

OLD VETERANS LEAVE FOR BOSTON.

Wilcox Post, With Escort, Start for National Encampment — Big Crowd at Union Station.

The contribution made by this city to the big demonstration of the Grand Army in Boston left Springfield yesterday morning. As the members of E. K. Wilcox post marched down Main street on their way to the union station there was as plain a show of pride in the old veterans on the part of those on the curbstone and in the windows as at any time in the history of the organization since the war. Everybody appeared to realize that the old soldiers were on their way to take part in a big event which meant a lot to them, and that they were trying their best to appear as well as possible with their remaining handful of men. After forming in line at their hall on Court street, they marched to the station headed by the Father Mathew drum corps, which accompanied them to Boston. A large crowd was found at the station to see them off, with cheers and waving of handkerchiefs. The post was to have left the city at 9.10, but there was enough delay to make the leaving time 9.45 instead. Even then the train was in two sections. Co H of the naval brigade and the members of H. W. Lawton Spanish war veterans left on an earlier train. The Spanish war veterans were in command of Lieut William Butement.

The union station was put to a severe test to get out of Springfield safely the throng of people on their way to Boston. There were numerous special as well as regular trains passing east, which added greatly to the confusion. The station with no underpass beneath the tracks showed itself ill-adapted to handle such a big crowd with ease and safety. The station force aided by the police under the leadership of the old-time station officer John H. McCormick, worked hard all the morning to keep everything running smoothly.

Co H's Trip to Boston.

Co H of the naval brigade, with 46 men and two officers in line, participated yesterday in the naval parade in Boston. The company left this city at 7.45 in a special train, arriving in Boston at 10.30. They formed immediately on Dartmouth street, where rations were served to them at 11 o'clock. At noon the company fell into the parade formation and it was two hours later when they were given their liberty until evening. The special train which was provided left Boston shortly after 8, and the great majority of the Co H boys were in it, although a few of them remained in the Hub to be on hand for to-day's exercises. The company arrived here at about 11 and marched to the armory on Howard street.