

# TAKEN AS PRISONERS

## GUARDING POWDER HOUSE A REQUEST OF MAYOR.

Two Ex-Guards At the Penitentiary Had Rather Unpleasant Experience on Tuesday Night—Had to Spend Several Hours in Barracks—Until Case Was Cleared Up.

To be placed under arrest as supposed German spies and held as prisoners of war for several hours, when they had been sworn in by Mayor Shaw, to do special night duty in guarding W. B. Dalton's powder house, on Division street, just outside the city limits, was the rather unpleasant experience of George Northmore and Thomas Moore, two ex-guards at the penitentiary. The men were found at the powder house at two o'clock on Wednesday morning by some of the members of the 5th field battery doing duty in that district, and taken to Tete de Pont barracks, where they spent the night. They were released at seven o'clock on Wednesday morning after an explanation had been given by Mayor Shaw. The men were placed on this special duty by Mayor Shaw late on Tuesday night, unawate to the military authorities. Kingston's military men, doing guard duty, are taking no chances, so when members of the fifth field battery noticed the two men at the powder house, on the instructions of Lieut. Smith the two were escorted to the barracks, in spite of a protest from the men who stated that they had been sent there to guard the property by the city's chief magistrate. They had no credentials to show why they should be on duty and for them it was a case of "quick march" to the barracks, and as a result the powder house had to guard itself for the remainder of the night.

Upon arrival at the barracks the men again protested, and acting on their protest Mayor Shaw was telephoned for and aroused from his slumbers during the early morning hours. His worship soon made it O.K. for the men, so far as he was concerned, but the two men were not released until a few hours later when Major E. C. Barrett, in command of the battery, arrived on the scene, and gave the order for the release of the men. Major Barrett and Lieut. Smith expressed regret that the men had been given such treatment, but as they had received no word about the special guard being placed on the powder house the battery had been simply doing their duty.

The question of placing a guard on the powder house was discussed at the meeting of the civic finance committee on Monday night and it was decided it would be well in these days of trouble to have the place looked after. The guards will resume their duty to-night and there is no danger of another clash with the military authorities.

Tuesday evening, about nine o'clock, the men of the 5th field battery, who were out on leave, received a sudden call to report at Tete de Pont barracks at once for duty. When the men arrived on the scene they were taken in charge by Lieut. Smith, who immediately proceeded to Dalton's powder house, on Division street, where they placed the two men under arrest. The prisoners of war were then taken to the barracks, where they spent the night.

One of the members of the battery, when speaking to the Whig, stated that the two men had revolvers on them when arrested.

During last night, the managers of all the downtown theatres and also the pavilion at Lake Ontario Park announced that all soldiers in uniform were to report for duty at once at the barracks.