in the End. every thing is quiet and still yet along our lines in Washington but I think we will have a battle before a great wile as the Troops keeps passing in to Washington all the time. The Drum is tats which wornes me that I must prepare to go to bed. I suppose you would like to know what my bed consised of well I will tell you my tent is about 6 x 6 square with a hard board floor which I have made my self to lay on and a napsack fore a pillow it came quite asgig at first but I have got youst to it. I must say that I never felt better in my life than I do now. I wade my self today and I find that I way 154 lbs just to ponds more than I did when I left New York. The regiment has just been paid of and gess what my wages came to \$34.86 cts I must now close by sending love to you Edmond Thomas Anne Henry Clarce and little Johny hoping that you will excuse this short note I must now close

Your Sun

W. Allcot

P.S. Direct as before to me in care of Capt D. J. Nevin Co D.

Anderson Zouaves

Washington

D. C

The next time I write I will send you a longer letter

W A

PODCASTING THE CIVIL WAR.

Apple Inc. recently launched iTunes U (iTunes University) as part of its popular media player application on Macintosh and Windows PCs.

Among the interesting podcasts available for free download are six lectures from the Gilder Lehrman Institute's Historians on the Record series, called *Lincoln and the Civil War*. These excellent lectures run from 30 minutes to an hour and include lectures on the Emancipation Proclamation, the Civil War in American Memory and Antietam and may be down loaded from the iTunes store or from the Gilder Lerhman Institute of American history website.

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NEWSPAPER OF THE ANDERSON BATTALION, AUSTRALIA.
VOLUME 3, NUMBER 1, JANUARY 2008. ISSN 1834-1675.

Published monthly and available for free download as a PDF.
Google "Anderson Zouave newspaper" to locate a download page.

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