DEPARTURE:
The city of Jamestown held a large parade to send off the men, crowds filled all the streets and police had to make a path for the men to reach the Erie Station. They departed for Buffalo in order to join the 65th NY Regiment and head to Camp Black, Long Island, NY. There they were officially mustered into service of the United States Army On May 17,1898. The men were now called Company E of the 65th Regiment. May 19th they were ordered to Camp Alger in Falls Church, Virginia and were then attached to the 1st Brigade, 1st Division, 2nd Army Corps.

CAMP ALGER:
Life at Camp Alger was not good. The water supply was dirty. The 13th’s camp sat between two other companies and was subjugated to the drain off of the entire 1st Brigade. The men slept on the ground inside their tents. In between the tents they shared cesspools. Typhoid soon ran rampant through the camp. By August 21st there were forty-six cases of typhoid in the 65th regiment. Almost every man in the 13th was sick with the fever. The alarming rate of typhoid at the camp soon grabbed national attention. Medical and government investigations were conducted with the men of the 13th at the epicenter of each. Questions still remain about the possible cause of why only the men from Jamestown suffered so many cases. 2nd Lt. Samuel M. Porter was one of the men who took ill. Escorted by his fellow Fenton Guards he was sent home to Jamestown. Porter died three weeks later. Another young man from the 13th, Private Henry D.Turnell, died a few days after Porter at W.C.A. Hospital. These were the only two casualties the 13th suffered during the war.

REMEMBRANCE:
In honor of their 2nd Lt. Samuel M.Porter the men of the 13th named the No. 45 Spanish-American War Veterans camp after him. In 1927 vets also presented a Theodore Roosevelt Memorial plaque of bronze to Lincoln Middle School. The plaque was made from salvaged metal of the U.S.S. Maine. The plaque still hangs in the entrance of Lincoln School in Jamestown. The Porter Post received a ten inch shell from the ship. On Memorial Day 1913 it was placed on a boulder of granite in Lake View Cemetery, in memory of those who served during the Spanish-American War.

WORKS CITED:
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RETURN:
The 65th regiment was dismissed from Camp Alger in September and headed home to Buffalo. The entire Regiment was mustered out of service on November 19th. The 13th then headed back to Jamestown under the command of Captain Albert Gilbert Jr. The men of the 13th were given a hero’s welcome when they arrived back to Jamestown; another parade met and escorted the men back to the armory.

RESEARCH:
Research through the Jamestown Evening Journal and on-site at the Robert H. Jackson Center, has shown other pieces of the U.S.S. Maine made it back to Jamestown. Future research will focus on locating these pieces and the writings of William O. Issacson, the oldest surviving Spanish-American War veteran from Jamestown who died in March of 1972.