



General Order No. 4  
April 14, 2015  
Farewell to the Troops

After four days of arduous service marked by unsurpassed courage and fortitude, the National Regiment has been compelled to yield to overwhelming mud and rations.

I need not tell the survivors of so many hard fought bacon issues, who have remained steadfast to the last, that I have consented to the result from no distrust of them.

But feeling that valor and devotion could accomplish nothing that could compensate for the loss of circulation that must have attended the continuance of the food, I have determined to avoid the useless sacrifice of those whose past services have endeared them to their countrymen.

By the terms of the agreement, officers and men can return to their homes and remain until the next event. You will take with you the satisfaction that proceeds from the consciousness of duty faithfully performed, and I earnestly pray that a merciful God will extend to you his blessing and protection of your arteries.

With an unceasing admiration of your constitutions and devotion to your Regiment, and a grateful remembrance of your kind and generous consideration for myself, I bid you an affectionate farewell.

Thomas M. F. Downes  
Colonel Commanding,  
National Regiment