

The Interstate Drill, April 10-12, 1890

Four companies entered the contest: Southern Cadets of Macon, Captain R. Simms; Gate City Guards of Atlanta, Captain A. C. Sneed; Atlanta Rifles, Captain M. B. Spencer; a composite local company entering as the Metropolitan Light Infantry, commanded by J. L. Doggett. The companies appeared in the competitive maneuvers separately and were so judged, the Atlanta Rifles appearing first and the Metropolitan Light Infantry last on the field. The enthusiasm was intense; and when the M. L. I. appeared, their plumes waving in a heavy wind, there was an ovation.

*Profiting by the experience of the year before the M. L. I. discarded white pants as a part of its uniform and at this drill appeared in dark blue pants, black coats with braid facings, and black caps with white flowing plumes.

The grand prize of \$2000 was awarded to the Southern Cadets, on a technicality, much to the surprise of military men, for it was the consensus of opinion that the Atlanta Rifles was the best drilled company of them all and was entitled to the first place. The award of the judges was: Southern Cadets, 95; Atlanta Rifles, 94; Gate City Guards, 91; Metropolitan Light Infantry, 83. The Edgefield Rifles of Edgefield, S. C., was here, but did not enter the contest.

Only two companies entered the State competitive drill—the M. L. I. and the Gainesville Guards. The award in this drill was: M. L. I., 80; Gainesville Guards, 75. A prize of \$100 was offered for the best drilled individual; Cadet Arthur W. Pye, of the East Florida Seminary Cadets, won it.

1890

March 20: Fire started at 2 a.m. in Lillienthal's dry goods store on the north side of Adams Street, between Clay and Bridge (Broad). It spread rapidly east and west and destroyed all the buildings in the block bounded by Adams, Clay, Monroe, and Bridge, except a small house or two on the south side of Monroe Street. It crossed Bridge Street and burned a store on the corner. The heaviest losers were Henry Lillienthal, who owned the entire row on the north side of Adams Street between Clay and Bridge; J. E. T. Bowden, new brick colosseum and swimming pool, together with